Rosemount Middle School

Student Handbook

2026-27

Dear Parent(s),
This student/parent informational handbook has been published for your and your family's convenience. We hope that this booklet will help you become more familiar with our school and its procedures. We feel strongly about these concepts and hope we can work together in helping your child grow and develop in a learning environment that is positive and fulfilling.

Our goal at Rosemount Middle School is designed to promote the intellectual, social and emotional growth of young adolescents. Each student is encouraged to take advantage of the wide variety of curricular and co-curricular opportunities available. The staff is committed to helping every student develop his or her talents and explore new areas of interest. This is an exciting time in a young person's life and the staff at Rosemount Middle School is excited about the opportunity we have in helping our students reach their full potential.

We will be communicating with you throughout the year, and, at the same time, we encourage parental input and involvement. Parents are always welcome at Rosemount Middle School. We invite you to call, email, or drop by the school anytime. Please let us know if you have questions or if we can be of service to you. You can reach staff and administration at (651) 423-7570.

Best Wishes,
Rosemount Middle School
Staff and Administration

DAILY SCHEDULE

Period 1	8:20 am	-	9:16 am
Period 2	9:20 am	-	10:14 am
Period 3	10:18 am	-	11:12 am
Period 4 A/B	11:16am	-	12:12 pm
Period 4 C/D	12:16pm	-	1:12 pm
Period 5	1:16 pm	-	2:10 pm
Period 6	2:14 pm	-	3:10 pm

RMS BELIEFS

Belief in Positive, Healthy Relationships

We believe strong, positive relationships are at the foundation of student success. Positive relationships require trust, empathetic listening and the desire to understand.

Belief in the Safe Learning Environment

We believe the safety of students is our top priority, and we are committed to ensuring this. It is essential that Rosemount Middle School students feel safe to learn at high levels.

Belief in the Power of Purpose
We believe that all students will find purpose of learning and a sense of connection at Rosemount Middle School. We believe our school community expects and deserves this. We believe every student can learn at high levels, and it is our charge, as professional educators, to achieve this. We believe that the Rosemount Middle School staff all serve a great purpose, and that purpose brings great responsibility with extreme fulfillment.

Belief in Positive Intent
We believe that parents, students and staff members intend to do their best each and every day.

Belief in High Expectations
We believe students achieve when we create a school environment of high expectations and a climate that is collaborative and warm. It is our moral imperative is to support all students in reaching academic greatness.

Belief in Growth Mindset
We believe we are all learners and will continue to learn as we experience new challenges. We believe that effort and growth in the learning journey need to be recognized and celebrated.

"We don't really learn anything from experience. We only learn from reflecting on our experience."
John Dewey

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY

Rosemount Middle School stands together and is committed to ensuring a safe space and educational equity for all our students.

IRISH WAY LESSONS - SCHOOL CLIMATE AND BULLYING PREVENTION PROGRAM
Irish Way Lessons are used at Rosemount Middle to foster the following goals as measures for individual student safety and large-scale student body climate and culture:

- Identifies student behaviors and roles in peer bullying scenarios: The bully, the follower, the support, the passive supporter, the disengaged onlooker, the silent-but-empathetic onlooker, and defenders/supporters of targeted students.
- Educates students on the impact of mean-spirited social and physical behaviors.
- Educates staff on the personal power dynamics between a bully and a targeted victim.
- Educates staff on recognition of subtle behaviors that are precursors to deliberate bullying.
- Distinguishes between different student-to-student behaviors (what is bullying, what is not bullying).
- Helps schools and students to navigate social situations with teacher support and options.
- Empowers students to move away from mean-spirited behaviors.
- Fosters and contributes to a school culture where mean-spirited behaviors toward peers are not tolerated or necessary.

THE IRISH WAY PROGRAM: "Be Safe. Be Kind. Be Responsible."
- We will treat everyone with respect.
- We will not bully others.
- We will include students who are left out.
- If we see bullying, we will do something and tell an adult, as soon as possible.
- We will not hurt others.

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE: Rosemount Middle School
At Rosemount Middle School, we follow the Irish Way by working honestly, respectfully, and responsibly.

What is Academic Honesty?
It means doing your own work and giving credit and citing sources when using someone else's ideas or words.

What Counts as Cheating or Plagiarism?

- Cheating: Copying answers, using notes when not allowed, or helping someone else cheat.
- Plagiarism: Using someone's words, ideas, or AI-generated work without saying where it came from.

Consequences
Students who violate the RMS Academic Honor Code will face consequences determined by the teacher or an administrator. The severity of the consequences will depend on the nature of the offense. Teachers have the authority to assign appropriate consequences, which may include, but are not limited to receiving a zero on the assignment or assessment, being required to redo the work, and/or receiving a behavior referral that may result in additional school-level disciplinary actions.

Let's all commit to doing the right thing—the Irish Way. 🍀

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS ON THE USE OF AI

District 196 recognizes artificial intelligence (AI) as a powerful tool to enhance teaching and learning. We are committed to integrating AI into our learning and technology framework to enrich the educational experience, promote equity, and meet the diverse needs of our students and staff, all while upholding academic integrity. At Rosemount Middle School, the use of generative AI tools is governed by District 196's AI Guidance, which prioritizes ethical use, academic integrity, and transparency.

Permitted Use

- Students may use AI tools **only when explicitly authorized** by their teacher.
- AI should support—*not replace*—student effort.
- Students must cite AI use and be able to explain how it was used.

Prohibited Use

- Copying AI-generated content without approval or citation is **plagiarism**.
- Entering personal information into AI tools is **strictly prohibited** to protect student privacy.

Student Responsibilities

- **Transparency:** Be honest about AI use and when in doubt, disclose.
- **Accuracy & Authenticity:** Verify AI-generated content for correctness and bias.
- **Privacy:** Do not share personal or sensitive information with AI tools.

Consequences of Misuse
Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action consistent with the school's **Honor Code and Academic Integrity Policy**, which may include but not limited to:

- A zero on the assignment
- A requirement to redo the work
- Disciplinary referral or additional consequences at the teacher/administrator's discretion

By following these guidelines, students can responsibly engage with AI while upholding the values of academic excellence and integrity in District 196.

SCHOOL SECURITY AND SAFETY

To ensure the safety of students, staff and visitors, Rosemount Middle has implemented the following security measures:

- Visitors will need a license or ID to scan for entry at the main office.
- Visitors/parents/siblings are NOT allowed in hallway/common areas during school hours.
- Lunch visits are not allowed.

- All doors will remain locked during the school day except for the front entry door #1.
- In the event of a threat to our safety, Rosemount Middle staff have been trained and will follow the school and ISD 196 Emergency Plan.
- Rosemount Middle School works closely with the local fire and police departments to form an effective response team in the event of an emergency situation.

CELL PHONE EXPECTATIONS

ISD 196 middle schools do not allow students to use their cell phones during the school day (from 8:20 am – 3:10 pm). Students will leave their phones in their locker or at home.

Please see below for the RMS staff response to the student should a student have their cell phone out during the academic day.

- 1st time: Phone is brought to Student Services – student can pick up their phone at the end of the day.
- 2nd time: Phone is brought to Student Services – parent/guardian must pick up the phone.
- 3rd time: Phone is brought to Student Services– parent/guardian must pick up the phone and additional consequences will be assigned. Parent/Guardian will be notified by RMS administration.
- 4th time: Phone is brought to Student Services – phone should remain home, or phone is turned-in to Student Services before school and picked up after school. Parent/Guardian will be notified by RMS administration.
- Please see the district guidance here on the cell phone policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: Can my child use their cell phone during the school day?
A1: ISD 196 middle schools do not allow students to use their cell phones from 8:20 am – 3:10 pm. Students will leave their phones in their locker or at home.

Q2: How do I get a hold of my student during the day?
A2: The main office can take messages and get information to students throughout the school day.

Q3: How does my student get a hold of me during the school day?
A3: There is a student phone available in the main office for students to use during school hours.

WIRELESS HEADPHONES/EARBUDS

Wireless headphones/earbuds are not allowed from 8:20 am – 3:10 pm. Wired headphones/earbuds are allowed for academic purposes as needed and directed by the teacher.

FIDGETS AND NON INSTRUCTIONAL ITEMS IN CLASS

To support a focused and productive learning environment, fidgets, toys, and other non-instructional items are not permitted in classrooms unless specifically approved as an accommodation or support.

Students may use a fidget or similar item in the classroom only when it has been specifically recommended or approved by a school counselor, medical provider, or other designated school staff member.

Items such as Needohs, stress balls, small toys, and similar objects should remain at home.

If a student brings an unapproved fidget or toy to class, staff may ask the student to put the item away or bring it to the appropriate location. Repeated use of unapproved items may result in additional school consequences.

The school recognizes that some students may benefit from sensory tools or other supports. These needs will be addressed individually in collaboration with the student, family, and appropriate school staff.

DISTRICT 196 ASSESSMENTS

FAST Screener:
Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 will take the FAST Screener assessment three times a year in both Math and Reading. This short assessment provides students, teachers, and families with a snapshot of each student's academic progress and their current performance relative to grade-level expectations.

CAPTI Diagnostic Assessment:
Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 will take the CAPTI Diagnostic Reading Assessment at least once a year. The CAPTI diagnostic assessment is a type of evaluation designed to identify students' specific strengths and areas of need before instruction begins or as a tool during instruction. Unlike summative tests, which evaluate what students have learned after instruction, diagnostic assessments provide detailed information about students' current skills, knowledge gaps, and misconceptions.

These assessments help teachers:

- Pinpoint where a student is in their learning progression,
- Tailor instruction to meet individual needs,
- Group students for targeted interventions, and
- Monitor progress over time.

The CAPTI diagnostic assessment is not graded and is used as a tool for instructional planning, not as a measure of student performance for report cards or accountability.

MCA (Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment):
Students in grades 6,7 and 8 will take the reading and math MCA in early April. 8th grade students will also take the Science MCA in early May.

- **MCA Parent Fact Sheet**

TESTING TIPS
It is important that students take these tests seriously. The results of standardized tests impact academic programming and placement. The following is a list of suggestions for parents to help their children perform at their highest level of achievement.

1. Do not schedule appointments on testing dates. Typically, students will perform better when they test during the scheduled time and not on a "make-up" day.
2. Take advantage of the practice test that are available on the RMS website and at school.
3. Be sure your child arrives at school and well-rested.
4. If you feel your child would benefit from extra support, we will have after school programs in the areas of math and reading.

DAILY SCHEDULE
- 7:20 am: Teacher day begins - Students may make plans to meet with teachers in their area during this time. Otherwise, students must remain in the main hallway adjacent to the main office and are not to enter other parts of the building.

- 8:00 am: Students are allowed throughout the building including lockers and morning breakfast. Students arriving on the bus should come directly into the building upon arrival to school. No students are to leave the school grounds once they arrive.

- 8:20 am: School day begins and all students are to be in their period 1 classroom.

- 3:10 pm: School day ends.

- 3:18 pm: Busses are dismissed promptly at 3:18 pm. All students should be on their bus.

- 3:20 pm: Afterschool activities begin. All students not under direct supervision of a teacher, coach, or other staff member are to be out of the building and on their way home.

- 5:00 pm: Pick up time for students participating in afterschool activities.

ATTENDANCE

IMPROVING STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Minnesota law requires school attendance until age 16. The Student Services Team and Administration of RMS will work with parents in trying to improve the attendance patterns of students who have excessive absences. Sometimes a student's absentee pattern is an indication of other problems, either at home or at school. These problems are sometimes difficult to sort out and we may need assistance to deal with these situations. Other times, a student may have genuine physical concerns and occasionally a student may have a combination of the two. Many times, students are unaware of their excessive absence patterns. The counselors and administration will work with individual students and parents if attendance problems develop.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

An unexcused absence is an absence for reasons not acceptable to school authorities. Unexcused absences include but are not limited to missed bus, overslept, late ride, babysitting, etc. These absences may be incurred with or without the knowledge of the parent or guardian. Students with an unexcused absence from school, with or without parental knowledge, may be required to attend a conference with the school administration upon the student's return to school.

TARDINESS

If student arrives at school after period 1 begins, it is necessary to check in at the main office before reporting to class. Excessive unexcused tardies to period 1 or class may result in a conference with the student and a letter sent home to parents. In addition, continual tardiness may result in a truancy referral (see below).

TRUANCY

Cases of suspected truancy are handled by the administration. Parents will be notified as soon as possible if their child is truant. Cases of habitual or extended periods of truancy will be referred to the Dakota County Attorney's Office and its Truancy Prevention Program. Parents and student will be involved initially in a diversion conference. Additional truant days may result in a court appearance.

WITHDRAWING FROM SCHOOL

Students should see their counselor a week before withdrawing to coordinate returning of school items and to remove all personal items from their locker.

PLANNED ABSENCE

If the student will be missing school for a planned absence, please notify RMS. You may use the District 196 Online Absence Notification System, https://rms.district196.org/contact or on the RMS website https://rms.district196.org/families/attendance, call RMS directly at 651-423-7570 (after school hours you may leave a

voicemail), or send a note with your student and have them take it to the attendance office. **If a parent is not the person picking up their student, this must be included in the communication from the parent.**

ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL

If the student arrives at school after school begins, it is necessary for the student to check in at the main office before reporting to class, whether the absence is excused or unexcused. Student will receive a pass to class to show their teacher. For an excused absence we will need some form of contact with a parent/guardian either by using the online absence notification system, call RMS directly at 651-423-7570 or a signed note with the reason for arriving late.

LEAVING SCHOOL DURING THE DAY

If the student will be leaving school during the school day, you may use the District 196 Online Absence Notification System, https://rms.district196.org/contact or on the RMS website https://rms.district196.org/families/attendance , please remind your student to stop by the main office to pick up their permission to leave pass before school starts. Or students may bring a signed note from a parent to the attendance office between 8:00-8:20 am to get a permission to leave pass. Students should show this pass to the teacher in the class they are leaving early, then the student may to go to their locker (if needed), then come to the main office to get signed out and meet the parent in the office picking them up.

MAKE-UP WORK

Students are responsible for emailing or checking their teachers' Schoology pages to make up classwork.
Students should also communicate directly with their teachers to create a plan for making up work.

GENERAL INFORMATION

AFTER SCHOOL HOURS

Students are to leave the building immediately after school unless under the direct supervision of an instructor/coach.
Students who have been absent more than ½ day may not participate or be a spectator in after school activities.
Students who leave the school grounds are not allowed to return as a participant or spectator in after-school activities.
Student Spectators must be with their own parent/guardian to attend an after school or evening event.

BACKPACKS/BOOKBAGS

Students may use book bags and backpacks to bring their books, school supplies and gym clothes to and from school. However, book bags and backpacks must stay in student lockers during the school day. Bags or backpacks large enough to hold an 8 1/2"x11" notebook, textbook, or folder must remain in students' lockers during the school day.

CAFETERIA CONDUCT

- Use good eating manners. If students make a mess, they are expected to recognize this and clean it up.
- Talk with peers and enjoy social interaction, but do not shout or make loud noises.
- Clear the table before you leave, above and below. Don't leave food items, paper products, etc.: Be responsible for your area.
- Students are allowed to choose where they sit and with whom they sit. Yet a responsibility comes with this for the behavior or groups at a table. The privilege of being able to choose where to sit may be revoked due to poor cafeteria conduct.
- Pay attention to designated serving lines; different menus are served in different lines. Signs will notify which line is for which menu.
- Students who abuse lunchroom rules and regulations will be assigned to eat in an area supervised by a staff member or eat lunch in the office.
- Once seated, students should remain at the seat until finished. Cafeteria supervisors will dismiss tables at the end of the lunch period.

CAFETERIA INFORMATION AND ACCESS RESTRICTIONS

- Students may eat the prepared foods from our kitchen, or they may bring in their own individual "home" lunch

- Students bringing their own food are to bring individual servings of home-made or commercial (one-serving) foods but may not bring in large quantities of food for distribution to friends (i.e.: no large bag snacks, no 12-packs of beverages, pizza, etc.).
- The cafeteria is not a setting or time for a student birthday party. This is to take place outside of school. Note: We do not provide access of parents or siblings to children in our cafeteria during lunch. Parents who wish to eat lunch with their child may do so in an area designated by school staff upon advanced request by parents.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Address changes should be reported to the main office. Phone numbers/email addresses can be updated in your Campus Parent account.

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rosemount Middle School announcements are read daily to students during first period.

DRUG FREE AND WEAPON FREE ZONE

The Minnesota legislature has revised the DRUG-FREE and WEAPON-FREE ZONE law by adding treatment centers to the areas where increased penalties apply. The law now covers the areas surrounding school property, park property, public housing projects and treatment centers facilities. Anyone caught possessing or selling not only narcotics, but amphetamines or marijuana as well, may be subject to increased penalties for committing the crime in one of these zones. The law is also tough on anyone caught possessing or using a dangerous weapon in these areas. The Minn. Stat. sec. 152.01, 152.021-152.024 (1997) and Minn. Stat. sec. 609.66 (1996) relate to drug-free school, park, public housing and treatment center zones.

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS PROGRAM

All District 196 families are encouraged to apply for the Educational Benefits Program (formerly known as the Free and Reduced-Price Meals Program) each school year. An approval for educational benefits allows families to receive discounted or free meals and activities (sports or fine arts) or Community Education fees. Apply online at https://www.district196.org/services/food-and-nutrition-services/educational-benefits-program; the process is safe, secure and private. Only one application is needed per household. An application must be submitted each school year.

FIRE DRILLS, TORNADO DRILLS, LOCKDOWN DRILLS

Emergency drills are held throughout the year. Instructors will explain the evacuation plan or shelter plan in each class. During fire drills, students should move quietly and orderly out of the building. Instructors will assist students in exiting the building to a safe area. Students should pay attention to these instructions. During tornado drills, students should move quietly and orderly to the shelter area. Instructors will show students “how to sit” to help avoid serious injury. If students are outside, instructors will select a shelter area. During lockdown drills, students should follow the specific instruction provided by the classroom instructor.

GRADES

Students earn letter grades. Each subject area has drawn up the objectives and criteria for which a student is graded. Students and parents are encouraged to monitor student progress via Schoology throughout the trimester. Schoology is a tool for parents and students to monitor completed assignments, missing schoolwork and other assessments.

HEALTH SERVICES

Licensed school nurses provide a variety of services that support a healthy learning environment for all students and staff in District 196. The health office is located in the general office area. The nurse’s office hours are 7:30 am to 3:30 pm. Nursing care is available to assist students who have become ill or injured at school or who need help with other medical issues. We recommend that students who are ill with a fever and/or vomiting NOT return to school until after they have a full 24-hours free of fever and vomiting. Students must have a pass from their teacher before reporting to the nurse’s office, unless it is an emergency. If a student wants to come to the nurse’s office between classes, he/she must obtain a pass from the teacher of the next period’s class.

ILLNESS AND INJURY

In cases of illness or significant injury at school, the emergency contacts in order will be contacted by the nurse/administrator. The emergency contact must be willing and able to provide transportation and supervision for the student. It is important the emergency contact information is current for all students. If no one can be reached, 911 will be contacted as necessary. Please keep your contact and emergency contact information up to date on your Campus Parent account.

Guidelines for whether or not to send your child to school:

We want children in school and ready to learn. The following guidelines have been established to help determine when children should remain at home. They may need to rest at home if they have:

- Fever
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Any rash, of which you do not know the cause
- They are not feeling well enough to participate in the school day

When your child is feeling ill please don't hesitate to call your school nurse with questions or concerns, 651-423-7571. We would prefer your child to remain at home for 24 hours after the above symptoms have subsided. This helps prevent the spread of communicable diseases and allows the opportunity to rest and recover fully from the illness. Please contact the main office to report on the absence.

The school district will follow the guidelines from the Minnesota Department of Health for recommended exclusion and notification for vaccine-preventable diseases (mumps, measles, rubella, pertussis, diphtheria, viral hepatitis, chickenpox and meningitis). There will be no other classroom or grade level notification for communicable diseases.

ESTABLISH HEALTHY HABITS

We know that too many absences/tardies, for whatever reason, can cause children to fall behind both academically and socially. Encourage healthy habits and routines, including adequate sleep and nutrition, and consistent attendance for your child's success.

We ask that students not leave school or arrange for their own ride home if feeling ill, without first reporting to the nurse. The school nurse will assess the illness and call home if necessary.

REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS

In order for students to enroll or remain enrolled in elementary or secondary school, MN state law requires documentation of required immunizations, written proof of exemption, or conscientious objection. Students will not be allowed to start school until this information is returned to the Health Office. Your child can meet the immunization requirements through being fully immunized, providing a signed medical exemption letter or through a notarized conscientious objection. http://www.district196.org/student-services/health-services/immunization-requirements/

MEDICATIONS

Please reference District Policy 506.2.2AR for all details regarding administration and possession of medication at district schools.

- Students requiring the administration of prescription medication at school shall provide the school with written authorization from their parent or guardian.
- Prescription medication shall be administered by the school nurse.
- Prescription medication shall be brought to the school nurse, preferably by the parent or guardian, in a container appropriately labeled by a pharmacist and must be administered in a manner consistent with the instructions on the label. Prescription medication shall be kept in the health office, with the exception of

medications (such as some seizure medications) which must be kept near the student in order to be administered in accordance with authorized health care provider's order.

- The school or school nurse will not supply non-prescription/stock medications such as Ibuprofen, tylenol, etc.. These medications must be supplied by parents/guardians.
- A specific non-prescription medication may only be given to the student if the school has received written authorization from the student's parent or guardian to give that particular medication to their child, and if the medication is provided to the school nurse in its original container.
- A student in grades 7-8 only may possess and use nonprescription pain relief in a manner consistent with the labeling, if the school has received written annual authorization from the student's parent or guardian permitting the student to self-administer the medication. Students may not share these medications with other students.
- Students in grade 6 are not permitted to possess non-prescription medication.

http://www.district196.org/student-services/health-services/rules-for-taking-medication/

HEALTH SCREENINGS

Each year students participate in a health screening. Students can also receive hearing/vision screen upon request from a parent/guardian or if the teacher suspects a hearing or vision concern that is affecting the student's ability to learn. If you do not wish to have your child screened, please contact the school nurse.

HEALTH PLANS

If your student has a health condition that could result in an emergency (for example, serious allergy with epi pen, diabetes, seizure disorder or asthma) or has a health condition requiring accommodations (for example, medication administration, treatments, or restrictions) contact the school nurse before the school year starts or as soon as the condition develops. Our school and district websites have the necessary forms for you and your child's physician to complete. http://www.district196.org/student-services/health- services/

HOME BOUND INSTRUCTION

If it should become necessary for a student to be absent from school for an extended period because of serious illness or accident, arrangements can be made to provide instruction at home. It is the responsibility of the parents to call the school and ask that such provision be made. Fifteen consecutive days of absence is a requirement for this service.

LOCKERS

Students should not share lockers and should not share their locker combinations with others. Students should always make sure the door of the locker is completely closed, turning the dial of the locker after closing the door. Report losses and locker problems to the office immediately. All students should help keep locker areas neat and clean.

LEARNING COMMONS

Anyone desiring to use the facilities has the opportunity to do so. It is a place to study and seek out information. Students who damage books are subject to a charge for the amount of damage. All books, magazines, and pamphlets must be checked out of the Learning Commons.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

Students will need the following items for class:

- Activewear Sweatshirt long sleeve shirt sweatpants leggings (suitable for outdoor cold temperatures)
- Socks, and appropriate gym shoes
- Swimsuit (appropriate for athletic activity)
- Towel
- Combination lock (For Swimming Unit) Optional

It is a good idea to have a special bag just for physical education so there is little chance of forgetting or losing necessary items.

A physician's certificate must be presented by the student in order to be excused from physical education for any extended period of time. If a student is to be excused from a physical education class for a day, the student must bring a note from a parent and have it signed by the nurse. The physical education area (pool, gymnasium, weight room and spin room) is an area where we can have great fun and physical activity while learning basic performance and life skills.

"District 196 teaches students human growth and development curriculum and sexually transmitted infections and diseases prevention curriculum in seventh grade health classes. If you would like specific information about what is taught, contact your school principal. Parents who are uncomfortable with either curriculum after talking with the principal may withhold their children from specific class sessions in which these curricula are taught."

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Each morning, students have the opportunity to publicly recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Anyone not wishing to participate in reciting the pledge for any personal reason may respectfully abstain from participation.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

For information regarding the closing of school due to inclement weather, a mass voicemail from the school or district will go out to households. School closing information will also be provided on the District website at www.district196.org.

SCHOOLOGY, PROGRESS REPORTS, REPORT CARDS

Schoology, is a web-based system, which allows parents to access information throughout the school year. This online grading system allows parents to check a child's class status with detail and desired frequency. It is considered the first form of classroom communication to parents.

YOU CAN USE SCHOOLOGY TO...

- Check your child's current grade in any class
- Check assignment completion in any class (scores, percentages, etc.)
- Review your child's quiz and test scores in any class (scoring, impact on overall grade)

INFINITE CAMPUS

Parents may access your child's printable report card via Infinite Campus Parent account. With this, you may view and print as many copies as you wish from your own computer. As students enter 6th grade and our secondary setting, one notable change is not only the class grading system (letter grades), but the method by which parents are notified of your child's academic work and class grade status.

Through Infinite Campus you can access:

- Report Cards
- Attendance Records
- Class Schedule
- Report a Student Absence

LETTER GRADES

Students earn letter grades based on the grading scales that the teachers set up for their classes. Although teachers have the autonomy to customize a grade-scale for their content and grade level, most teachers use the criteria close to the following:

Score	Credit	GPA Value

A	1	4
A-	1	3.667
B+	1	3.333
B	1	3
B-	1	2.667
C+	1	2.333
C	1	2
C-	1	1.667
D+	1	1.333
D	1	1
D-	1	0.667
F	0	0

SELLING OF CANDY OR COLLECTABLES
There is to be no sale of candy, fundraiser items or collectables other than those approved by the Rosemount Middle School Administration.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE
The school district does not have insurance covering students. Parent's insurance programs are responsible for coverage.

STUDENT COUNCIL
The Student Council provides for the expression of student opinion, builds good relationships between students and faculty, coordinates student activities to keep school spirit at a high level, and carries out many worthwhile activities.

TELEPHONE
Students may use the student phone located inside the main office. If a student is using the phone during class time they must have a pass from a teacher.

TEXTBOOKS
Textbooks are furnished by the district. Each student is responsible for his/her books. Students will be asked to pay for lost or damaged books.

TECHNOLOGY/iPad
As part of the District 196 Dynamic Learning with 1:1 Access, each student will be provided with a district-owned device (iPad) to use at home and at school. In order to fully utilize the district-owned device, it is imperative for students and families to commit to the guidelines and expectations as listed on the iPad Student User Agreement.
https://www.district196.org/academics/digital-learning/11-ipad-parent-resources/beginning-of-the-year-resources

Devices will be used for learning by accessing and analyzing information, collaborating and communicating, problem solving, and innovating and creating to enhance learning.

Use of the device:
- bring a fully charged device to school each day;
- ask for permission and/or give credit before posting, distributing, or using information that was created by someone else;
- communicate in a responsible, respectful and kind manner with others;
- download only the apps as designated by the teacher, and
- use the device appropriately during class time.

TOBACCO FREE STATEMENT
District 196 and Rosemount Middle School is a tobacco-free environment. Use of tobacco in district buildings or on district grounds is prohibited. Thank you for your cooperation.

VISITORS
RMS does not allow students to bring guests to school.

WEEKLY COMMUNICATION (Parent Square)
Rosemount Middle School sends weekly communication to all families via Parent Square and email.

COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

FALL
Cross Country – 6-8th Grade Boys and Girls
Soccer 7-8th Grade Boys and Girls
Tennis – 6-8th Grade Girls
Volleyball – 7-8th Grade Girls

WINTER 1
Basketball - 7-8th Grade Girls
Wrestling - 6-8th Grade Boys
Girls Gymnastics - 7-12th Grade @ RHS
Girls Hockey - 7-12th Grade @ RHS
Alpine Skiing - 7-12th Grade @ RHS
Nordic Skiing - 7-12th Grade @ RHS
Figure Skating - 7-12th Grade @ AVHS

WINTER 2
Basketball – 7th Grade Boys

WINTER 3
Basketball – 8th Grade Boys
Swimming & Diving - 7-8th Grade Boys and Girls

SPRING
Tennis – 6-8th Grade Boys
Track – 7-8th Grade Boys and Girls
Softball – 7-12th Grade Girls @ RHS

Adaptive CI and PI sports 7-12th Grade through ISD 196 (register on Edutrak)
Soccer
Floor Hockey
Softball

CLUBS/FINE ARTS – OPEN TO ALL GRADES
Chess Club

Down Hill Ski Club
Play/Musical Cast and Crew
Future Cities
Geography Bee
Math Team
Speech
Student Council

ATHLETICS/FINE ARTS REGULATIONS

The following regulations shall be in force throughout the entire year and shall govern all students participating in any activity sanctioned as part of the school program.

A. Grades – All participants must maintain passing grades in school work according to the MSHSL rules to be eligible.
B. Drugs, tobacco, and/or alcohol – Guidelines of the MSHSL will be followed.
C. Students must be in attendance for one half of the school day to be eligible to participate in school activity.
D. Students who receive a suspension are not eligible to participate in school athletics/activities during the duration of the suspension.

ATHLETIC SPORTS PHYSICAL

A sports physical examination is required for athletic programs. Sports physicals are current three years from the date of the physical. The sports physical must be submitted to the school nurse before registration can be made. Registration is made through Edutrak must be completed before a student is allowed to participate.

ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION FEES

A sport participation fee is required by the district. The fee for all the sports will be collected through Edutrak. Families that qualify for Educational Benefits will have a waived fee, but registration must still be completed on Edutrak. An application for Education Benefits must be completed yearly. https://www.district196.org/services/food-and-nutrition-services/educational-benefits-program

FINE ARTS/CLUBS

A fine arts/clubs student participation fee is required by the district. Families that qualify for Educational Benefits will have a waived fee, but registration must still be completed on Edutrak. An application for Education Benefits must be completed yearly. https://www.district196.org/services/food-and-nutrition-services/educational-benefits-program

INTRAMURAL/CLUB PARTICIPATION FEE

A participation fee will be required to participate in intramurals at RMS. Fees are determined based on enrollment. Registration is required on Edutrak. Families that qualify for Educational Benefits will have a waived fee, but registration must still be completed on Edutrak. An application for Education Benefits must be completed yearly. https://www.district196.org/services/food-and-nutrition-services/educational-benefits-program

GIFTED ATHLETE PROGRAM

A 7th or 8th grade student may participate in a high school varsity athletic activity in which he or she demonstrates exceptional and superior ability in a particular sport. A gifted athlete is one whose needs cannot be adequately met by the middle school program because he or she has the ability to be a consistent starter at the high school varsity level. To

initiate a request, parents should contact the RMS athletic director. Upon approval, students are eligible to try out for the high school team.

INSURANCE

Students wishing to participate in athletics should be covered by insurance provided by the parent/guardian. The school district does not have insurance for participants in the school athletic programs, any school activities or for accidents that occur at school.

STUDENT CONDUCT

BUS SAFETY

For safety reasons each student shall:

A. Obey bus drivers promptly, as they are in full charge of buses and pupils while in transit.
B. Be on time at the designated bus stops. Buses cannot wait.
C. Stay off the roadway at all times while waiting for buses.
D. Cross in front of a bus when crossing the highway, not in back of a bus.
E. Board the bus in an orderly manner – pushing and crowding will not be tolerated.
F. Wait until the bus has come to a stop before attempting to enter or leave the bus.
G. Students must board/depart the bus at their designated bus stop only.
H. Keep hands and head inside the bus at all times.
I. Do not move around or change seats on buses.
J. Refrain from yelling or loud talking while on the bus.
K. Please do not tease, push or touch other students, fight or use foul language.
L. Throwing articles of any kind in a bus is most dangerous and will not be tolerated.
M. Damage to a bus should be reported to the driver at once. Any student disfiguring or mutilating a bus will be required to pay for the damage and may be denied use of buses.
N. Each student should help to keep buses clean and orderly. Students must be alert for their own safety and that of fellow passengers.
O. Parents will be informed by the District Bus Conduct Specialist if their student abuses the privilege of riding our school buses. If the student's behavior does not improve substantially, they face the possibility of being suspended from riding the bus.
P. Students are not allowed to have pop or food on the buses.

BUSES TO OFF-SITE ACTIVITIES

Students riding on a school bus to an off-site activity must also return on the school bus, unless the student's parents sign a release of liability form stating that they will be responsible for the student on the return trip. The form may be obtained from the activity supervisor.

BUSES ASSIGNED TO STUDENTS

District transportation only allows students to ride their assigned bus. For emergency or unique situations, parents will need to contact the RMS office for assistance.

COOPERATION DURING MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

When attending all school events, middle school students are expected to hold to the same high expectation as during the school day and are subject to expectations and consequences spelled out in the Student's Rights and Responsibility Handbook.

DISCIPLINE POLICIES

The Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook, available on the district website, includes a complete set of the district #196 policies and regulations.

GENERAL CONDUCT

Students are responsible for their own actions. All discipline will be handled on an individual basis when the need arises. The main goal in our school is education; everyone has an equal opportunity to work toward achieving this goal. Therefore, anyone distracting or preventing others from reaching this goal will receive disciplinary action. Whatever steps are necessary to correct the problem will be taken. This includes parent conferences, Detention, In-School and Out-of-School Suspension or curtailing participation in school activities.

Students are expected to display a positive attitude and to respect others and the school. All students have a right to learn and share the responsibility of not infringing on the rights of others.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Rosemount Middle School will maintain a learning environment free from sexual harassment. Reports of harassment will be investigated in compliance with the District 196 Students Rights and Responsibilities Policies and Regulations. Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical conduct, or other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature.

END OF YEAR GRADE-LEVEL/HOUSE EVENTS

As we plan for the end of the school year the RMS staff will continue to emphasize the importance of high expectations at RMS. The end of the year grade-level/house celebration and culminating event will be for those who are behaviorally eligible. Students receiving two or more behavioral referrals 20 days prior to the event will not be eligible to participate in this celebration event. Advisors will be meeting with and notifying students and parent/guardian(s) who are at risk of missing out on this culminating event.

STUDENT DRESS EXPECTATIONS

In order to maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning, the administration and staff of Rosemount Middle believe it is important to enforce standards for proper student dress. Our hope is that parents/guardians and students will keep these dress expectations in mind when completing their shopping for the coming school year. Students are expected to refrain from having or wearing:

Clothing accessories may not include words or visuals which are lewd, obscene, disruptive, abusive, racist, or discriminatory, or which advertise drugs, alcohol, or tobacco. Dress or grooming which is disruptive to the classroom or school atmosphere is not allowed. Shoes must be worn at all times in school for health and safety reasons. Students may not wear face coverings, clothing or any item that would prevent the student from being immediately identifiable, except as authorized or required by school administrators

When a student's dress is found to be inappropriate, the student will be offered an opportunity to change or call a parent or guardian to attain different clothes. Our goal is to provide students (and teachers) an atmosphere that is safe, comfortable, and conducive to learning.

WALKING TO SCHOOL

We ask that students who are walking and/or biking to school exercise caution when crossing city streets. According to the city of Rosemount's crosswalk policy; "School routes should be planned to take advantage of existing sidewalks, paths, and protection afforded by existing traffic controls. This may make it necessary for children to walk a non-direct, longer distance."

K-8 Schools Prohibit Electric-assisted bicycles and e-scooters

Important Safety Update: K-8 Guidelines for E-Bikes, E-Scooters, and E-Motos

The safety and well-being of our students, staff, and families is always our top priority. We are writing to share an important update regarding safety on our elementary and middle school campuses.

Recently, we have seen a significant increase in the popularity of electric-assisted bicycles ("e-bikes"), motorized foot-scooters ("e-scooters"), and motorized bicycles ("e-motos"). These motorized vehicles present unique and serious safety challenges on a busy school campus. Most of these vehicles also have age restrictions by law and operational safety requirements.

To ensure safety, e-bikes, e-scooters, e-motos and motorized bikes are not allowed on elementary or middle school grounds.

We are implementing this important safety measure because:

- **Speeds and Heavy Weights:** Motorized bikes move much faster than regular bikes and can cause serious injury in a crash.
- **Heavy Foot Traffic:** Many students and parents walk through our parking lots and sidewalks during pickup and drop-off. Fast-moving motorized vehicles create a dangerous mix in these crowded spaces.
- **They are hard to see and hear:** Electric bikes are quiet and speed up quickly, making them hard for drivers and walkers to spot.

How You Can Help: We kindly ask that you talk with your child about this rule. If your student rides an e-bike or e-scooter, help them find another way to get to school.

Students are still welcome to ride regular bikes or scooters, walk, take the bus, or carpool. Remember: all students must walk their bikes once on school property.

Thank you for your understanding, your continued partnership, and for helping us keep our school grounds safe for every child.

SUPPORT SERVICES

A variety of support services are offered to students and their families at Rosemount Middle School. These services include individual and group counseling, academic assistance, testing administration and interpretation, as well as other forms of assistance that will help make a student's experience at the middle school successful. The student services staff is made up of counselors, a school psychologist, school nurse, police liaison, the administration, individual teachers, the special education team, and family advocates. Appointments may be set up with these people. Police Liaison hours will be 8:00 am - 3:00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Early adolescent years can be a confusing time not only for the child, but also for the parents. We would encourage parents to call one of the members of the support staff if they have any questions regarding their son's or daughter's development during the middle school years.

ACADEMIC AWARDS

The Presidential Academic Awards ceremony takes place each spring and recognizes the academic achievements of Rosemount Middle School eighth grade students. The President's Award for Educational Achievement honors students who achieve a 3.5 cumulative GPA.

ADVISOR-ADVISEE PROGRAM (daily between periods 3 and 4)

This program is a special type of support service that is provided for all students at Rosemount Middle School. The function of the advisor during these middle school years is to:

1. Offer extra assistance to the students.
2. Help the student develop and reach academic and social goals.
3. Provide a positive, secure base for the student.
4. Give each student an opportunity to have a personal, long-term relationship with a teacher.

AFTER SCHOOL EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM

After school academic assistance is available to students throughout the school year. Classes are held on various days of the week. All classes and schedules are dependent on staff availability and student interest.

CHILD STUDY PROCESS

School District 196 has implemented Public Law 94-142, The Education of All Handicapped Children Act, and Chapter 211 of Minnesota Statutes, with the adoption of the process we refer to as Child Study. This is a clearly defined process which the school must pursue for a child to be designated for LD, Special Education, speech-language therapy, physical or occupational therapy, or psychological services in our special services program. For more information regarding this process, contact the counselor's office.

INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING

Appointments are set up daily through the counselor's office. Appointments may be requested by students, parents or teachers. The counselors are available to students and their parents on any school day.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Students are selected each MONTH by a teacher to receive "Student of the Month" honors. Students are selected based on the following criteria: Academic Excellence, Excellent Classroom Attitude, Creativity, Responsibility, Leadership, Growth and Effort. All student recipients receive a certificate.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Support groups may be offered throughout the school year. Different types of groups are offered as needs arise. Several groups are long-running and offered each year. The most common groups focus on issues such as family change, loss of family members (grief), friendship building and study skills. Groups meet during the school day on a rotating schedule. For more information, please contact the counselors.

CULTURAL FAMILY ADVOCATES

Staff assist students and parents in developing and sustaining a sense of pride and belonging at Rosemount Middle. The school espouses a value for acceptance and appreciation of the many cultures represented by our students and families. The school and District 196 employ a cadre of Cultural Family Advocates who help to foster effective communications with families. These advocates partner with parents to support children in their growth and help the school to be an optimal place of learning for all children. Cultural Family Advocates can be reached by contacting the Rosemount Middle main office.

ACADEMIC

Academic achievement is a priority for all of us. At the middle school, we strive to create an environment for our students that bridges the gap from the academic expectations of elementary school to the academic expectations of the high school. At the same time, we try to balance this with the physical and social growth taking place during the adolescent time period. A question that we find often asked by parents is, "How much homework should my son or daughter have?" Although there is no one, correct answer to this question, we feel that a good guideline to work with would be at least one hour of homework per night. This may vary from 1/2 hour to 2 hours on a given night assuming the student is in school and using the available study time given by teachers. In order to help create positive study habits which can help maximize your son's/daughter's learning potential, we would suggest that parents help students set aside an hour of time each night. A quiet environment is best for studying. There may be nights when they may not have an hour of homework. We would suggest that the time be filled with some good recreational reading. Consistency is important to develop good, disciplined study habits.

BEHAVIOR CHANGES

During adolescence there may be many positive and/or negative changes in a young person's behavior. Most of these can be accounted for and hopefully discussed within the family. However, there may be times when parents notice some major behavior changes (major change in time spent with hobbies or interests, change of friend groups, change in dress, sleep and personal habits, attitude toward schoolwork, etc.) which are hard to understand and are concerning. Some suggestions:

1. Talk to your child about your observations, be tactful but honest.
2. Talk to teachers or a counselor concerning academic progress.

If we can be of assistance to you or your family in any way, please call us at 651-423-7570.

DECISION MAKING

Students must make many choices. They will be making choices about companions, activities and courses. As a parent, you can, and hopefully have, instilled guidelines, but you cannot always be present at the time decisions are made. Your son or daughter wants to make decisions that are best for himself/herself. The problem develops when the guidelines they have developed for their decisions are based on priorities and values that seem to be in conflict.

1. Be open and honest with your son/daughter regarding choices he/she makes. Reinforce and commend positive, wise or difficult choices. Be fair with poor choices. Make sure you get the complete story and are fair with your consequences. Sometimes the results of the choice may be consequence enough.

2. Allow your son/daughter to make appropriate choices in the home and social environment. He/she will learn best through experience. His/her ability to make appropriate choices and responsible decisions should warrant additional trust in your relationship.

3. You as a parent will find it necessary to set limits for appropriate situations. The clearer the guidelines, the more consistent the enforcement, the easier the decision becomes for your son/daughter.

POSITIVE SELF-CONCEPT

Effective parents and teachers can help children develop positive self-esteem by finding ways to make them feel they are important and their views and ideas are worth considering.

1. Encourage them to try new interests and challenges. Be supportive regardless of the outcome.

2. Avoid discussing your child in an unfavorable light with others, especially in his/her presence.
3. Provide an atmosphere of love and concern at home.
4. Be a good listener to your child. Let him/her know you are concerned about his/her views and feelings.
5. Find out the academic potential of your child and keep that in perspective when discussing academic accomplishments, successes and challenges.
6. Don't compare a child with their brothers and sisters. Each child is an original and not a carbon copy.
7. Help identify a special area in which your child can excel. Help him/her to build confidence in himself/herself through commending his/her achievements.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND SOCIAL MEDIA

We all want students to become positive, contributing citizens in all aspects of their lives, including interactions they may have in the digital world. Educators, families and students will engage in ongoing conversations about what it means to be responsible citizens in the digital world.

People have a basic need to be safe and this is also true when working, interacting, and living in the digital world. It is important that students understand how to protect their own privacy and respect the privacy of others. Students will be encouraged to ask for help if they find their private life in a digital world has become more public than they would like.

Conversations about digital citizenship should guide and empower students on how to make thoughtful and reflective decisions and how to develop a positive presence online. It is important that students learn how to demonstrate empathy towards others in both the real and the digital worlds. For this to happen, we need to have continual, authentic and reflective conversations with students. The platforms of the digital world are always changing, but our behavior as citizens should consistently be thoughtful, considerate and honest.

NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

As required by Title IX and other state and federal nondiscrimination laws, District 196 does not discriminate in admission, employment or in any of its education programs and activities, including vocational opportunities, on the basis of sex, race, religion, color, creed, national origin, marital status, familial status, disability, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, gender identity, membership or activity in a local human rights commission, age or genetic information.

The Director of Human Resources Joel Milteer (651-423-7859 – joel.milteer@district196.org) is the designated Title IX Coordinator and has also been designated to respond to all employment-related inquiries regarding the district's non-discrimination policies. The Director of Elementary Education, Jeremy Sorenson (651-423-7782 – jeremy.sorenson@district196.org) and the Director of Secondary Education, Eric Hansen (651-423-7712 – eric.hansen@district196.org) have been designated to respond to student-related inquiries regarding the district's non-discrimination policies. The Director of Special Education, Janet Fimmen (651-423-7629 – janet.fimmen@district196.org) has been designated to respond to inquiries concerning the rights of a student with a disability. The mailing address for all directors is 3455 153rd Street W, Rosemount, MN 55068. Inquiries about the application of Title IX and its regulations to District 196 may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR), or both. District 196's nondiscrimination policies and grievance procedures are located at district196.org and contain information about how to report discrimination and make a complaint.