



# SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

August 21, 2024

Good afternoon,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year. We are looking forward to the start of school on August 26th.

Our official kickoff began Tuesday, August 20th. We welcomed all staff back and then all certified and support staff met for professional development. Today, Wednesday, our certified staff (teachers, social workers, school psychologists) meet for additional staff development as we prepare to welcome back students on Monday, August 26.

The Busing tab in Family Access is now open and available for you to view your student's routing information. Please access your busing information and review before Friday. All routes changes will temporarily close at noon on Friday so the bus drivers have an opportunity to practice their routes prior to the start of school on Monday. Any additional route changes will be reopened and addressed on Monday.

If you should have issues accessing your information or the routing information does not seem to be accurate, please reach out to the transportation department, and it will be addressed. Their phone number is 616.863.6328 or you may e-mail the Transportation Director at [MPuett@rockfordschools.org](mailto:MPuett@rockfordschools.org).

Our Beyond the Rock video team made a great video on school transportation last year. You can view it here: [It's Up to Us \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

As a reminder free breakfast and lunch will continue this year. Menus for breakfast and lunch are available on the Food Service tab at each school or on the district Food Service link in the departments tab under the Our District tab on the website.

Our fall athletic season is in full swing. A calendar of events is available at our athletic website: [Rockford Rams - Official Athletic Website – Rockford, MI](https://www.rockfordrams.org).

As a reminder, the start of school creates new traffic patterns. Be patient starting August 26th as everyone discovers how bus routes and drop off lines work. The first day can be especially interesting as parents try to get pictures as students get on buses or get out of cars at schools. Be aware and be patient.

I try to give our community a sense of all the good things that go on in our schools every day by posting pictures on Instagram and X (formerly Twitter). You can follow me @docsmatthews. There is also a podcast, Rams: News and Views, that you can access via Apple, Amazon, or Spotify. There is also a link on front page of our district website for the podcast.

Throughout the year I will email twice a month to keep you up-to-date on the many things that are occurring in the Rockford Public Schools. Don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions or concerns.

I look forward to a great school year in Rockford!

Steve

Dr. Steve Matthews  
Superintendent  
Rockford Public Schools