REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

November 2025

Coming up in November

Nov. 3
No School
Gr K-4 Parent-Teacher Conferences

Nov. 6
Gr K-4 Parent-Teacher Conferences

Nov. 11
Veteran's Day Program

Nov. 17-21
Scholastic Book Fair

Nov. 17
Gr K-2 REAMS Family Fun Night
6:00pm-7:00pm

Nov. 18
Gr 3-4 REAMS Family Fun Night
6:00pm-7:00pm

Nov. 20
Launching Pad Preschool Parent-Child Night

Nov. 21
RHS Musical Preview

Nov. 26-28
No School- Thanksgiving Break



Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School encourages student imagination, inquiry, and discovery by using an arts-infused academic curriculum that fosters critical thinking and creativity.

From the Principal

Dear REAMS Families,

We have had a fabulous October at REAMS! The month encompassed some of the first field trips of the year, the fourth grade Kindness Retreat, and our first Terrific Thursday celebration assembly. The beautiful fall colors have emerged, the days are getting shorter, and students have definitely fallen into a solid routine. The weather will be turning much colder as we head deeper into November. Every grade level goes out for recess each day and many students are standing at the bus stop. Please help your child to plan accordingly with warm attire for the outdoors.

The second week of October was Fire Prevention Week. Students were involved in fire prevention activities and learned about fire safety. I would encourage you to work together with your children to make sure you have a plan for fire safety in your own home. It will give you and your kids a proactive way to have peace of mind around this topic at home.

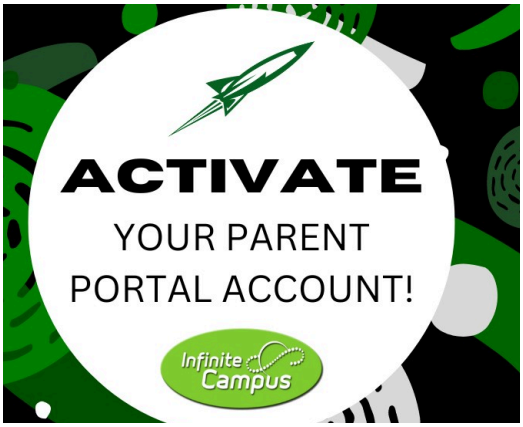
November will be filled with special events that celebrate students, parents, and community members. One of those events will be our annual Veteran's Day assembly. Many students know of someone who has served our country. Our Veteran's Day Assembly will be a day for our students to honor those people who have fought for peace and learn about the importance of Veteran's Day. Students and local veterans will participate in this assembly.

Thank you to everyone who attended our fall conferences and for working so closely with us at REAMS to help your child be as successful as possible. Your partnership is appreciated and valued as we work together to help your child reach their highest potential!

Warmly,
Brenda Nyhus
Principal

REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

PARENT- INFORMATION



Remember to activate your parent portal account!

By activating your parent portal account, you will be able to stay up-to-date on your students' grades, assignments, attendance, lunch accounts, schedules, transportation information, and more. CLICK HERE to log in to your parent portal account. CLICK HERE for helpful information regarding the parent portal account. If you need further assistance with your parent portal account, please email Christa Larson at christa.larson@rockford883.org or call 763-477-7557.

November Lunch Menu

CLICK HERE

Guest Meal Prices

Breakfast:
Adult $2.50

Lunch:
Adult $5.05



Reminder

Our schools provide healthy meals each day. All students are eligible for one breakfast and one lunch free of charge each day through the Minnesota Free Meals for Kids Program at school. Milk is $0.60 if students choose to purchase one to accompany their lunch from home. Payments for meal account balances can be made online through the parent portal account, or check or cash payments can be made in any school office.

Please contact the Rockford Area Schools District Office with any questions at 763-477-9165.

REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

PARENT-COMMUNITY NEWS

School Pictures are Ready

To Order

- Visit https://shop.jostenspix.com/login
- Sign in or create an account
- You will need the following information
  - Event code: FE73625
  - Student First & Last Name
  - School Name: Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School
- Homeroom Teacher (*Last Name, First Name*)

SCHOOL STORE

November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 StoreHours 5:30-7:30pm	4	5	6 Store Hours 7-9pm	7	8
9	10	11	12 Store Hours 5-7pm	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 Store Hours 6:30-9pm	22 StoreHours 6:30-9pm
23	24	25	26	28 Happy Thanksgiving!	29	30

Dates and times subject to change based on event changes. Any changes will be updated and posted on our social media platforms.



Cold Weather Drive

Rockford is partnering with Hennepin County Sheriff's Cold Weather Drive from now until February 28th. New or gently used cold weather donations will be collected in the Drop Box located at the front office. Items include: coats, hats, mittens, boots, scarves, and socks. The donated items will be used for distribution to homeless and unsheltered individuals in Hennepin County.



Not an ISD 883 Sponsored Event

REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY NEWS

In Need of Food?

Every Meal
Reach out to a school counselor or click the link below
Donate or Accept Food Here

Find a Local Food Pantry
Find a Food Pantry Near You!
Search Here

Loaves & Fishes - Plymouth Covenant Church
Prepared/Community Meals
https://www.loavesandfishesmn.org/
- Saturday from 5:30-6:30pm

River Works Food Shelf
https://riverworksonline.org/
- Monday 3:30pm - 7:00pm
- Tuesday 9:30am - 11:30am

WeCAN Mobile Market
https://www.wecanmn.org/get-help
- Mobile Food Market delivers groceries to those in need, who may not be able to access a traditional food shelf.

Hanover Food Shelf
Hours on their website
Serves: Hanover, St. Michael, Albertville, NW Loretto
Families can visit once per month

Buffalo Food Shelf
https://buffalofoodshelf.com/
- Tuesday 6:00 – 7:30 PM
- Thursdays 6:00 – 7:30 PM
- Fridays 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Westonka Food Shelf
https://westonkacommunityfoodshelf.com/
- Monday-Friday 9:30am-3pm
- (*Wed special hours: 9:30am-3pm & 6pm-8pm),
- Saturday 10am-12pm (appointment)

Nourishing Hope
https://www.ourfatherschurch.org/nourishing-hope.htm
Fresh Produce and Dairy pick-up on the 2nd Monday every month at Rockford, Corcoran and Buffalo locations.

Who do I contact?

REAMS	RMS-CES	RHS
Katie Reynolds	Molly Wirth	Samantha Bloom
Allison Leistico	Ellie Engstrom	Ellie Engstrom

REAMS ROCKET NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY NEWS

RiverWorks
COMMUNITY HELPING COMMUNITY

As many of you are aware the need this year is greater than ever. As we lean into the Thanksgiving season I am asking you to consider donating this year to our community partner Riverworks. They are an incredible organization that provides food, meals, clothing and assistance to our students and families in the Rockford Community. It sounds like they are in great need this year of our support.

We are asking for a huge push from our Rockford School District Staff and Teachers to ease the need for them to provide assistance to our Rockford Community members.

Riverworks Donate Now

To make your donation today please use the QR Code which will take you to a drop-down box. At the drop-box choose Rockford School Food Drive and complete your donation.



RiverWorks FOOD SHELF
food with love for every table

Thank You for supporting RiverWorks Food Shelf!

REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

KINDERGARTEN

October was a great month for kindergarten. Students are hard at work practicing their phonics and math skills in anticipation of the Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences. This month kindergartners focused on the discovery of apples, performing nursery rhymes, learning what nocturnal means, and the life-cycle of a pumpkin. Kindergartners also hit a big milestone this month by participating in their first field trip. We were able to visit the Rockford Fire Department to learn about what a firefighter does and how we can help by being prepared and making smart choices in our homes and in our school.





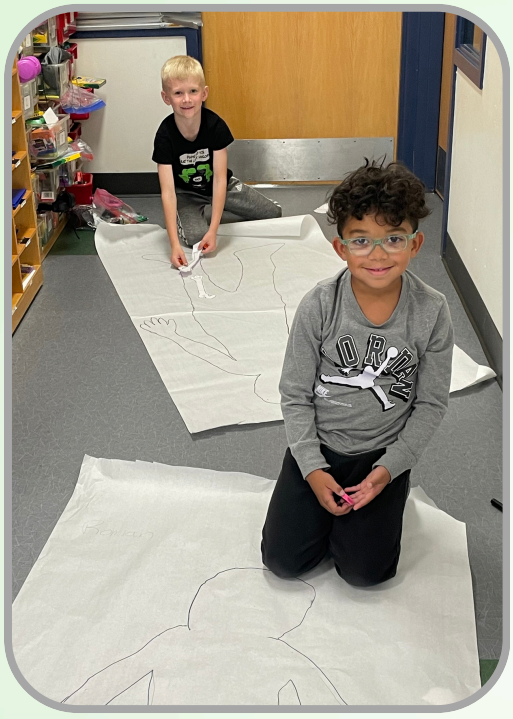


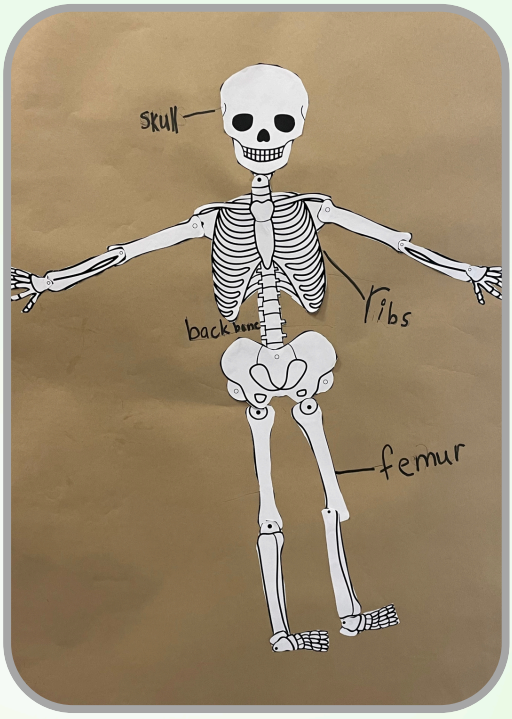


REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

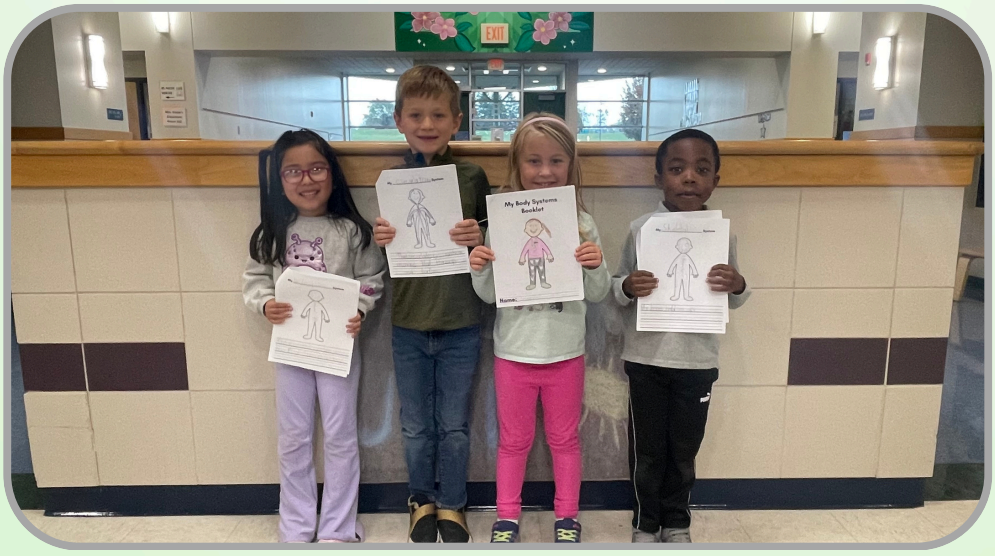
1st GRADE

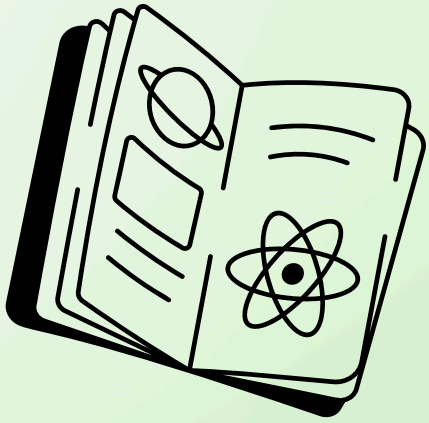
First graders began learning about the human body by exploring major body parts and organs and how they help our bodies function. They also discovered the different body systems and the important jobs each one does. Throughout the unit, students engaged in hands-on activities such as drawing and labeling body parts, creating life-sized body models with organs, and building their own skeletal systems. We focused on key vocabulary to deepen their understanding of how each system works. In writing, students practiced informational writing by developing topic sentences and working together to create a shared paragraph about the body systems.











REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

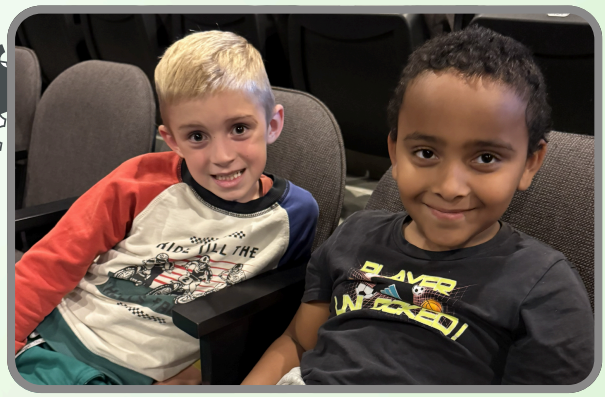
2nd GRADE

The month of October has been busy for the second graders at REAMS! Students attended a performance of Charlotte's Web at Stages Theater in Hopkins. One of the highlights of the show was the actress who played Charlotte—an aerialist who used silk fabrics to gracefully "spin" her web high above the stage! Thank you to the Education Foundation for making this memorable experience possible!

In Math, students have been working on solving story problems using both addition and subtraction. They've been learning to use equations, drawings, fact families, and comparison bars to tackle a variety of real-world scenarios.

In Reading, we've been exploring a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts through our new CKLA curriculum. During October, students dove into a unit on Ancient Greece, learning about important gods and goddesses, common jobs in ancient times, and major contributions that still impact us today. These texts have sparked meaningful discussions about world history, ancient civilizations, and influential leaders. Alongside reading, students have also been working on grammar skills, including types of sentences, quotation marks, and synonyms and antonyms.







REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

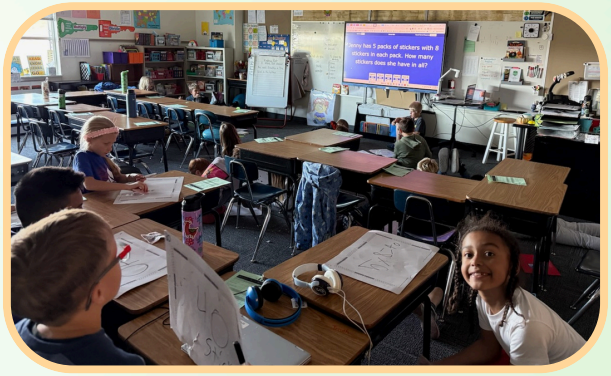
3rd GRADE

October has been a busy month! Students kicked off our new reading unit about animal classification and habitats. We created field journals and zoologist hats to use throughout the unit. We are diving into the animal research through our readers, live animal webcams and documentaries, and our own investigations using the school forest.

Students are working hard at adding inflectional endings -ed, -ing, and -s/-es to words. They are learning rules to apply when adding the endings, such as doubling the final consonant to keep the vowel short, like run to running or commit to committed.

Math has been all about multiplication and division. Students have been learning how to multiply with the use of songs, pictures, games and fun projects. Students will continue to multiply and divide in the month of November.









REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

4th GRADE

4th Grade has been learning up a storm!

In reading class we have been learning all about life in Europe during the Middle Ages. Students have learned what it would have been like to be a lord, knight, serf, craftsman, monk, or a nun. We have learned all about the feudal system and how castles were built to protect occupants from invading forces. Students have been working on their language, grammar, and reading comprehension skills, and writing informational paragraphs during this unit!

In math we have been working on multi-digit multiplication. First we learned about the area model that uses rectangles to break apart multiplication problems by place value. Now we are learning to multiply with the standard method, which is what parents probably know and which is the method they will use in Middle School.

In science students have been learning all about the properties of magnets, and in social studies students have been learning about their location including their phone numbers and addresses, and are moving on to learning all about The United States!

Students had so much fun celebrating kindness and community during our 4th Grade Kindness Retreat! It was a day full of music, games, stories, and togetherness that we all enjoyed. We are loving all of the fall activities and celebrations that have been happening in our classes, too!







KINDNESS

REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

ARTS- MUSIC

Music- 3rd & 4th Grade

Third grade students in music class have recently been creating sounds from nature in the school forest as well as nature sounds with instruments. Students had a great time being outside for learning and even saw and heard a few creatures in the wild (including bugs, caterpillars, birds, and squirrels). Students were using creativity, communication with classmates, and collaboration to create the different sounds in and out of the classroom.

Fourth grade students in music class have been learning to play simple songs on the xylophones, practicing singing for the Veteran's Day program in November, and started to play recorder. Music making has been prolific the past month in all music classes at REAMS**!**







3rd Grade Folk Dance Arts Troupe

3rd grade arts troupe started in October with a session of Folk Dancing. Students learned dances from various countries, including England, the Netherlands, and Mexico!





REAMS | POINTS OF PRIDE

ARTS- ART

Art

Kindergarten learned about the art element of texture. They drew cats on texture rugs using various texture plates. 1st grade drew scarecrows on a farm and learned about foreground, middle ground, and background. 1st graders all drew their favorite foods and made a table setting. 2nd grade worked on abstract designs with their name and learned about printmaking by creating fall birch trees. 3rd grade experimented with different watercolor techniques and created a fall landscape. 3rd graders also studied the art element of line by drawing zentangle hands. 4th grade learned about the color wheel and how to mix secondary colors, they have created color wheel name design paintings.













Terrific Thursday



















REAMS SOCIAL COMMITTEE

PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST

1st

Ms. Shea



1st

4th Grade Teachers



CHECK OUT THE THE CONTENDERS...













CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2025-2026

learn.explore.create.imagine
REAMS
ROCKFORD ELEMENTARY ARTS MAGNET SCHOOL

September

2-3 Assessment Days
4 REAMS First Day of School
First Day Expectations
15-19 Kindergarten Gingerbread Man Week
22-26 Homecoming Week

October

6-10 Fire Prevention Week
7 Gr K-2 Retakes/Pre-K Jostens Pictures
8 Gr 3-4 Retakes/Pre-K Jostens Pictures
Kindergarten Fire Station Field Trip
Grade 3 Stages Theatre Field Trip
10 Grade 4 Kindness Retreat
15 No School/PD Day
16-17 No School – MEA
30 Terrific Thursday
31 Grades K-4 Fall Harvest Parties
ECFE L'il Punkin' Fall Party

November

3 No School – PD Day
Grades K-4 Evening Parent-Teacher Conf
6 Grades K-4 Evening Parent-Teacher Conf
11 Veteran's Day Program
17-21 Scholastic Book Fair
17 Grades K-2 REAMS Family Fun Night
18 Grades 3-4 REAMS Family Fun Night
Kindergarten 50th Day of School
20 Launching Pad Pre-K Parent-Child Night
21 RHS Musical Preview
26-28 No School – Thanksgiving Break

December

1-5 Grade 3 Artist in Residence
11 Grade 1 Spotlight Concert
12 Kindergarten Winter Program
18 Terrific Thursday
19 Kindergarten Polar Express Day
22-31 No School – Winter Break

January

1-2 No School – Winter Break
19 No School – Staff PD Day-MLK Day

January(continued)

28 Kindergarten Children's Museum Field Trip
29 Grade 3 Spotlight Concert

February

5 Kindergarten Roundup
13 Grades K-4 Valentine's Day Parties
16 No School – Presidents' Day
17 No School – PD Day
18 Kindergarten 100th Day of School
19 Grade 1 Children's Theatre Field Trip

March

5 Grade 4 Spotlight Concert
12 &16 Grades K-4 Evening Parent-Teacher Conf
16, 18, 20 Kindergarten Artist in Residence
18 Grade 4 Informance at RHS Band/Choir
24-25 All School Song
26 Terrific Thursday
27 No School - Half PD Day
30-31 No School – Spring Break

April

1-3 No School – Spring Break
6 No School – PD Day
13-17 Grade 1 Artist in Residence
16 Grade 2 Spotlight Concert
20-24 REAMS Obstacle Course
22-28, 30 Grade 2 Artist in Residence



May

1 Grade 2 Grandparents Day
5-7 Grade 4 Artist in Residence
7 Grade 3 Stages Theatre Field Trip
8 Kindergarten Farm Day
REAMS Spelling Bee
11-12 Grade 4 Artist in Residence
12 REAMS Arts & Academics
14 Terrific Thursday
25 No School – Memorial Day
27 Kindergarten Como Zoo Field Trip
28 Grade 4 Capitol and Ordway Field Trip
29 Senior Salute

June

4 Last Day of School

EARLY CHILDHOOD AND LAUNCHING PAD PRESCHOOL

Launching Pad Preschool provides an outstanding and unique public preschool experience!



·Children 3 to 5 years old
·Full and half day options, 2, 3 and 5 days a week
·Reggio Emilia-Inspired Approach to education
·Rich in opportunities to discover and explore
·Encouraged to problem solve and try new ways to do "old" things
·Nurturing and accepting surroundings
·Caring and highly trained staff, including licensed early childhood teachers
·Located at Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School

The entire program is designed to be engaging and fun so children don't just learn, they love to learn!



On-line registration and information are available at www.rockford.ce.eleyo.com. Or visit our website at: www.rockford.883.org. Under the Community tab, click Early Childhood Programs. For more information, please call us at 763-477-7500.

GALAXY KIDS SCHOOL-AGE CARE

Galaxy Kids holds opportunities on non-school days for families within the program that need care. Students are able to participate in many fun filled activities throughout each day that are tied to different Themes. They also are able to enjoy the weather and go outside and play on the playgrounds and outdoor spaces around the school.





Galaxy Kids is a certified before and after school child care program for preschool-4th grade students offered through Rockford Area Schools Community Education. We are conveniently located in Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School right across the hall from ECFE and the Preschool classrooms. We are open Monday-Friday from 6:00am-6:00pm, to assist with family child care needs. We have many different registration options that are sure to accommodate most families' busy schedules. If you are looking for child care, before, during, or after school, and over the summer, then this may be the program for you.





For more information contact Cody Hallahan at 763-477-7555 or cody.hallahan@rockford883.org .

REF News & Updates

NOVMEBER 2025



Impact in Action: Author William Durbin Inspires Young Writers

Last spring, thanks to the generosity of our donors, **6th graders at RMS-CES** had an unforgettable opportunity to learn from Minnesota author **William Durbin**, whose visit was funded through the **REF Mini-Grant Program.**

This hands-on workshop turned reading into real-life inspiration. After studying Durbin's The Broken Blade in class, students were able to meet the author behind the story, ask questions, and dive into what it truly means to be a writer. For many, it was a spark that lit a new passion.

> **"*I always thought I didn't like to write, but I realized I just don't like being told what to write. I love to free write. This workshop helped me realize that."* -** Ethan

Others found themselves brimming with new story ideas and confidence:



> ***"I liked the writing workshop and got a bunch of ideas for a story that I want to write"*** - Thor

> ***"The writing workshop was really fun and made me want to get back into writing again"*** - Reegan

> ***"I honestly enjoyed when he came and taught us how to write. He taught us that if you write a page every day, you can write a whole book. I really liked his encouragement"*** - Chioma

Their teacher, Mrs. K, saw the impact firsthand:

> ***"It was really cool seeing RMS-CES students work with William Durbin after reading The Broken Blade in class. It made the story come alive and inspired them to keep exploring writing. Experiences like this truly make learning come to life."***

This unique experience – where literature, creativity, and real-world connect meet – was possible ***only because of donor support***. REF's Mini-Grant Program empowers teachers to dream big and bring opportunities like this directly into classrooms, where they have a lasting impact on students' growth and confidence.

When you give to the Rockford Education Foundation, you're not just funding a program – you're **inspiring the next generation of readers, writers, and dreamers.**

Events

REAMSKindness Fundraiser: Students Paying it Forward





Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School students recently completed their **Kindness Fundraiser**, and the results were incredible!

Together, students raised over $11,000 to support REAMS Arts Experiences – including field trips, artist in residency, theater programs, the all school song, and so much more.

Even more inspiring? Each act of kindness performed by students reminded us what community truly means. From helping neighbors and teachers to writing kind notes and sharing smiles, our students made kindness the most meaningful currency of all. They completed over 400 acts of kindness AND donated over 1,300 food items to Riverworks Food Shelf.

Thank you to every family and donor who contributed – you've made it possible for our youngest learners to express themselves through the arts and experience the joy of giving back.

Get Ready to Play! 80's TV Game Show Night



📅 Saturday,November 22, 2025 | 📍 RushCreek GolfCourse

The Rockford Education Foundation is turning up the volume and throwing it back to the ultimate era of **neon, big hair, and buzzer-beating fun!**
Join us for an unforgettable evening of **games, dinner, and fundraising**, all supporting educational excellence in Rockford schools.
🎟️ Tickets on sale now through November 15!

Don't miss your chance to be part of this high-energy night that's sure to have you laughing, reminiscing, and giving back.

Buy Tickets Here » https://secure.qgiv.com/event/rockford25/

❤️ Thank You for Fueling the Future

From author visits and art experiences to STEM integration and career pathways—your support continues to make learning come alive across Rockford schools.

Together, we're inspiring the next generation to dream big, work hard, and shine bright.

Stay connected:

📱 Follow us on Facebook & Instagram for stories, updates, and ways to make a difference.
🌐 www.RockfordEducationFoundation.org