

RMS-CES ROCKET NEWSLETTER

February 2026



UPCOMING DATES:

2/16/26

President's Day, NO
SCHOOL

2/12/26

Parent-Teacher
Conferences

2/17/26

NO SCHOOL-Staff
Development Day

2/19/26

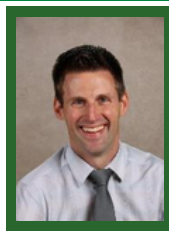
Battle of the Books

2/20/26

6th Grade Baker Field
Trip

2/26/26

RMS Band Concert



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

RMS-CES Families,

It has truly been an amazing start to the school year. As we look back at the most recent quarter we are proud to report that over 70% of our students are achieving at a 3.0 or higher on their GPA, which is only an 18 student decrease from quarter 1. Our focus remains on promoting academic habits and providing meaningful learning experiences. We are grateful for the continued support and partnership between parents, students, and teachers. Below are a few announcements Below.

Conferences: We are excited to host conferences on Thursday, February 12th from 3:30 to 7:15. Please click [HERE](#) for details regarding where you can find your student's teacher. In addition, we are hosting the RMS-CES Launch Your Future event at the same time that allows for current or prospective families to join open sessions to get a tour of our spaces with Mr. Madson, listen to a 'State of our School' (5-10 min) address from Mr. Warzecha, or participate in STEM activities.

- Tours Leave from On the Top of the Steps at 3:30 pm, 4:30pm, 5:30pm and 6:30pm
- Mr. Warzecha will connect with families in the Board Room Downstairs at 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, 7pm.
- STEM activities will be available in the hallway outside the Media Center

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February 2026



From the Principal continued



Missing Work & Grades: As we move into Quarter 3, our focus will be on reducing missing work, strengthening academic habits, and helping students understand how their daily effort and engagement directly impact their grades and long-term success.

Cold Weather Gear: With winter temperatures continuing, please ensure your student comes to school dressed for the weather each day, including a coat, hat, gloves, and appropriate footwear for outdoor arrival, dismissal, and any outdoor activities they will do in the day.

Safety: Now and always our primary focus will always be around safety. We continue to strive for welcoming and supportive learning environments where students can thrive. In the event that your child is ever not feeling safe, please do not hesitate to reach out to counselors, teachers or myself and we would gladly partner to support your student.

I am continually impressed by the efforts of our students, the support of our families and the creativity of our teachers.

Paul Warzecha,
Principal



RMS-CES | PARENT-COMMUNITY

RMS 2025-2026 YEARBOOK



ORDER NOW!

Walsworth yearbooks

[Order History](#) [Resume Order](#) [Help](#)

2026 Rockford Middle School

Rockford, MN



2026 Rockford Middle School, Rockford, MN | [CHANGE SCHOOL](#)

BUY A YEARBOOK

Yearbook

Buy a yearbook to help your student remember the year forever.

\$20.00

[BUY YEARBOOK](#)



To place a
yearbook order,
please click on
the link [HERE](#)
or scan the
QR code





REF News & Updates

February 2026

Happy New Year!

As we begin 2026, we want to start with one simple but powerful message:

THANK YOU!

Your generosity, partnership, and belief in Rockford students continue to make an incredible impact. Because of our donors, sponsors, and community supporters, students across the district are experiencing innovative programs, hands-on learning, and opportunities that help them discover their passions and plan for their futures.

We are deeply grateful for your continued support and excited for what's ahead.

Funding Story Spotlight: Food Science

Thanks to the generosity of REF donors, Rockford high school students are benefiting from an exciting and growing career pathway: **Food Science, Restaurant, and Culinary Skills**. This program gives students the opportunity to explore nutrition, food systems, chemistry, and culinary techniques through meaningful, hands-on learning experiences.

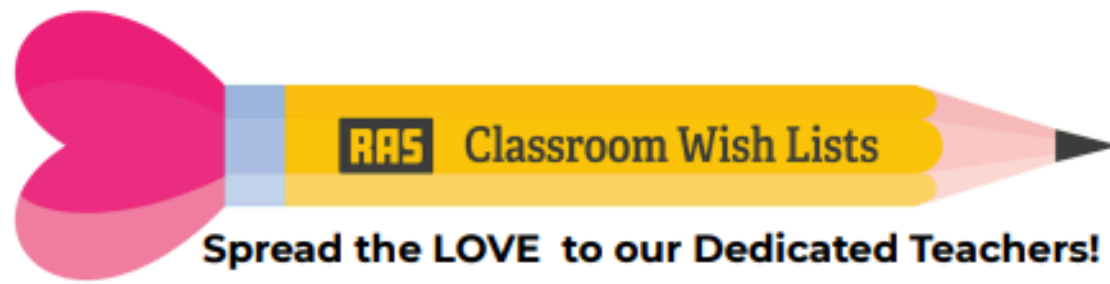
Students are not just following recipes — they are learning how science applies to food production, safety, and nutrition while building practical skills used in professional kitchens and food-related industries. From understanding chemical reactions in cooking to exploring food sourcing and sustainability, this pathway connects classroom learning to everyday life in powerful ways.

Programs like this demonstrate how donor support fuels curiosity, increases engagement, and creates real-world learning opportunities that prepare students for future education and careers.



Upcoming Events

REF continued



DONATE BETWEEN

February

1 - 14

This Valentine's Day, show your appreciation for the incredible teachers and staff who go above and beyond for Rockford students by donating items from their **Classroom Wish Lists**.

Each year, teachers spend their own money to enhance learning in their classrooms. The Rockford Education Foundation has created wish lists for **all three schools** to make it easy for families to help support them.

How to Donate:

1. View Classroom Wish Lists – Click the link to choose items to donate
2. Include a Valentine Donation Card – Use one of our special cards (or your own!)
3. Deliver Your Donation – Drop items off at the school front office or directly to the teacher's classroom

Stay Connected

Follow the Rockford Education Foundation on Facebook, Instagram, or sign up for our newsletter to stay up to date on funding stories, upcoming events, and the incredible impact happening in our schools every day.



Thank you for being part of the REF community. Together, we are investing in students, supporting educators, and building strong futures for Rockford.

Get Involved - We Need Volunteers!



As REF expands its community events and fundraisers, we need volunteers to help bring these opportunities to life!

Sign up to volunteer: www.rockfordfoundation.org/get-involved/

RMS-CES | PARENT-COMMUNITY *Taher Survey*



**Your Voice
Matters!**

LET US KNOW
WHAT YOU
THINK OF
SCHOOL
LUNCH



Survey:

<https://bit.ly/4rfH2p1>



TAHER

MENTAL Health MATTERS

The Big 5 (+1) for Mental Health

Research continues to support a handful of basic lifestyle factors that help keep us mentally healthy.



The Big 5 (+1) are interconnected. Making improvements in one area often helps with the others too!



RMS-CES | PARENT-COMMUNITY

Resource provided by Wright County



Wright County Health & Human Services



WRIGHT ACCESSPOINT

LOOKING FOR HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
SUPPORT IN WRIGHT COUNTY?

OUR NEW ONLINE RESOURCE MAKES IT
SIMPLE TO FIND THE HELP YOU NEED -
ANYTIME, ANYWHERE.

FOLLOW THE QR CODE TO GET STARTED.



RMS-CES | POINTS OF PRIDE

Spelling Bee



Congratulations

District Spelling Bee Shoutout!

Huge congratulations to 5th grader David Gibson, our 2026 District Spelling Bee Champion! David clinched the title with the winning word "sporadic," becoming the first 5th grader to win the district bee in over 11+ years!

Shoutout to our top finishers:

2nd Place: Joey Pauley (8th Grade)

3rd Place: Samuel Oluwafemi (7th Grade)

David will represent Rockford Area Schools at the Regional Spelling Bee in Sartell in February. Good luck, David!



RMS-CES | POINTS OF PRIDE

Band with Mr. Ferdig



On Saturday, January 17, 11 members of Rockford's band program performed in the Central Minnesota Band Directors Association Honor Bands at Elk River High School. 3 students from Rockford's 8th grade band performed in the grade 6-8 band and 8 students from the high school band program performed in the grade 9-10 band. **The students from Rockford included: Vance Bodey-Phillips on flute, Douglas Stark on bass clarinet, Ephraim Nyerkeh on baritone, Olivia Larson on clarinet, Elijah Schuck on alto saxophone, Brady Schuck on alto saxophone, Veronica Ferdig on tenor saxophone, Cade Kaszubowski on trumpet, Theophilus Nyerkeh on trumpet, Kenny Yang on french horn, and Lucy Zednik on trombone.**

***Brendan Buchholtz on trombone was also selected but could not attend due to injury.**

Congratulations to our terrific musicians!!



RMS-CES | POINTS OF PRIDE

8th grade Math with Ms. Herold



In math class, we recently wrapped up our Linear Equations Unit, which has been our largest unit of the year so far. During this unit, students practiced graphing and interpreting lines, and identifying the four types of slope (positive, negative, zero, and undefined). To help make slope more memorable, we played a fun Simon Says-style game where students acted out each type of slope. Students who were the last one standing earned the title of Slope King and Slope Queen! We have now begun our next unit on Systems of Equations. Students have been using hands-on activities, like solving a “horse thief” mystery problem on whiteboards and tying knots in two different thicknesses of rope, to model what it means for two equations to work together. Using their prior knowledge of linear equations, students are learning that the solution to a system of equations is the point where the two lines intersect and share a common answer.

