



February 2025

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2023-24 educational progress for East Rockford Middle School. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, accountability, and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Adam Burkholder, principal at East Rockford Middle School, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following link: [East Rockford Middle School's Academic Educational Report](#), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2024-25 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student subgroup in 2023-24. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2021-22. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given. East Rockford Middle School was not given a label.

East Middle School has made strong academic gains, but key challenges remain. Math scores have steadily improved in 6th and 7th grade. English scores show growth, especially in 6th and 7th grade, while 8th-grade PSAT English remains strong at 88%. Science has surged to 69% in 2024.

To close achievement gaps, the school is strengthening tiered math interventions, refining instruction through PLCs, and embedding cross-curricular literacy strategies. These initiatives align with Pillar 1: Academic Excellence, ensuring rigorous, high-quality instruction for all students.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. Students are enrolled into Rockford Public Schools via a centralized, online enrollment system. Upon enrollment, students are placed into the appropriate building based on their home address, and then placed into the appropriate grade level and classroom based on previous placement, test scores and team discussion.

2. All elementary and secondary schools in RPS participate in strategic planning and goal setting. The primary purpose of the planning is to increase student learning for every student. The [RPS MICIP Plan](#) provides initiative focus for each building and the goals also align with priorities identified in the [RAMS XII Strategic Plan](#). Named FAST Goals, the building progress monitors evidence towards meeting benchmarks three times per year.
3. East Rockford Middle School fosters academic growth, creativity and community for the Rockford Public Schools students in Sixth through Eighth grades.
4. If you would like to access a copy of the core curriculum, a description of its implementation and explanation of the variances from the state's model, please contact Adam Burkholder, East Rockford Middle School principal.
5. East Rockford Middle School national percentile achievement results on Fall NWEA benchmark assessments for 2023 and 2024 are as follows:
 - Fall 2023 - Math 70%, NWEA Reading 79%
 - Fall 2024 - Math 78%, NWEA Reading 83%
6. The parent/guardian teacher conference attendance percentage for the previous two school years at East Rockford Middle School are listed below:
 - 2022-2023 - 27%
 - 2023-2024 - 21%

East Rockford Middle School makes a significant positive impact on the Rockford School Community. Increasingly, the student learning focused initiatives, including aligning with the Professional Learning Communities and Multi-Tiered Systems of Support beliefs and structure continue to shape a student learning trend that is increasing. East Rockford Middle School is proud to partner with its families and together prepare students for their next steps in life.

Sincerely,



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