

**RJHS Board Update
September 19, 2024**

Upcoming Events:

[RJHS Week at a Glance](#) - please reach out to Kim if you'd like to have this emailed to you weekly

Current Enrollment for 2024-2025

7th Grade - 145

8th Grade - 143

Testing - We have completed the Fall Benchmarking for MAP

- 7th and 8th grade students took the MAP tests in Math and ELA classes on Sept. 3 - 6.
- Make up testing was finished on Sept. 11. Results will be available on Sept. 12. RJHS staff members will then begin to do some data analysis to determine what areas we need to focus on in order to continue to move students forward.
- Our work on climate and culture and inclusion has resulted in an environment where students and staff are invested in the results of high stakes testing. That hard work and our work in curriculum and instruction has resulted in an increase in effort and achievement. Here's a highlight of our preliminary IAR data. Please note the graphs show data beginning the first year post-covid through 2024.

Class of 2029 (Currently 8th graders)

Grade when tested	4	5	6	7	4	5	6	7
	ELA 2021	ELA 2022	ELA 2023	ELA 2024	Math 2021	Math 2022	Math 2023	Math 2024
Did not Meet	14	19.7	16.8	5.9	20.7	8.8	10.5	1.5
Approached	27.3	24.8	24.5	19.1	26.4	25.7	30.1	26.5
Partially Met	38.8	42.3	38.5	42.6	32.2	40.4	35	43.3
Met	19.8	13.1	19.6	31.6	20.7	24.3	23.1	26.5
Exceeded	0	0	0.7	0.7	0	0.7	1.4	2.2
M + E	19.8	13.1	20.3	32.3	20.7	25	24.5	28.7

Class of 2028 (Currently 9th graders)

Grade when tested	5	6	7	8	5	6	7	8
	ELA 2021	ELA 2022	ELA 2023	ELA 2024	Math 2021	Math 2022	Math 2023	Math 2024
Did not Meet	15.7	10.8	11.6	7.2	11.8	13.3	14.8	17.8
Approached	35.9	39.9	21.3	11.8	43.1	32.3	32.9	29.6
Partially Met	30.1	36.1	29	21.7	23.5	35.4	35.5	30.9
Met	18.3	13.3	31.6	55.3	21.6	17.1	15.5	21.7
Exceeded	0	0	6.5	3.9	0	1.9	1.3	0
M + E	18.3	13.3	38.1	59.2	21.6	19	16.8	21.7

Science Assessment Trend Data (Given in Grade 8 only)

Grad	2021	2022	2023	2024
Emerging	17.1	11.7	19.6	8.6
Developing	42.9	31	29.6	31.8
Proficient	28.8	37.4	34.1	45
Exemplary	11.2	19.9	16.8	14.6
P + E	40	57.3	50.9	59.6

General Notes

- Our RJHS students & Staff are off to a GREAT start.
- Carrie Zucco is our long-term sub for 8th grade science. Mrs. Zucco has a bachelor's degree in science and has been subbing in the district for sometime. The transition has been smooth for students and families. Dr. Johnson has been a big help in getting Mrs. Zucco transitioned and ready to go!

Student Leadership

Our students continue to step up and lead in multiple arenas. Last year we added a "Day of Service" to our schedule at RJHS on the last half day of school. Our Lighthouse Team (building leadership group) would like to add a couple more of these days, based on student and parent feedback. We are planning a fall "Day of Service" on Friday, November 1, which is an 11:15 dismissal day. Mrs. Rezba's Leader in Me elective class is currently organizing what that day will look like. We are considering Friday, March 21 (the Friday before Spring Break), and planning on the last half day of student attendance again as well. We are super excited to see our students giving back to their community. Staff will be adding a reflection piece after the Day of Service to make it a true service learning experience.

Our Rocket Crew has expanded! We now have Rocket Crew Leaders in grades 8 - 10 who are mentoring student groups in both 7th and 8th grade. Our long-term goal will be for all students in grades 7 - 12 to participate in Rocket Crew activities once a month at the same time when our current 8th graders are seniors.

Our first "Fun Friday" and "Rocket Rally" will be held on Friday, September 20. Mrs. Rezba's students are planning the Fun Friday and our Rocket Crew Leaders will plan and execute our Rocket Rally.

Mr. Johnson's Announcement crew is up and running! Students are adding a weekly food review as well as keeping students abreast of all the things happening at RJHS via video announcements.

Mr. Uptmor will be adding a new elective next quarter "Rocket Update" which will feature multi-media updates/recaps of all the things going on at RJHS from video clips from events, to interviews and more!

Mr. Johnson and Ms. Lyons will be taking over the Foundations of Leadership class that Mrs. Doerfler was teaching. These two will tag team as they teach the fundamentals of being a leader and incorporate opportunities for students to take on leadership roles throughout the school.

Our RJHS student council is getting started with a meeting with Mrs. Jett this weekend. First order of business will be determining spirit days and activities surrounding homecoming week.

Leader in Me/Lighthouse Team

Our Lighthouse Team added two new members. Mrs. Batten and Mr. Uptmor will join Mrs. Rezba, Mrs. Luttrell, Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Spraeetz, Mrs. Viola, and Mrs. Tweryon, along with Mrs. Poole and Mr. Lauber as they continue to work on climate and culture at RJHS.

This group continues to provide support to the rest of the RJHS staff by creating a weekly schedule for Learning Lab (our 20 minute advisory period) to ensure that students continue to learn about *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* and how to be student leaders in addition to addressing other SEL needs for our students. [Here's an example](#) of their work!

RJHS is still getting requests to present on the topic of Elevating Student Voice and Student Leadership. Mrs. Poole, Mr. Lauber, and Mrs. Luttrell presented to our district staff on August 13, followed by training with Jenifer Hearne from Franklin Covey on building community through the 7 Habits.

Mrs. Poole, Mr. Lauber, and Mrs. Tweryon will be taking 2 of our student leaders to Decatur on September 26 to present to our regional principals at the IL Principals Association regional monthly meeting. We are also pursuing the opportunity to present at the county wide Teachers Institute Day organized by the ROE on October 11.

Safety Drills

- Bus evacuation drills were completed on August 28, 2024
- Fire drill in conjunction with RFD was completed on August 27, 2024
- Our Law Enforcement Drill was held on September 3, 2024

Homecoming Week

We are celebrating Homecoming Week September 30 - October 4 at RJHS with spirit days, a number of our students participating in the parade, and RJHS students attending and participating in the RHS Pep Rally.

Professional Development

- Teachers and staff received a number of trainings during the first 2 days of the school year.
- The Lighthouse Team had additional training time with Ms. Hearne on September 26 where they determined what our WIG would be for 24-25 and also decided that we are ready to move forward with Lighthouse accreditation through Franklin Covey/Leader in Me. They will meet again on October 9 to determine what else we need to do to be prepared for the evaluation.
- Our first SIP day will be held on Sept. 20. Our tentative plan is to focus on literacy and math book implementation.

Athletics & Activities

Baseball is currently engaged in regional play. The boys are playing hard and look to go deep in the playoffs.

Softball is currently engaged in regional play and looking to build upon their regular season. We are very proud of our 10 8th grade softball players and we had a nice day celebrating them at their last home game.

Girls Basketball practice is underway. The girls look to improve and elevate their game to new heights.

Cross Country's season is well underway! Coaches Johnson and Busboom are looking forward to a great season with continued PR's and personal growth for each athlete.

Miscellaneous

- The RJHS play High School Musical Jr. will take place on October 12th and 13th

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim & Matt