



A note from Principal Ben Dallman... PRIDE, Respect, and Responsibility

Congratulations on a great school year!

As the school year comes to a close, we want to thank our Roosevelt students, families, and friends for your support throughout the year. We truly appreciate the many ways you help our school community, including volunteering at school, checking folders at home, attending special events, staying connected with teachers, supporting fundraising efforts, and all the behind-the-scenes ways you care for kids. Spring is a fun and busy time for families, and we are grateful for all you do.

Congratulations as well to our fifth-grade students as you prepare to move on to middle school next year. It has been a joy to watch you learn and grow, and we feel grateful to have been part of your journey.



Recent Highlights:

- In April, our school focused on the character trait **cooperation** through our annual **Teamwork Tuesdays** food drive. Each Tuesday, students were invited to bring shelf-stable food items to school. On **May 1**, our April *Cooperative Students of the Week* delivered 275 pounds of food to the *St. Francis Food Pantry*. During the visit, students learned how food is stocked, stored, and shared with families in need. Thank you for supporting your child's social-emotional learning while also helping our community.

- In May, our school is focusing on the character trait **creativity**, which we define as *using your imagination to create something or solve a problem*. Earlier this month, students brought home the **Creativity Family Newsletter**, which includes *PurposeFull Pursuits* for families to do together. We encourage you to choose one to complete this month.
- Thank you to all of our Roosevelt family members and friends who joined us for **VIP Mornings**. We appreciate you taking time out of your day to be part of this special event. Most of all, thank you for being an important person in a child's life.
- Thank you to all of our students and families who took part in our weekly **RCU Super Savers** program this year. The program gave fifteen fifth-grade students the chance to serve each Thursday as bank tellers and marketers. It also helped our Roosevelt PTA receive a second \$250 check from RCU this year. Each time our school reaches 500 deposits of any amount through the **RCU Super Savers** program, Roosevelt receives another \$250.
- Thank you to everyone who donated to our **PTA Savers donation drive** in early May. Together, we collected more than 2,500 pounds of clothing and other items. The money raised through Savers will go into our PTA general fund to support student opportunities next school year.
- Roosevelt also received another check for \$3,848.17 from **Culver's**. These funds will support family activities, additional field trips, teacher mini-grants, the end-of-year carnival, and other projects that benefit Roosevelt students. Thank you for your continued support.
- Because of the support described in the three bullets above, our Roosevelt PTA helped fund what was likely the largest field trip in Roosevelt history. Last Wednesday, all Roosevelt students in grades 3-5, along with teachers and parent volunteers, visited the *Minnesota Science Museum*. The trip was a huge success, and for many students, it was their first time visiting a place like this. Thank you to our hard-working PTA, our volunteer chaperones, and all of Roosevelt's supporters for making this experience possible.
- Our fifth-grade students did a great job representing us at the annual *Fifth Grade Track & Field Day* last Friday at Memorial High School. Thank you to the many families who came to cheer them on. After the event, students had lunch on the UWEC campus and then enjoyed indoor activities in the fieldhouse and outdoor activities on the athletic fields.



Upcoming Events:

- Please join us on **Friday, May 29 at 3:00 p.m.** for our fourth annual **Roosevelt Rainbow Run** to cheer on our students. Students will run with their classroom buddy groups, and each grade level will wear a different solid color. Buddy classroom pairs are Kindergarten with 3rd grade, 1st grade with 4th grade, and 2nd grade with 5th grade. Students will keep track of their laps by collecting a popsicle stick after each lap. The buddy classroom pair with the highest laps-per-student ratio will earn a reward recess together the following week. Please review the [Rainbow Run Family Details](#) before arriving. Thank you.
- Families are invited to join us for our *Fifth-Grade Recognition/Graduation* on **Tuesday, June 2 at 2:45 p.m.** Friends and family are welcome to attend the ceremony and the short reception in the cafeteria afterward.
- Our students will celebrate the *End-of-Year Carnival* on **June 4 at 1:30 p.m.**
 - **Games!** Students will enjoy many activities, including a dunk tank staffed by Roosevelt team members. Instead of carnival game grand prizes, each student will receive a summer gift bag to take home.
 - **Displays and interaction!** The Sheriff's Department, Eau Claire Area Police Department, and Eau Claire Fire Department will be joining us, with more guests still to come.
 - **So many extras!** Families can also enjoy balloon animals, face painting, music, snacks, and treats.
 - **Volunteers needed!** We need at least 25 parent volunteers to help run stations, assist students, and support setup and cleanup. Even a short shift makes a big difference. Please sign up ahead of time using this [Roosevelt's Year End Carnival Volunteer link](#). If you have questions, please contact our partnership coordinator Tammy Rud at trud@ecasd.us. Thank you for helping us create a fun, safe, and memorable celebration for our Roosevelt students.

On the Horizon:

- **June 9 to June 25:** The deadline to register for summer school with busing has passed, but there is still space for late registration. If you would like to enroll your child, please call our office at (715) 852-4701. You can also find this and other opportunities on the ECASD Summer Programs website. Because of construction at Roosevelt, summer programming will be held at **Sherman Elementary School**. Please note:
 - Although the program will take place at Sherman Elementary, it is for Roosevelt students only and will be taught by Roosevelt staff.
 - Community partnership programs will still be available through Parks and Rec (River City Adventures) and the Boys and Girls Club. Preregistration is required for all partnership programs.

Summer Programming for Roosevelt Students:

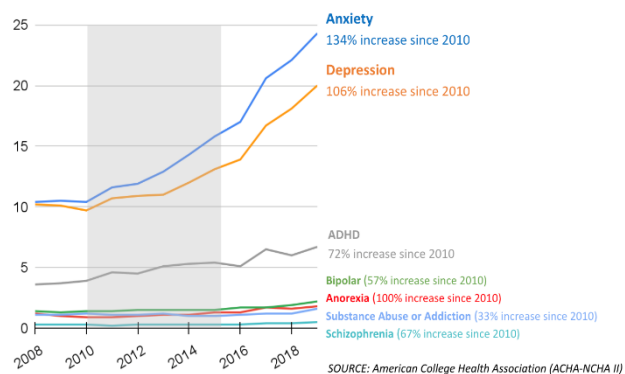
- *Roosevelt Summer School* (free breakfast and lunch for ages 0-17)
June 9-25 (Monday-Thursday), 8:30-11:45 a.m. Preregistration required.
- *Roosevelt Open Library*
June 9-25, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. No preregistration required.
- *Roosevelt Summer Library Program: Adventures in Reading* (for students and families)
June 9, 16, and 23 (Tuesdays), 12:15-2:15 p.m. Preregistration required.

In Other News...

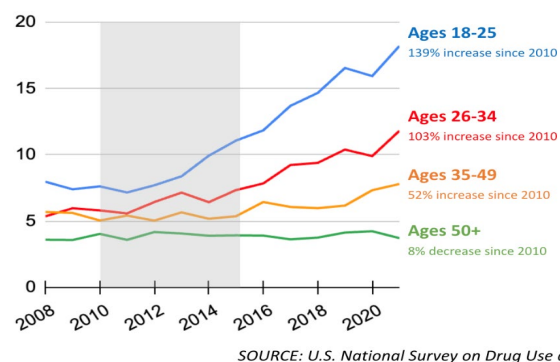
- Our staff recently completed a book study of *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt, a book about trends in adolescent mental health. It explores what changed in the early 2010s that led to a sharp rise in anxiety and depression around 2012. The book suggests this increase was not only due to greater awareness of mental health concerns, but also showed up in behaviors such as self-harm and suicide. The graphs shown and the excerpt below are from <https://jonathanhaidt.com/anxious-generation/>.

*"The Anxious Generation offers an explanation by telling two stories. The first is about the decline of the **play-based childhood**, which began in the 1980s and accelerated in the '90s. All mammals need free play, and lots of it, to wire up their brains during childhood to prepare them for adulthood...The second story is about the rise of the **phone-based childhood**, which began in the late 2000s and accelerated in the early 2010s. This was precisely the period during which adolescents traded in their flip phones for smartphones, which were loaded with social media platforms supported by the new high-speed internet and unlimited data plans...The confluence of these two stories in the years between 2010 and 2015 is what I call the **"Great Rewiring of Childhood."** Few of us understood what was happening in children's virtual worlds and we lacked the knowledge to protect them from tech companies that had designed their products to be addictive. For this reason, we ended up **overprotecting children in the real world while underprotecting them in the virtual world.***

Percent of U.S. Undergraduates Diagnosed with a Mental Illness



Percent U.S. Anxiety Prevalence



As a parent of two adolescents myself, I worked especially hard to offer useful and non-obvious advice to other parents. My most important suggestions:

- ***Give children far more time playing with other children.*** *This play should ideally be outdoors, in mixed age groups, with little or no adult supervision (which is the way most parents grew up, at least until the 1980s).*
- ***Look for more ways to embed children in stable real-world communities.*** *Online networks are not nearly as binding or satisfying.*
- ***Don't give a smartphone as the first phone.*** *Give a phone or watch that is specialized for communication, not for internet-based apps.*
- ***Don't give a smartphone until high school.*** *This is easy to do, if many of your child's friends' parents are doing the same thing.*
- ***Delay the opening of accounts on nearly all social media platforms until the beginning of high school (at least).*** *This will become easier to do if we can support legislators who are trying to raise the age of "internet adulthood" from today's 13 (with no verification) to 16 (with mandatory age verification).*

Another helpful resource from our book study is <https://letgrow.org/>. As you plan family time this summer, we encourage you to look at pages 4-6 of this [Let-Grow-Summer-Experience.pdf](#). We hope you find the ideas helpful and enjoyable.

With that, I wish you and your family a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable summer. Thank you for being such an important part of the Roosevelt community. Your partnership, encouragement, and support help make our school a special place for children to learn and grow. We are grateful for all you do, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for another great year ahead.

Sincerely,



Ben Dallman (he/him/his)
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"Collectively committed to educating students in a safe, nurturing, and responsive environment."

Si desea que alguien le traduzca esta carta o si tiene preguntas, llame a Zulma Chafloque al (715) 852-3438.

Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais tsab ntawv no ua lus Hmoob, hu xov tooj rau koj tus me nyuam lub tsev kawm ntawv
Kong Moua (715) 852-4758 los sis hu rau Blia Schwahn (715) 852-6764.

If you are unsure whether your child has a negative lunch account balance, you can check at <https://www.myschoolbucks.com/>. Your child's account number is the same as their student ID number. If you need help or have trouble setting up an account, please contact schoolnutrition@ecasd.us. We are happy to help.

Important: If your family may qualify for free or reduced-price meals (see table), we encourage you to apply at <https://www.myschoolapps.com/>. These supports can make a meaningful difference for families and our school.

2025-2026 USDA Income Eligibility Guidelines

In order to qualify for meal benefits your household income must be within the limits defined by the 2025-2026 SY USDA Income Eligibility Guidelines.

Total Family Size	Annually	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every 2 Weeks	Weekly
1	\$28,953	\$2,413	\$1,207	\$1,114	\$557
2	\$39,128	\$3,261	\$1,631	\$1,505	\$753
3	\$49,303	\$4,109	\$2,055	\$1,897	\$949
4	\$59,478	\$4,957	\$2,479	\$2,288	\$1,144
5	\$69,653	\$5,805	\$2,903	\$2,679	\$1,340
6	\$79,828	\$6,653	\$3,327	\$3,071	\$1,536
7	\$90,003	\$7,501	\$3,751	\$3,462	\$1,731
8	\$100,178	\$8,349	\$4,175	\$3,853	\$1,927
Each add'l person	\$10,175	\$848	\$424	\$392	\$196



GET READY TO SAVE AT SCHOOL NEXT YEAR!

Royal Credit Union and Roosevelt have partnered to make saving each week fun and easy for your child. We welcome your questions about Royal School \$ense and how you can get your child started saving at school next fall.

Please save your Super Saver pouch for next year! We will update it with your new grade and teacher in the fall. How exciting to see all of your years of saving!

QUESTIONS?

Reach out to Mariah Wheeler at Mariah.Wheeler@rcu.org with questions!



Grace School-Age Child Care Program

**We are now accepting registrations for the
2026-2027 school year!**

Grace Lutheran School Age Childcare is excited to offer BOTH before and after school care directly on site at Roosevelt for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year! For more information and to register, please visit our website at: [School-Age Childcare | Grace Lutheran Communities \(graceluthfound.com\)](https://www.graceluthfound.com)