

# New Family Orientation

Rockford Lutheran

2026-2027

JSHS



# Name

Please wear a name tag so we can get to know each other.

We may have met before, but we will learn names better with time.



# Before we start...

This presentation will be:  
Posted in FACTS  
resource documents.



Wifi: guest – open



# Start of a new school year



# Rockford Lutheran School



**Mission Statement** – To provide an exceptional college preparatory education in a challenging and inspiring Christian environment.



# Year Theme

**Rooted** – Colossians 2:6-7 (ESV)  
*Therefore, as you received  
Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in  
him, rooted and built up in him  
and established in the faith,  
just as you were taught,  
abounding in thanksgiving.*



# Faculty + Staff



# Mr. Todd Nitz



- Upper Campus Principal
- Algebra 2

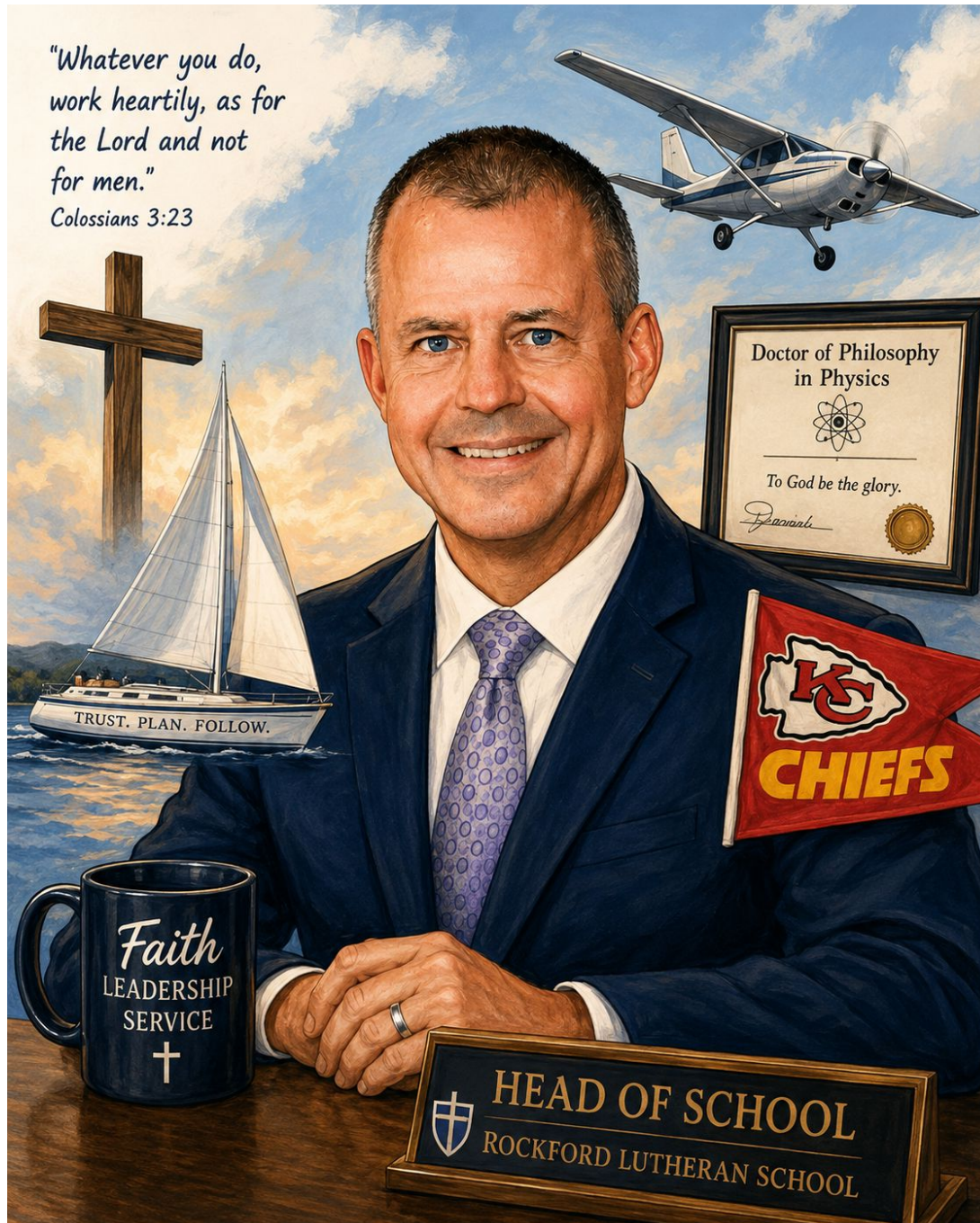


# Mrs. Julie Behmer

• Admissions  
Director



# Dr. Alan Runge



- Head of School



# Mrs. Leslie Johnson



- JH Asst Principal
- English 8



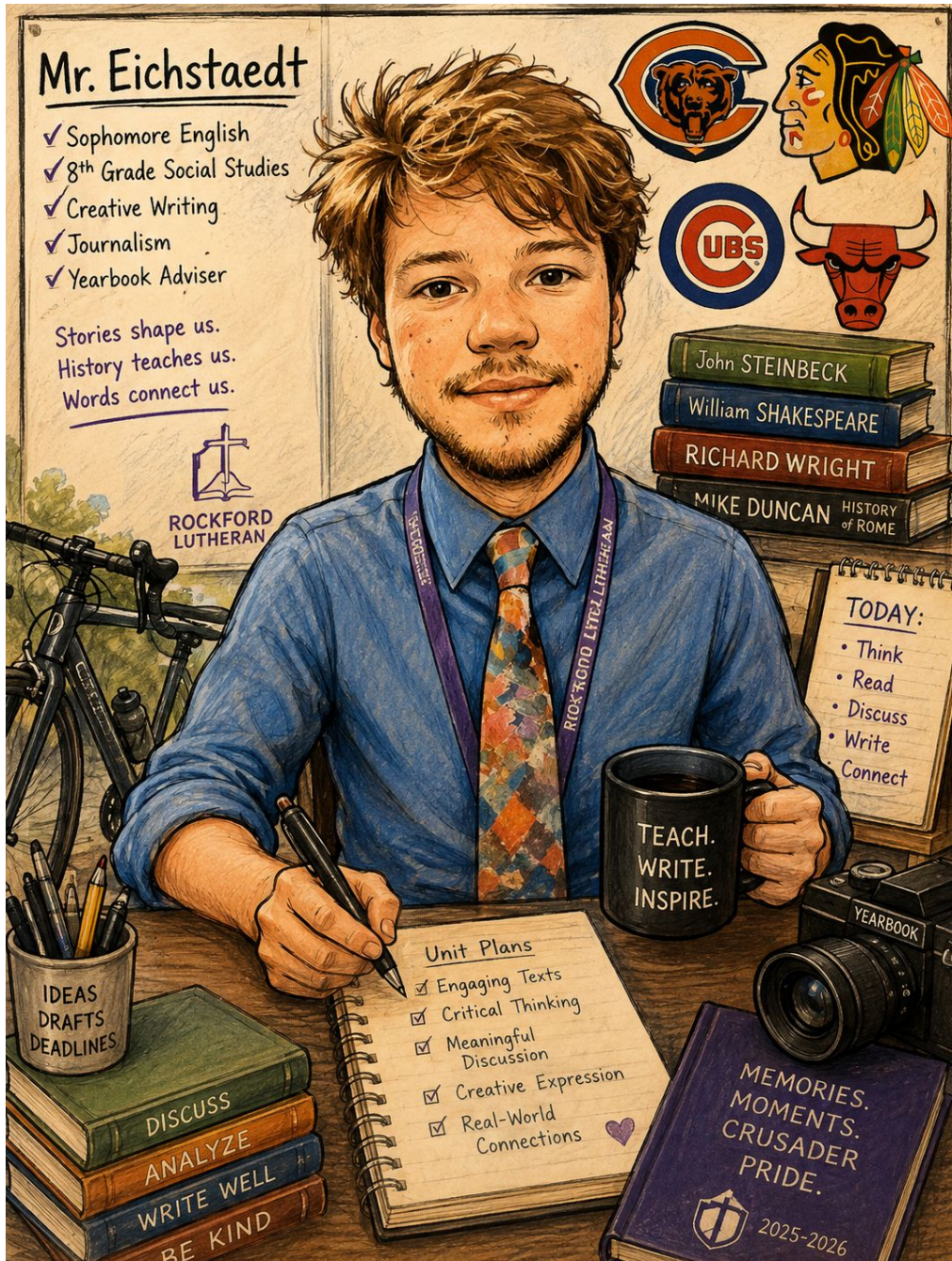
# Ms. Kelly Champion



- Director of Academics and Advising
- NHS



# Mr. Eichstaedt



- Yearbook
- English 10
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade History
- Creative Writing



# Mrs. Jean French



- Learning Resource Director
- Math 6<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Algebra 1



# Mrs. Monica Gallagher



•Aviation



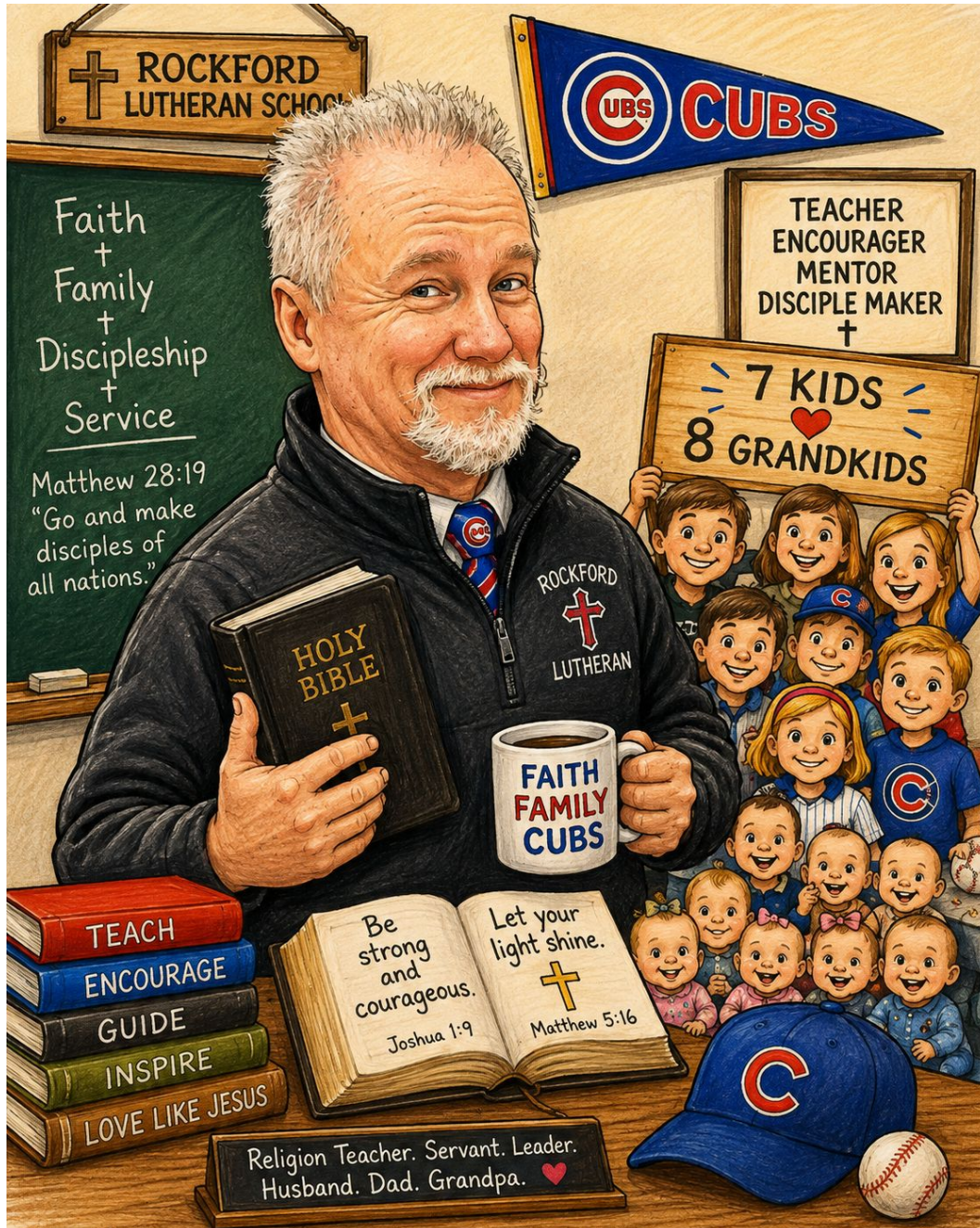
# Mrs. Stephanie Gustafson



- French
- English 7<sup>th</sup>
- JH Student Life



# Mr. Roy Hamrick



- Religion 7<sup>th</sup>
- Religion 9/10
- Hiking Club
- Eco Club



FAITH GUIDES ME.  
FAMILY GROUNDS ME.  
FOOTBALL EXCITES ME.  
FREEDOM I'LL DEFEND.  
JESUS IS MY WHY. ♥

THANKFUL FOR  
THOSE WHO SERVE!

BEACH  
TIME  
=  
GOD'S DESIGN

Dodgers  
LA

Chiefs  
KC  
15

FAITH  
FAMILY  
FOOTBALL  
FREEDOM  
+

FREEDOM  
ISN'T FREE

GREATER  
LOVE HAS  
NO ONE  
THAN THIS:  
TO LAY DOWN  
ONE'S LIFE  
FOR ONE'S  
FRIENDS.  
- JOHN 15:13

PHILIPPIANS 4:13  
I can do  
all things  
through Christ  
who strengthens  
me.

DAILY GAME PLAN:  
✓ PRAY  
✓ READ THE WORD  
✓ ENCOURAGE SOMEONE  
✓ MAKE A DIFFERENCE

+

HIS PLAN > MY PLAN

BE STRONG  
BE COURAGEOUS  
BE FAITHFUL  
- JOSHUA 1:9

HONOR. COURAGE.  
COMMITMENT.

- 

# Mrs. Lori Hansen



- 6<sup>th</sup> Science
- 7<sup>th</sup> Science
- Physical Science
- Science Olympiad



# Mrs. Linzy Harezlak



- Accounting
- Entrepreneurship
- Asst. Ath Director



# Mr. Greg Haut



- Art
- Art Club
- Bass Fishing Club



# Mrs. Brittany Hokana



- Government
- Economics
- 6th Grade English



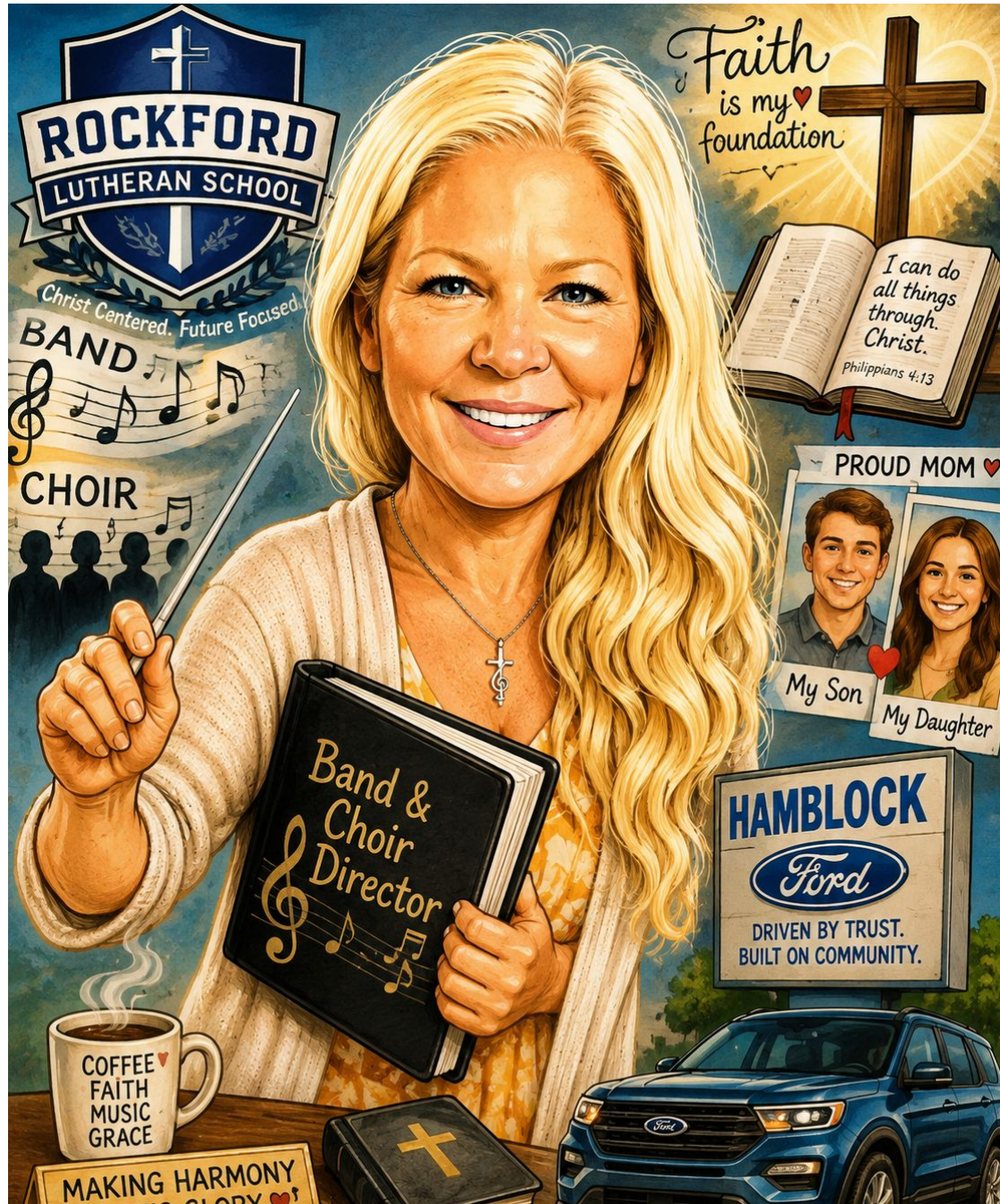
# Mrs. Angela Johnson



- Chemistry
- Physics



# Ms. Karen Kahler



- Band
- JH Band
- Choir



# Mr. Bruce Kramer



- Engineering
- Pre Calculus
- Computer Principles



# Mr. Ethan McBee



- Senior English
- DC Composition
- DC Literature
- Drama Director



# Mrs. Brandy McCoid



- Religion 6<sup>th</sup>
- Health



# Mrs. Amanda Norman

•Biology



# Mr. Jason Pedersen



- Earth Science
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade History
- Physical Education



# Ms. Katie Popanz



- Physical Education
- Strength and Conditioning



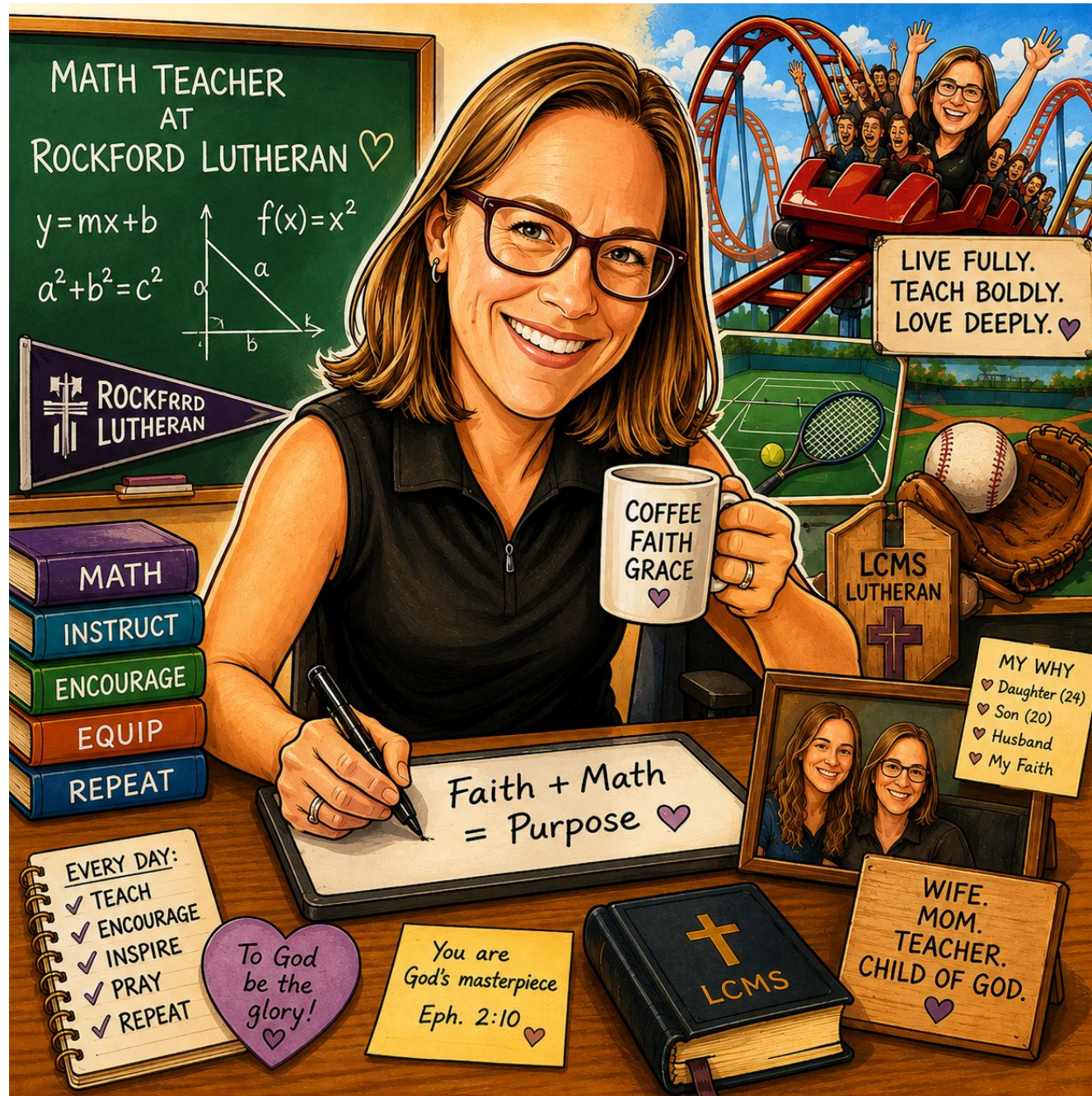
# Mr. Chris Schach



- Junior English
- Freshman English
- Psychology
- Sociology



# Mrs. Liz Temple



- Geometry
- Math 8
- Math Team
- SPARK tutoring



# Mrs. Paula Tesdorff



- JH Drama
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade History
- 7th Grade Math
- Reading



# Mrs. Lauren Viel



- Orchestra
- JH Orchestra



# Mr. Chris Wilson



- US History
- World History
- Chapel
- Model UN



# Mrs. Allisha Wise



- DC Calc
- DC Stats
- DC College Algebra



# Mr. Don Lee

- Athletic Director

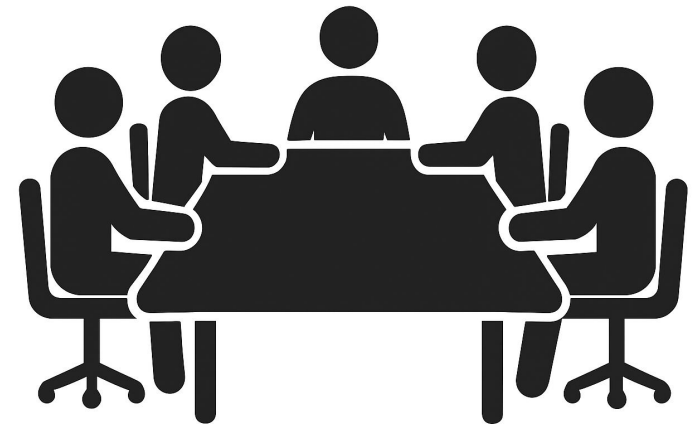


# Office Faces



# RLS Board of Directors

- Rockford Lutheran School is governed by a policy-based Board of Directors.
- The Board of Directors oversees strategic planning, financial stability, overall facility management etc.
- Daily operations and student concerns are run by the school administration, not the Board.



# Key Things To Know



# Weekly Newsletter



## HIGH SCHOOL CLUBS MEETING TOMORROW

- HS MATH TEAM - 101
- ROBOTICS- 108
- CHESS CLUB - 112
- ART CLUB - ART ROOM
- SPANISH CLUB -109
- AVIATION CLUB - 108

**ALL JUNIOR HIGH  
STUDENTS PLEASE  
REPORT TO THE  
CORE AT 8:10  
TOMORROW  
MORNING FOR  
ACTIVITY PERIOD.**

Shows up in  
**Monday's email.**

Please read it.

**No, Seriously...**



# Official School Social Media

Website: [www.rockfordlutheran.org](http://www.rockfordlutheran.org)

Facebook (parents):

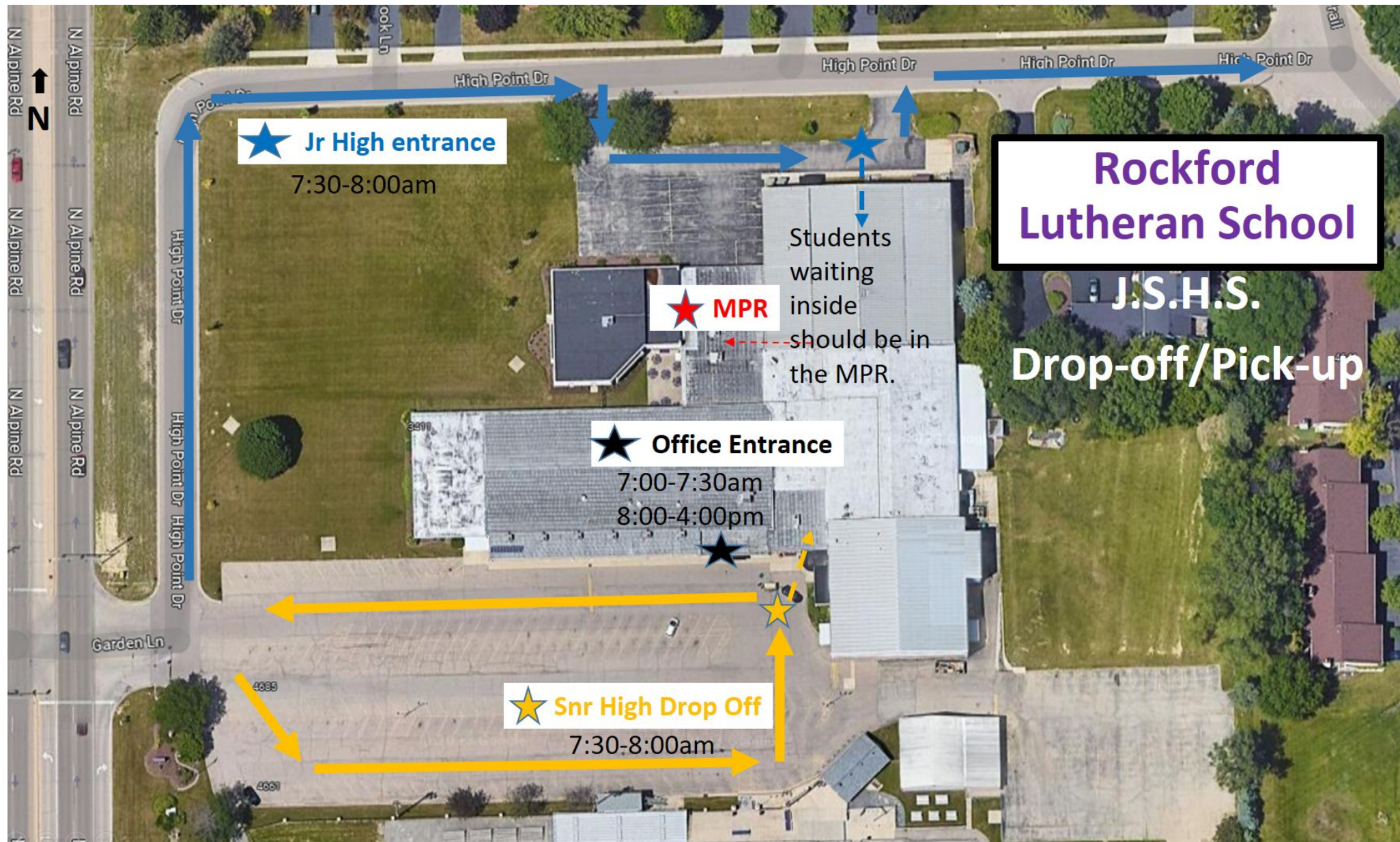
<https://www.facebook.com/rockfordlutheranschool>

Instagram (students):

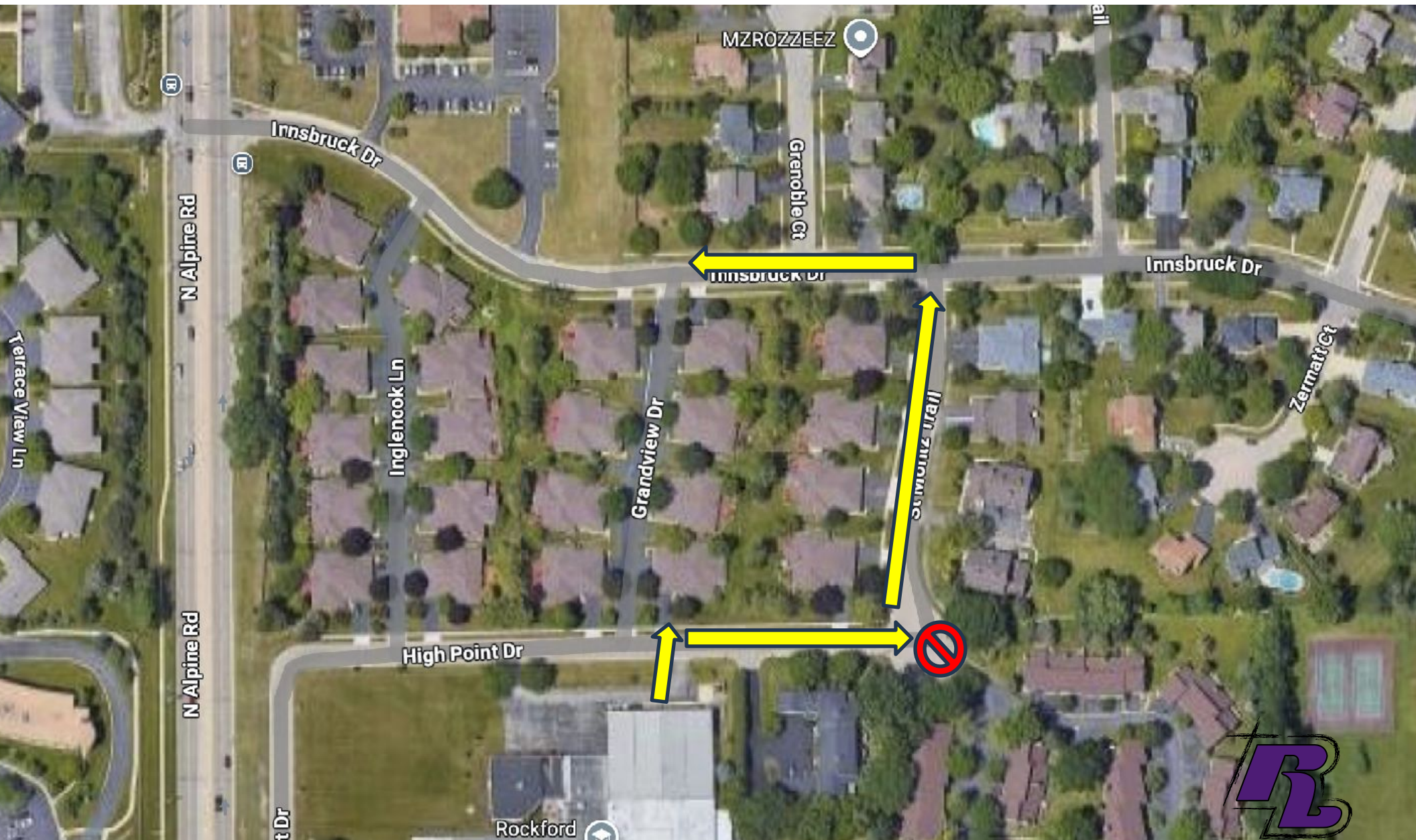
<https://www.instagram.com/sader.nation/>



# Drop Off Plan

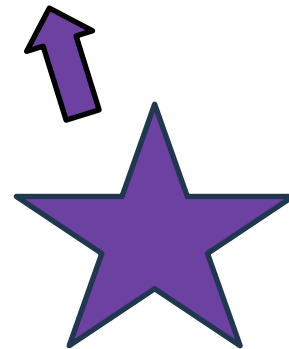


# JH – Please exit to right!



# Drop-off/Pick-Up Notes

- Doors open at 7:00 AM. Students hang out in MPR (lunch room) before school and after school
- **MAJOR HINT:** Students do NOT have to be picked up at exactly 3:15 PM. Instead; arrive late + avoid the carpool backup. 😊



# IDs + Check in / Check out

## Students:

- Wear a lanyard every day and check out if leaving early.

**Note: If your kid forgets their ID often, buy an extra.**



## Visitors/Guests:

- Check in at the school office and wear a visitor ID badge.



# Attendance Policies

## Absences

- Contact the school office by 9 AM. 815-877-9551
- Excused absences are still absences.
- Hint: Vary the Doctor visits to hit different periods.
- Check Canvas for missed assignments.



# Student Schedule

- Login at  
FACTSMGT.COM
- Student section
- Schedules
- Look for  
student name

|                                       | Monday                      |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1st Hour<br>08:10 AM - 08:55 AM       | T IED-1stHr<br><br>108      |
| 2nd Hour<br>09:00 AM - 09:45 AM       | S BIO-2nd Hr<br><br>104     |
| 3rd Hour<br>09:55 AM - 10:40 AM       | FA ART1-3rdHr<br><br>02     |
| 4th Hour<br>10:45 AM - 11:30 AM       | M GEO-4thHr<br><br>101      |
| 5th Hour<br>11:35 AM - 12:25 PM       | PE HS-5thHr<br><br>HS GYM   |
| Student Life 1<br>12:30 PM - 01:00 PM | CON HS-Haut<br><br>02       |
| Student Life 2<br>01:05 PM - 01:35 PM | A LUNCH 2-HS<br><br>MPR     |
| 6th Hour<br>01:40 PM - 02:25 PM       | E ENG 9-6thHr<br><br>107    |
| 7th Hour<br>02:30 PM - 03:15 PM       | R REL 9-10-7thHr<br><br>112 |



# Bell Schedule



## RLS Bell Schedule 26-27

### *Upper Campus*

|                              |               |                              |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Hour</b>   | 8:10 – 8:55   | <b>CONNECT</b>               |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Hour</b>   | 9:00 – 9:45   | <b>C</b> – Collaborate       |
| <b>Break</b>                 | 9:45 – 9:55   | <b>O</b> – Organize          |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Hour</b>   | 9:55 – 10:40  | <b>N</b> – Network           |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> Hour</b>   | 10:45 – 11:30 | <b>N</b> – Nurture           |
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> Hour</b>   | 11:35 – 12:25 | <b>E</b> – Enrich            |
| <b>JH Lunch / HS Connect</b> | 12:30 – 1:00  | <b>C</b> – Celebrate         |
| <b>JH Connect / HS Lunch</b> | 1:05 – 1:35   | <b>T</b> – Together          |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> Hour</b>   | 1:40 – 2:25   | <i>Chapel during Connect</i> |
| <b>7<sup>th</sup> Hour</b>   | 2:30 – 3:15   | <i>on most Wednesdays.</i>   |

# CONNECT

- Daily, opposite of lunch
- Time for clubs to meet.
- Chapels, class meetings, assemblies, etc.
- Student assigned a “homeroom” type person where they need to go.



# Backpacks/Lockers

Students are asked to keep their backpacks in their lockers.

Lockers should be locked to keep stuff safe.

**\*Bring home lock to practice.**

PE lockers are issued in PE.  
Keep these locked too.



# Cell Phone Policy

## High School

- Put in cellphone holder in classroom. **Just do it.**
- Misuse = taken to office, can get it afterschool or parent pickup.



## Junior High

- Keep them in your locker.



# Chromebooks

- Goal = School work.
- Limited sites and extensions = limits distractions.
- Internet Filter @ School
- Securly = class screen observation software, ability to flag certain behaviors.
- Bring them charged.



# Water Bottles + Headphones

Sealed (no spill) water bottles allowed.

JH = wired earbuds only.

**Too easy to lose wireless.**

HS = only teacher directed, not in halls.



## Where we post grades online

- You should have already created a parents FACTS Account using email you gave the school.
- Teachers asked to have grades put in within a week of assignment.
- Weekly automatic grade update Sunday night.  
Sometimes the “Missing” is unreliable due to Canvas integrations.
- Resource Documents, Phone # Directory



# Canvas

It is how we hand out things to students.

No parent accounts, **but you can always log in as your student.**

Teachers post assignments and class handouts. Used to collect homework, but not always.



# Lunch = Subway

1. No pre-ordering.
2. Pizza, sandwiches, chips, cookies. Drinks = vending machines.
3. Payment = Cash, credit, Subway card.
4. Recommend card backup for rushed mornings.
5. Recommend sack lunch first week for max control.



# Food Drop Off Policy

Family is welcome to drop off food for students. Please bring it to the school office.

Due to security concerns, **RLS does not allow delivery food service during the school day.**



# Teacher Communication

1. Teachers are asked NOT to have texting conversations.
2. Teachers are asked to reply to emails or phone calls within 24 hours *whenever possible*.
3. The more emotional the conversation, the greater the need for voice to voice or face to face communication.



# Conduct Interventions (Detention)

- After school quiet study hall. 3:20-4:00pm.
- When assigned, must be done within week.
- Goal: Refocus student enough to make a change.



# Summary Calendar

## 2026-2027 Rockford Lutheran Jr/Sr High School Master Term Calendar

| July 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su        | M  | Tu | W  | Th | F  | Sa |
|           |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5         | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12        | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19        | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26        | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

| August 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su          | M  | Tu | W  | Th | F  | Sa |
|             |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2           | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9           | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16          | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23          | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30          | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

| September 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su             | M  | Tu | W  | Th | F  | Sa |
|                |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6              | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13             | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20             | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27             | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |

| October 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su           | M  | Tu | W  | Th | F  | Sa |
|              |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4            | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11           | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18           | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25           | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

| November 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su            | M  | Tu | W  | Th | F  | Sa |
| 1             | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8             | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15            | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22            | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29            | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |

| July |                  |
|------|------------------|
| 4    | Independence day |

| August |                                 |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| 15     | Freshman Retreat                |
| 17     | Back-to-School Event            |
| 19     | Classes Begin - Early Dismissal |
| 21     | All School Opening Chapel       |
| 26     | Purple/White Night              |

| September |                             |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 3         | JSHS Parent Night           |
| 7         | School Closed - Labor Day   |
| 25        | Homecoming HS Football Game |

| October |                              |
|---------|------------------------------|
| 9       | No School - Fall Break       |
| 12      | School Closed - Columbus Day |

| November |                                    |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| 11       | Veterans Day                       |
| 13       | No School - Teacher In-service     |
| 25-27    | School Closed - Thanksgiving Break |

| January 2027 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su           | M  | Tu | W  | Th | F  | Sa |
|              |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3            | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10           | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17           | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24           | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31           |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| February 2027 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su            | M  | Tu | W  | Th | F  | Sa |
|               | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7             | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14            | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21            | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28            |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| March 2027 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su         | M  | Tu | W  | Th | F  | Sa |
|            | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7          | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14         | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21         | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28         | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

| April 2027 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su         | M  | Tu | W  | Th | F  | Sa |
|            |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4          | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11         | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18         | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25         | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |

| May 2027 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su       | M  | Tu | W  | Th | F  | Sa |
|          |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2        | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9        | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16       | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23       | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30       | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

| January |                                            |
|---------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1       | School Closed - New Year's Day             |
| 4       | School Classes Resume                      |
| 18      | School Closed - Martin Luther King Jr. Day |

| February |                                       |
|----------|---------------------------------------|
| 11       | Early Dismissal - Parent/Teacher Conf |
| 12       | No School (Teacher In-service)        |
| 15       | School Closed - President's Day       |

| March |                               |
|-------|-------------------------------|
| 1     | Lutheran Schools Week         |
| 22-25 | No School - Spring Break      |
| 26    | School Closed - Good Friday   |
| 29    | School Closed - Easter Monday |
| 30    | All School Easter Chapel      |

| April |                                |
|-------|--------------------------------|
| 23    | No School - Teacher In-Service |

| May |                                          |
|-----|------------------------------------------|
| 19  | HS Baccalaureate Service                 |
| 21  | All School Closing Chapel, HS Graduation |
| 28  | End of 2nd Semester                      |
| 31  | School Closed - Memorial Day             |

# Monthly Calendar (Website)

< September 2026 >



Categories ▾

Go to Date

| Sun | Mon                                                                 | Tue                                       | Wed | Thu                          | Fri                                            | Sat             |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|     |                                                                     | 1                                         | 2   | 3<br>Elementary Parent Night | 4<br>Jeans for Jesus<br>FB VS Oregon           | 5               |
| 6   | 7<br>Elementary No School - Labor Day<br>No School - offices closed | 8<br>Financial Aid Night for Senior class | 9   | 10<br>JSHS Parent Night      | 11<br>Jeans for Jesus<br>FB Vs Stillman Valley | 12<br>SAT @ RLS |
| 13  | 14<br>Elementary Fall School Pictures<br>Fall Yearbook Pictures     | 15                                        | 16  | 17                           | 18<br>Jeans for Jesus<br>FB @ Winnebago        | 19<br>ACT @ RLS |
| 20  | 21                                                                  | 22                                        | 23  | 24                           | 25                                             | 26              |

# SNAP (Linked from website)



Rockford Lutheran School



**How we share game schedules with parents.** Link from Athletic or Calendar pages on Website.



# First Day – Wed, Aug 19

- Arrive by 8:00 AM
- Opening = 8:10 AM (Main Gym)
- 1st Period = 8:45 – 9:05 AM
- 2nd Period = 9:10 – 9:30 AM
- 3rd Period = 9:35 – 9:55 AM
- 4th Period = 10:00 – 10:20 AM
- 5th Period = 10:25 – 10:45 AM
- 6th Period = 10:50 – 11:10 AM
- 7th Period = 11:15 – 11:35 AM



# School Pictures

## **VIP Photos.**

- Order info will be sent to you.

## **Yearbook Pictures**

- Sept 14th , even seniors.
- Wear normal school attire.  
Collared shirt, no hoodies.

## **Team Pictures**

- Ask coach.



4

# Concepts



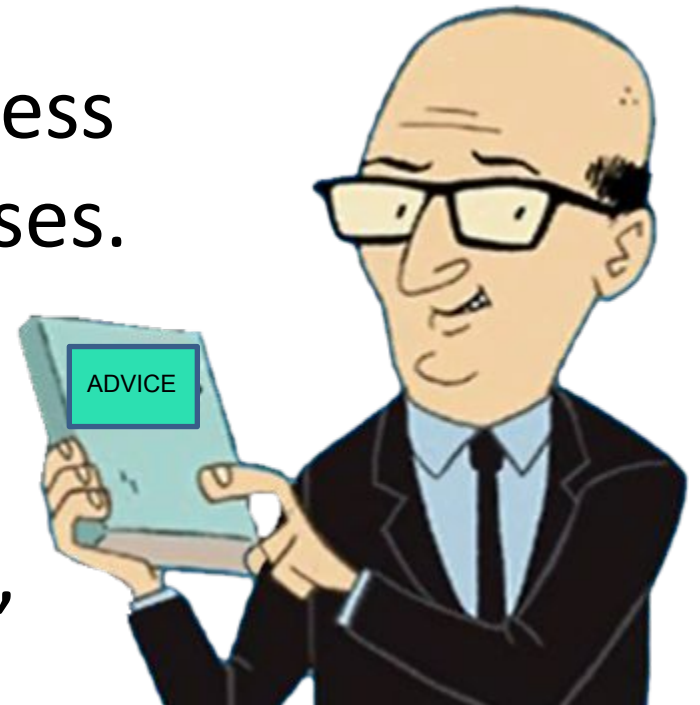
# This is a Partnership

1. We all want the same thing, to help your student grow and learn.
2. Ask questions first. Get the whole story.
3. Assume the best motives in each other.
4. We appreciate your support and insight into your student.
5. A teacher's best tool to help our students learn are parents.



# Your Kids Need You

1. Ask your student about their day. Just listen. Recognize venting.
2. Help your student mentally process their day. Celebrate their successes.
3. Guide them towards direct, positive communication.
4. Encourage them to try, try again, and to ask for help.
5. Grades should not be our first goal. The first goal is growing up.



# Backpacks vs Boulders

- Galatians 6:2 “Carry each other’s *burdens* and in this way fulfill the law of Christ.” (boulders)
- Galatians 6:4 “Each one should carry their own *load*.” (backpacks)
- Goal = Help them with their “boulders,” but help them learn to use their “backpacks.” Help them figure out which one something is.



# How to Deal with Conflict

## 1. Follow Matthew 18:15-17

- Seek out the person involved.

## 2. Fact vs Rumor.

- Just because someone said it, doesn't make it true.

## 3. School Discipline Issues.

- We seek the full story.
- We will deal with it fairly.
- Share only with people involved.



# Parent Talk



# Table Topics

1. Chromebooks
2. Using FACTS+CANVAS
3. Transportation
4. Srips
5. Lunch
6. School Calendar
7. Getting Involved
8. Communicating with Teachers
9. Gym Uniforms
10. Big Events
11. Dress Code
12. Homecoming
13. Booster Club
14. Parent to Parent



# Booster Club

President:  
Liz Spade



# Purple and White Night

**PURPLE & WHITE NIGHT**

**ALL SCHOOL EVENT!**



**AUGUST 26, 2026**  
**CRUSADER STADIUM**  
**5:30PM - 7:30PM**

| EVENT SCHEDULE |                         |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| 5:00           | DOORS OPEN              |
| 5:30           | PRAYER & EVENT KICK-OFF |

| FOOD TRUCKS                                                                           |                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  |



# PEAK Night for Junior High

*Junior High*  
**PEAK**  
*Night*



# Booster Club Spirit Store



- **Mon-Thurs:** Standard uniforms
- **Spirit Fridays:** Jeans and a RLS shirt or uniform shirt of your choice.



# Extra- Curriculars



Athletic Director:  
Don Lee

# 4 Roles + N.P.M.

1. Fan
  2. Player
  3. Coach
  4. Officials
- ...Choose one.



Next Play Mentality:

Cheer for the next play vs complain about the previous one.



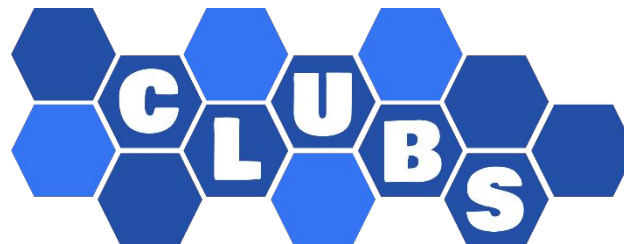
# Students: Get Involved - Sports

- Golf
- Tennis
- Bowling
- Football
- Track
- Cross Country
- Basketball
- Soccer
- Baseball
- Softball
- Volleyball
- Football



# Students: Get Involved - Clubs

- Model UN
- Key Club
- Ambassadors
- Student Council
- Chess Club
- Robotics
- Science Olympiad
- Academic
- Hiking/Eco
- Quiz Bowl
- JH Student Life
- Bass Fishing
- Art Club
- W.Y.S.E.
- Drama



# Parents: Get Involved

- Gala Planning
- Golf Benefit (Summer)
- Dance Decorations
- Yearbook photo submission
- Booster Club
- Trip chaperones
- Concessions/Ticket Sales
- Drama Support
- “Team Parent”
- Attend events and cheer
- Sport assistance



**Thank you for  
sharing your  
student with  
us at RLS!**

