

RMS-CES ROCKET NEWSLETTER

March 2025



March

March 9th

Daylight Savings End

March 11th

5th Grade Baker FT

March 17th

St. Patrick's Day

March 20th

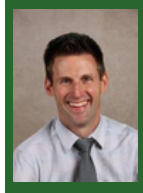
End of Quartertr 3

March 21st-28th

No School-Spring Break

At RMS-CES, students are empowered to become innovators through engaging, authentic and developmentally appropriate opportunities, access to a strong academic foundation, and a commitment to lifelong learning.

We are a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) School with a focus on Environmental Studies.



From the Principal

Dear Rockford Families,

I recently heard a staff member say 'It's a great day to be a Rocket!'. It is more than just a saying- it's true. Every day at RMS-CES students are doing great things, connecting with their new learning, and building relationships. I am grateful to know your child and watch them grow.

Reminders & Updates:

- As a reminder, the end of the quarter is approaching on March 20th. Please encourage students and families to take the opportunity to complete any missing work, study for tests, and check the [Academic Planner](#), or Google Classroom for updates.
- I would love to hear feedback on the RMS-CES Newsletters. Please take this short [survey](#) to help us better meet parents' needs.
- If you or your child wish to make an anonymous report you can do so via our [See Something Say Something program](#). Consider downloading the app or bookmarking the tab.
- Our tentative plan for MCA testing is that Reading MCA tests will take place on April 15th/ 16th and Math the following week on April 22nd/ 23rd. These tests will take place during their boost class on a modified schedule. Science MCA tests will take place in the science classroom for fifth and eighth grade students in early May.
- Shout out to Natalie Zednick, Charlotte Bittner and Gabbi Altman as winners of the RMS-CES Battle of the Books. Thank you for all you do as parents to foster a love of reading.
- A good night's sleep, balanced nutrition, and regular movement are essential for helping adolescent students stay focused and energized throughout the school day.
- Encourage your child to manage school-related stress by staying organized, taking breaks, and reaching out for support when needed.
- Don't forget Daylight Savings Time this weekend!

Thank you for all of your support! Wishing you a wonderfully warm weekend!

Paul Warzecha, RMS-CES Principal

RMS-CES | PARENT-COMMUNITY

Survey



Looking for your
FEEDBACK

**This will only take a few
moments of your time!**

**Please click [HERE](#) to fill out a few questions
regarding our Monthly Parent Newsletter!**

We appreciate your feedback!







**THANK
YOU!**

Thank You for Supporting Our Schools!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in our Classroom Wish List Drive! Your generosity has made a real difference for our amazing Rockford Area School staff, and they truly appreciate the support. If you'd still like to contribute, you can do so anytime throughout the year. Wish lists can be viewed [here](#).

CELEBRATING OUR MINI GRANT RECIPIENTS

Thanks to generous donors like you, we awarded six mini-grants totaling \$2,221.70 to staff across all three schools! These grants help create engaging learning experiences for students:

-  Cards & Games for RMS Lunchroom – Enhancing student engagement during cold winter months while fostering teamwork and communication skills.
-  Doc Cam – Boosting visual learning and helping students develop note-taking skills.
-  Boogie Board Writing Tablets – Providing hands-on learning for young students to practice letters and phonetic words.
-  RMS Coffee Cart – A student-run initiative in the special education program, teaching life skills like social communication, money management, and teamwork.
-  Storage Shelves for Rockee's Closet – Organizing essential items for students in need, supporting the district's goal of a "healthy and supportive environment."
-  Ordway Theater Field Trip Tickets – Giving theater students an opportunity to experience professional productions and deepen their appreciation for the arts.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these exciting events:



Family Bingo Night -

April 11 (sign up link coming soon)



Spring Catalog Fundraiser Kick-Off - April 7



Staff Appreciation Luncheon - May 7



Spring Gratitude Gifts - Starting May 1

We're always working on fun and meaningful ways to support our students and staff. Stay connected by following us on Facebook or signing up for our newsletter at

<https://www.rockfordfoundation.org/family/>!

Thank you for being a vital part of our Rockford Education Foundation community!

Rockford - Greenfield COMMUNITY EXPO

Saturday, March 15th • 9am - 12pm

Rockford Community Center, 7600 County Rd 50, Rockford

SPONSORED BY

R&G
CHAMBER
of COMMERCE



**COME
ON
OUT**

TOP REASONS TO ATTEND:

**FREE
Admission!**



Win Door Prizes!

Each booth is giving away an awesome door prize

60+ local businesses on site including cash and carry vendors!



**Baseball/Softball
Batting Cages**
swing for a small fee!

Remote control race car track

\$5 for 15 minutes or
\$10 for 30 minutes



Try a **FREE POUND® Fitness Class!**

Starts at 11am in the Dance Studio

**Chamber
Bingo!**

Fill your
card for
a chance to
win a prize!



Entertainment on Stage:

- Jazz Band
- Dance
- Fitness Class Demos
- The Star-Spangled Banner
- Dojo Karate Demo



Meet our local
**Fire Department
Heroes!**

**Buy
Rockford
Gear**



Win Amazing Raffle Prizes!

Tickets \$1 each for 7 prizes
Drawing at 12pm

**Do not need to be present to win*



WIN

RMS-CES | PARENT-COMMUNITY

Staff Spotlight



Amy Belanger
Special Education

I have taught special education for almost 30 years at RMS-CES. I joined the Middle School team right out of college and loved it so much I never left. I began my career teaching children with specific learning disabilities and have evolved over time and now teach children that have developmental disabilities and/or Autism spectrum disorder.

Favorite Things:

Some of my favorite things are kids, interacting with kids and being part of a supportive team at school. School has always been my happy place. Outside of school, I love being at the lake, on the pontoon, hanging out with my animals and gardening.



Emily Bartels
Speech Language
Pathologist

I am the Speech Language Pathologist both here at RMS and RHS. I help students with their language skills, speech sounds, social language skills, and overall communication. This is my 4th year here at Rockford Area Schools!

Favorite Things:

My favorites include anything with caramel, watching my kids doing what they love, and baking in my free time.



Tracy Sanner
Special Education

This is my 26th year of teaching at Rockford Middle School- Center for Environmental Studies. I am a special education teacher and have taught only at Rockford Middle School- I love it here!!!! My licensure areas are: Secondary English Education (7-12) and Emotional Behavior Disorders (K-12). The students I teach need extra help in self- regulation, organization, homework completion, social skills, and behavior regulation. I teach personal management classes for students in 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grades. I also teach social skills during boost time for students who need extra help in working with their peers and their teachers. My classroom is also a resource style room which allows students who have an IEP to take a break and reset, take a quiz or test in a quiet space or simply work on an assignment in a space with less distractions.

Favorite Things:

When I am not at school, I love to spend time with my family. My children are grown and moved away, but I get to see them often. I also have TWO grandchildren- Emmett (3) and Cameron (6th months). They are truly the highlight of my life! I love to play the piano, read suspense / thriller novels and watch Dateline. Sports are a big part of my family, so we like to go to Timberwolves, Twins, Gophers, Wild and St Paul Saints games. WE LOVE football too, but I would rather watch that from my couch!

RMS-CES | POINTS OF PRIDE

I ♥ READING



Our 8th Graders enjoying I Love To Read Month



RMS-CES| POINTS OF PRIDE

Language Arts w/ Mrs. Mateyka



5th Grade Language Arts students enjoyed their comfy, cozy reading day! Students were able to wear pajamas or comfortable clothes, while snuggled up with a stuffed animal and/or a blanket. Readers also enjoyed a little popcorn while getting lost in their books!



RMS-CES | POINTS OF PRIDE

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS



This week, on February 25, nearly 20 teams competed in the RMS-CES Battle of the Books.



Our seventh grade teams battled head to head in the buzzer round. The team made up with Natalie Zednick, Charlotte Bittner, and Gabbi Altman came out on top over the team made up with Samantha Fichtner and Lillian Rocha.



BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Our fifth and sixth grade teams competed in two rounds of play in order to determine our top three teams for the buzzer round. There was an exciting battle at the end of the second round to determine our third team moving forward to the final round! At the end of the game, 5th graders Hannah Langemak, Aria Barnes, and Keira Delaney came out on top of the podium. Sixth graders Jenna Kruse, Milabelle Dmitruk, and Ava Stendahl won second place, and 5th graders Payton Byers and Ruby Briggs came in third place.

