



Be Curious. Be Creative. Be a Magnet Scholar.

Grades
4-8



STEM Research
& Real-world
Problem Solving



Advanced
Academics



Leadership &
Community Service



Innovators.
Leaders.
Scholars.





Growing Global
STEM Leaders of
Accelerated
Change



Challenge Yourself to Ask

What's

Possible

Evolution of the Mobile Phone











STEM Research & Internships

Students investigate real-world problems in STEM labs, present at national and international conferences, and complete internships with industry partners.



Advanced Academics

With Advanced Placement courses, Dual Enrollment partnerships, and a rigorous inquiry-based curriculum, RMSST scholars graduate earning top scholarships and prepared to excel at prestigious universities.



Leadership & Community Service

Students build leadership skills in the classroom and beyond through clubs, teams, and extracurricular programs that have consistently earned state and national honors.



Be Curious. Be Creative. Be a Magnet Scholar.

Grades
4-8



STEM Research
& Real-world
Problem Solving



Advanced
Academics



Leadership &
Community Service

Why expand RMSST to 4-8?

- To expand access to research-focused STEM learning earlier
- To prepare students for advanced pathways in high school and beyond
- To provide an innovative public option for families
- To strengthen Rockdale's position as a regional and national leader in STEM education
- To address the RCPS Strategic Plan Goal Area - Student Achievement, Learning and Growth, Performance Objective-Increase opportunities for all students, and Action Plan – Establish elementary and middle theme schools



**Grades
4-8**

Opening for the 2026-2027 School Year

**A selective public
STEM program
where Rockdale
students access
world-class
opportunities
close to home**



What will the 4-8 expansion include?

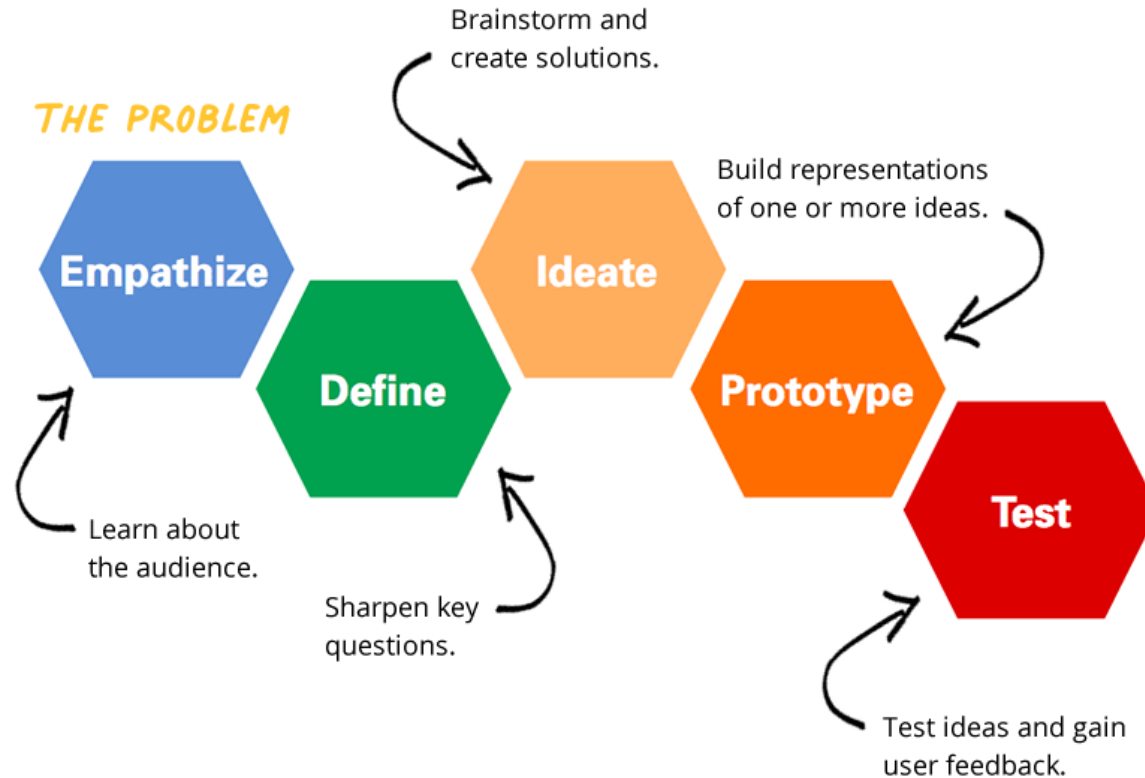
- Focus on advanced academics and STEM innovation
- 4th- 8th grade students will attend the Magnet full-time, taking all classes on site
- Students will have a complete daily schedule and not rotate back to another home school for classes
- Alignment with GaDOE Standards & National Consortium of STEM Schools Membership



What makes this program unique?

- Advanced curriculum with interdisciplinary projects
- Quarterly community challenges using Stanford's d.school Design Thinking Model
- Design-Lab Rotations: Makerspace, Robotics, Fabrication, Data Science
- Opportunities to compete in STEM competitions during the school day & via extracurriculars (InVenture, Broadcom MASTERS, Olympiads)
- Carnegie Credit High School Classes in 7th & 8th grade
- Preparation for college level coursework starting in 9th grade
- Selective Admission Process

THE DESIGN THINKING PROCESS



University Style Research Lab & Makerspace



Electives Provide Opportunity to Explore Student Interests

- Planned elective options include:
 - STEM Exploratory 4-5
 - STEM Rotation 6-8
 - Exploring Engineering & Technology
 - Foundations of Computer Programming
 - Foundations of Business Management
 - Broadcast and Graphic Communications
 - Scientific Research 6-8
 - Media Arts 4-8
 - Spanish
 - Band/Music
 - Physical Education

Elective options may change based on student interest, enrollment, and staffing.



High School Credit in Middle School

- Planned Carnegie Credit Courses include:
 - Enhanced Algebra Concepts & Connections
 - Physical Science
 - Enhanced Literature & Composition I
 - Foundations of Engineering & Technology
 - Introduction to Software Technology
 - Scientific Research
 - Media Arts
 - Spanish



School Experience & Culture

- Daily schedule: Core academics, STEM electives, Gifted services
- Focus on whole-child development: leadership, resilience, joy in learning
- Emphasis on affirmation, exploration, and innovation
- Mentorship from STEM professionals and high school magnet students

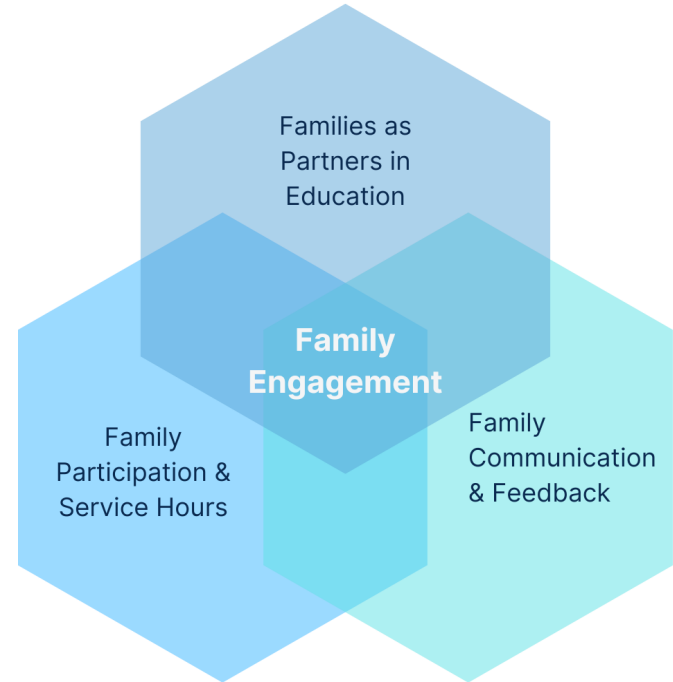


COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Families as Partners in Education

- Family Engagement
 - Expectation and Opportunity
- Parents and Families will be invited to participate in:
 - Advisory Boards
 - PTO/PTA or Academic Booster Club
 - STEM showcase events
 - Community partnerships and mentoring
 - Extracurriculars



Extracurriculars

Year One Planned Extracurriculars in Three Areas

- Academic Teams
 - Science & Engineering Team
 - Reading Bowl Team
 - Math Team
 - Speech & Debate Team
- Leadership & Service
 - Junior Beta Club (4-5)
 - National Junior Honor Society (6-8)
 - Student Council
- Enrichment
 - Yearbook
 - Association of Artists
 - 4-H
- Access to Athletics and Extracurriculars not offered at the Magnet 4-8 Program
 - Including transportation to zoned middle school after school



Logistics & Staff

- Location:
 - Separate facility from 9-12 Magnet
 - District is exploring facility options with more information available soon
 - Transportation provided from home bus stop to program site
- Schedule: 7:35am-2:35pm
- Staffing: Hiring in January
 - Team Magnet Staff Look Fors
 - Passionate about STEM
 - Creative and Innovative
 - Caring and Student-Focused
 - Collaborative and Connected
 - Committed to Excellence



Staff Focused on Continuous Learning & Leadership

Including Collaboration with Top Universities such as these 2025 High School Magnet staff experiences

- Gulf Coast Repository (GCR) at Texas A&M University
- Savannah College of Art and Design Educator Forum
- National Consortium of STEM Schools Delegation to AI Summit in Shanghai, China
- Georgia Tech's Inventure Challenge
- STEM Leadership Summit at Columbia University



Help will be available– and encouraged!

✱Counseling Staff

✱Tutorials

✱Award-winning Student Programs extended to 4-8:

- Wellness Summit
- Kindness Week & more!

**Conscious Acts of Kindness Week**

Tic-Tac-Toe

Try to complete as many tasks as possible. Remember that the goal is not to win a prize, but to learn the importance of spreading kindness to others. We encourage you to continue practicing acts of kindness even after the game is over. But prizes can be fun...so if you get three in a row by September 12th you are encouraged to turn it in as a Bulldog Buck to the raffle folders at Magnet or swap it out for a piece of candy in the cafeterium in the AM.

Do an errand for a older adult in your life (Grandparents Day is 9/7)	Read aloud to a kid (Int'l Literacy Day is 9/8)	Hold the door open for someone (Care Bear Share Your Care Day is 9/9)
Listen attentively to someone else's ideas (Nat'l Swap Ideas Day is 9/10)	Learn about the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline should you need it to help others or yourself (Suicide Prevention Day is 9/10)	Volunteer @ school or with a non-profit (Patriot Day & Nat'l Service Day is 9/11)
Send a card or text to family or friends who may be struggling (Nat'l Day of Encouragement is 9/12)	Give someone a High 5 (Nat'l High 5 & Hug Day is 9/12)	Give a compliment to a friend (September is Friendship Month)

Student Name : _____

Building a Community

- * Student voice on new program identity
 - 4-8 mascot, cheer, murals & more!
- * Summer Jump Start
- * FLEX assemblies during the school day including student-led components
 - Future Leaders, Explorers, and eXperimenters
- * Student & Family Socials:
 - Movie night
 - Game night
 - Skate Night
 - Dances
 - Talent Show
 - Family Picnic



A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide, consisting of two parallel, wavy lines. The outer line is a light blue color, and the inner line is white. They start from the top left and curve downwards towards the bottom left.

**WHY CHOOSE
THE CHALLENGE
OF RMSST 4-8?**



Be Curious. Be Creative. Be a Magnet Scholar.

Grades
4-8



STEM Research
& Real-world
Problem Solving



Advanced
Academics



Leadership &
Community Service

Is Magnet the Right Choice for You?

Qualities of Successful Magnet Students

- **Curious**
- **Desire to be challenged**
- **Interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math**
- **Growth mindset**

Eligibility Criteria

- National or state referenced test scores at the 60th percentile or higher for math
- National or state referenced test scores at the 60th percentile or higher for science
- National or state referenced test scores at the 60th percentile or higher for reading
- Georgia Milestone EOG Subject Score of 550 or higher in any subject

- Examples of accepted national or state referenced tests include STAR, ITBS, and CogAT

How does this program connect to the high school Magnet?

- RMSST 4-8 does not guarantee admission to the high school program.
- RMSST 4–8 prepares students for the advanced curriculum at RMSST.
 - Students who are in good standing will not need to apply again across grades 4-8.
- Students who complete RMSST 4-8 will be well-prepared to apply for and succeed in the high school program.

“I want in!”

*Multi-criteria selection rubric

- *Application Responses
- *Grades
- *Attendance & Discipline Records
- *Standardized Test Scores
- *Teacher Recommendations



Magnet and Choice Programs?

- **We advise you to complete an application to RMSST 4-8 and your top Specialty and Choice program**
 - **Only up to 100 students will be selected per grade level.**
 - **Don't miss out on a Specialty and Choice School option should you not be accepted!**
 - **Applying for a Specialty and Choice School also does not impact your chances of being selected for Magnet 4-8.**
 - **You will ultimately have to choose only 1 to attend should you get accepted to both.**

Admissions Process & Timeline

- *Application Available at www.rockdaleschools.org/rmsst4-8

- *Opens Friday, November 7th

- *Application Deadline – **December 12th**

What's Next:

- *Mid-February: Student applicants notified of status and accepted students return signed commitment

- *March: Parent-Student Meetings & Staff Introductions

- *March: Transition day for 5th graders during school

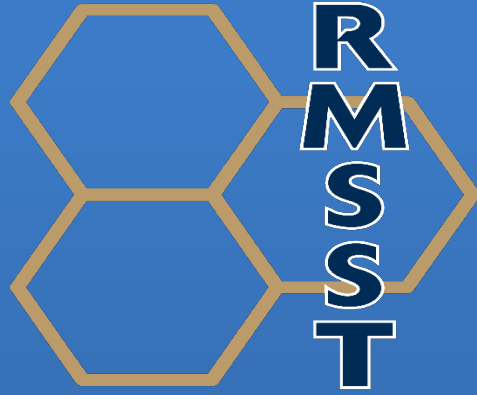
- *July 2026: Jump Start & Open House Events

- *August 2026: First day of classes for 4th-8th grade students

Tonight's Tour Experience

- A snapshot of High School Magnet via 2 learning spaces
 - Student Ambassadors as tour guides
 - Faculty, Staff & Students excited to share more about their experiences
- Tonight's tour is just a peak into the awesome things at 9-12 Magnet.
 - Roof Replacement is still in progress, so please pardon our progress outside (and inside for a few areas!)





Challenge

Opportunity

Distinction

Thank you

Reminders:

Application Opens
– November 7, 2025

Application Deadline
– December 12, 2025

@ www.rockdaleschools.org/rmsst4-8



Questions?

Submit questions at
<https://form.jotform.com/253025268980057>

or scan QR code to
the right:

