



# Rockfield Reporter

Volume 4 Issue 1 September, 2011

Rockfield Elementary School

Germantown, WI

## September

### Mark Your Calendar....

- 9/1 First day of school
- 9/5 Labor Day—No School
- 9/8 PTA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 9/15 School Picture Day
- 9/16 PTA Bake Sale
- 9/19 Fundraiser at Robert's Custard for Ryan Staniak from 3:00—10:00p.m.
- 9/23 PTA Walk-a-thon



**Empower and Inspire  
Every Student to Success**  
- Germantown School  
District Mission Statement

### From the Principal... A Welcome to All!!

Greetings, Rockfield Families!

Welcome back to school! If its one thing at which the Rockfield Community excels, it is “welcoming!” Many of you had the pleasure of attending the Rockfield back-to-school Open House on Tuesday night with your families. It was truly heart-warming to see students, parents and teachers alike, all greeting neighbors, old friends, and friends yet-to-be. You welcomed new staff, dropped off school supplies, reconnected with community organizations, and of course, had cookies. I’m already so excited to start the school year simply because of the warmth that exists here.

As we all embark on a new school year, I would like to return the welcoming favor by reminding you that there are many opportunities to become involved at Rockfield School. Our amazing PTA heads up this endeavor by offering family -friendly events and coordinating fund-raising that benefits both our school and other groups in the community. “Many hands make light work,” so please consider joining the PTA!

Our RORY theme this year, “Reach Out Rockfield Youth” fits in just perfectly with the PTA’s efforts to support children and adults in our school and area. Each grade level will be choosing a project that supports a cause of their choice. This could include anything from making cards for an area retirement home to coordinating a penny war to benefit a local shelter. Sharing our gifts with others builds many connections to the real-world, and we look forward to the service learning opportunities that present themselves this year.

In an effort to add a layer of connection between home and school, you will receive a few more Alert Now messages during this school year. Alert Now is an automated system that allows the school to send a pre-recorded message to select groups of families or the entire school. In the past, this system was used solely for alerting families to snow days and last-minute releases due to weather. While we will still utilize this option, you will also receive reminders about PTA events and early release reminders. With this in mind, it is important to keep your contact information updated with the school. If you change phone numbers or change your e-mail

# From the Principal

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address, we can easily update this information for you.

Thank you again for your involvement in the Rockfield School Community. I hope you and your family experience a smooth start to the school year and that we all achieve great success together! Please don't hesitate to contact our staff with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,  
Lynn Bub, Rockfield Elementary Principal

### BACK TO SCHOOL BASICS

With the start of the school year, many of you are already preparing your children for school and homework. For some families, this can be the cause of much frustration. This is, however, a great opportunity for you to stay involved with what your child is learning in school. Here are a few tips to help to make homework a more quality experience:

Come to an agreement with your child on a set time to do homework every night. If there is no homework, reading and review are appropriate.

Make sure that the work area is conducive to studying. This includes a proper work surface, lighting, materials, and a space where there are no distractions.

### Student Enrollment

We start the 2011-2012 school year with 293 students attending Rockfield School. Class sections, average class sizes, and the teachers assigned to those grades are listed below.

<u>Gr</u>	<u>Sections</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Teachers</u>
EC	2	6	Mrs. Miller
	1	6	Mrs. Leffler
K	2	22	Mrs. Barr Mrs. Hagen
	1	3	19
2	2	20	Ms. Mislant Mrs. Pitrof
	3	2	20
4	2	23	Mrs. Niehus Mrs. Krohn
	5	2	22

If your child is having trouble getting started, be supportive. Help them understand the assignment and get them started, but don't do their homework for them!

Check to be sure that all homework is completed, and then sign the assignment notebook.



### Rockfield School Mission Statement

Rockfield holds high expectations for all students, engages them in challenging and rigorous curriculum, and ensures quality learning experiences to develop the necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes for success.

## STUDENT HANDBOOK

Please take time to review the Student Handbook and discuss the relevant information with your child(ren). Areas of emphasis include the following:

### Administration of Medication -

Written parental consent on district approved forms is required for all medication administration at school.

### Special Request to Leave School

- A student, who must leave school for any purpose must bring a note from his/her parents indicating the time he/she is to be excused and the reason for the excuse. Please keep such requests to a minimum.

**Pupil Absences - Parent / guardians should make every effort to plan family vacations so that they coincide with the established recess periods in the school calendar.** Regular and punctual attendance is critical. Frequent absences are a major cause of lack of success in school. Parents are expected to call the school to inform office personnel of any absence. Absences should be called in before 9:30 a.m., or by simply leaving a message on the answering machine. Notices will be mailed out when absences (excused or unexcused) have exceeded 10 days.

**Student Dress and Personal Property** - Common sense is the key to dressing your child for school. Children should be

dressed in such a way that their dress does not interfere with the instructional program of the school. Make sure kids have appropriate clothing during the cold weather season. This includes boots, hats, gloves, etc.

**Personal property, such as electronic or other toys, games, etc. should stay at home. The school is not responsible for damaged, lost or stolen personal property.**

Parents are **required** to return a signed sheet ( the last page of the handbook ) which indicates that the handbook has been read and appropriately shared.



## NEWSLETTER

### PAPER VS. WEB

In order to save paper and the costs of printing, we will be sending home a note in the near future asking if you would like to receive our monthly newsletter as a paper copy, or if you would like to view it on our website. Please return this form as soon as possible so we can update our records.

## ASSIGNMENT

### NOTEBOOKS

The assignment notebook is an important communication tool between the school and the home. It is critical that you check the assignment notebook, monitor homework, and sign the book each week night.

The assignment notebook is also an important organizational tool for students. Please help your child understand the importance of using the notebook to be sure they have all the necessary books, papers, and resources to complete their homework. Homework that is completed in a quality manner, and on time, is a critical component of success in school.

This year, we will be charging \$2.00 for the assignment notebook. Students will be given an assignment notebook on the first day of school. Please send cash, or a check made out to **Rockfield School**, along with your child as soon as possible.

The money should be given to your child's classroom teacher. Marking the envelope with your child's name and indicating on the outside of the envelope that the payment is for the assignment notebook would also be helpful!



## Early Release Days

Once again this year there are four Early Release Days built into the 2011-2012 calendar.

On Early Release Days, students will be dismissed at **12:20 p.m.** (excluding early childhood students).

Students will **not** eat lunch at school prior to dismissal. Buses will transport students to their regular drop-off points.

The Early Release Day dates are as follows:

**Monday, October 3**

**Wednesday, November 23**

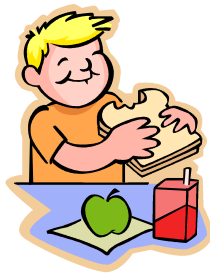
**Thursday, December 22**

**Friday, June 8**

## Hot Lunch Program

**If you are bringing your child in later than 9:00 a.m. their lunch choice must be called into the office.** If you do not call in your order prior to 9:00 a.m., please send a cold lunch with your child.

When sending in lunch money, please make sure your child's name is on the envelope as well as family or student ID.



If you would like to enjoy our hot program with your child, your lunch choice must also be called into the office prior to 9:00 a.m. You may also give your child your choice and they can order it with theirs.

## Late Start Days

New this year are two late start days.

On these days students will start school two hours later than a regular school day.

Late start days for this year are:

**Monday, November 28**

**Tuesday, May 29**

Lunch will be served at the regular time both of these days.

## School Hours

### **Grades KG-5**

8:50 A.M.—3:44 P.M.

### **Morning Early Childhood**

8:50 A.M.—11:32 P.M.

### **Afternoon Early Childhood**

1:02 P.M.– 3:44 P.M.



## Absences and Late Arrivals

If your child is going to be absent or late to school for any reason, please notify the office. You can call anytime after 7:40 or leave a message on the answering machine.

When leaving a message, please indicate the child's name, the reason for the absence and the name of your child's teacher.

If your child will be late and wishes to eat hot lunch, please call with his/her lunch choice for that day. This call needs to be made by 9:00 a.m. If you do not call by 9:00 a.m., please provide a cold lunch for your child that day.

## Building Leadership Team

The Building Leadership Team (BLT) for this year includes the following representatives:

Parent Representatives —	Jenny Corona	Mike Nasif
K-2 Representatives —	Denise Burger	Peggy Barr
3-5 Representatives —	Lisa Guild	Vicki Niehus
Specialist Representatives —	Jennifer Nettessheim	Amie Lousier
Support Staff Representatives —	Joyce Dunn	
Special Education—	Buffi Wargolet	
Principal —	Lynn Bub	

The primary duty of the BLT is to ensure the comprehensive alignment of the school’s learning environment, curriculum, instructional methods and materials, facilities, staff, and financial resources with the school’s mission, standards of achievement, and plans of action for increasing student achievement.

Meetings generally take place once each month and are conducted according to an agenda which is built cooperatively by the members.

### Building Security

We require all visitors to sign a sign-up sheet in the office when entering and leaving our school. Visitors will be given an identification badge which is to be affixed to the clothing in a visible location. This will help us monitor who is in the building and will ensure that visitors are here for a legitimate purpose.



### Report Card Distribution

The school year is divided into trimesters.  
 The dates are:  
 Nov. 30 —End of 1st Trimester  
 Dec. 9 —Report cards go home.  
 March 6—End of 2nd Trimester  
 March 16—Report cards go home.  
 June 8— End of 3rd Trimester  
 June 8—Report cards go home.

### PTA Meetings

The following are the dates for this years PTA meetings:

- September 8
- October 13
- November 10
- December 8
- January 12
- February 16
- March 8
- April 19
- May 10

All meetings are at 7:00 p.m. in the Rockfield Library.

## NOTES FROM HOME

A note, signed by a parent, is **required** when you intend to deviate from regular school procedures. Notes are necessary for the standard reasons, some of which include the following:

- Going home on a different bus with another student.
- Going home on the regular bus, but being dropped off at a different stop.
- Medical appointments scheduled during the school day.
- When going on vacation.
- When you are going to pick your child up from school, rather than have him / her ride the bus.

**If your child does not have a note to deviate from his / her regular bus schedule, they will be put on their regular bus.**

If you are picking a student up via private transportation, please park in the parking lot and come into the gym. **Do not park in the front of the building.** This area is reserved for school buses. Personal cars and school buses occupying the same space while loading students creates an unsafe environment.

### Meet our new staff. . .

Please extend a warm welcome to them when you see them around the building.

#### Mrs. Bub—Principal

Hello, my name is Lynn Bub and I am so excited to join the Rockfield Staff as your new Principal! Prior to arriving at Rockfield, I served as Associate Principal at Campbellsport High School and Elementary Principal at Eden Elementary a year later. I worked closely at CSD with many staff to continue building student competence not only in academics, but also in life, work, and social skills. My time in the Campbellsport School District was filled with many new experiences and I am so grateful for the continuing education I receive every day from the amazing teachers in our State.

When I am not at school, I love to cook and spend time with my husband, Jason, my friends, my family, and my dog Sasha. Thanks to all for the wonderful welcome here at Rockfield. I look forward to a busy school year filled with learning experiences for all!

#### Ms. Ritger—Grade 1

Hello Rockfield Families!  
My name is Jocelyn Ritger and I will be teaching first grade this year. I recently graduated from Cardinal Stritch University with a degree in Elementary Education and Literacy. When I am not in school, I love to stay active and spend time outdoors. I am thrilled to be part of the Rockfield team, and look forward to meeting all of you!

#### Mrs. Fassbender—Phy. Ed.

I attended the University of Wisconsin La Crosse where I received my teaching degree. I have taught in the Germantown school district now for three years at County Line and Amy Belle Elementary. This past summer I had my first child a baby girl named June. I enjoy biking, running, swimming, and any sport outdoors. I'm excited about teaching at Rockfield and looking forward to a great school year in physical education.

## RORY Committee

RORY's focus this year is community service. As Mrs. Bub noted on page one of this newsletter, RORY now stands for Reach Out Rockfield Youth.

The committee is still working out the details of the program, however, our goal is to have each grade level coordinate a community service project that will happen sometime during the school year. The amount of community service projects available to choose from is enormous and we will do our best to support a variety of causes throughout the year.

In the next couple weeks, classroom teachers plan to discuss the new theme with students and together come up with a few projects they would be interested in working on. Based on the ideas that the classes choose, the committee will develop a schedule for the year.

If you are currently working with an organization that would be a possible option for one of our grade levels, please let your child's classroom teacher know.

Please continue to watch for updates and fliers regarding this awesome initiative!

As always, thank you Rockfield PTA for their continued support of the RORY program.

## Attention all Rockfield Families!!

The Rockfield PTA will be sponsoring our second annual Rockfield Walk a Thon Friday September 23, during the school day. Envelopes will be coming home soon for students to collect pledge money for walking. Our Walk a Thon is a fun and healthy way to raise money to improve our school. Unlike most fundraisers, 100% of the money raised from our Walk a Thon goes directly to Rockfield Elementary. PTA pays for field trips, assemblies, author visits, the RORY program, teacher requests and everyone's favorite, Smart Boards! Have your child talk to their friends and family to see if they are willing to donate and remember, every donation helps. Please keep an eye out over the next few weeks for your Walk a Thon envelope and a flyer with more details!

Thank you, The Rockfield PTA





# Odds and Ends....

## Picture Day

Picture Day has been scheduled for Thursday, September 15.

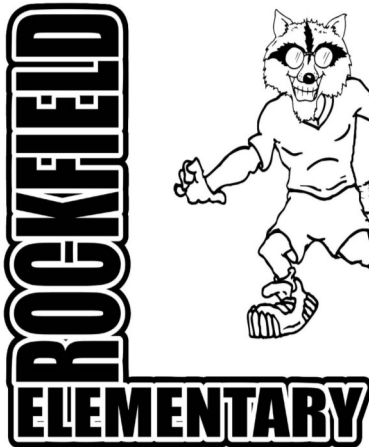
You should have received an order form the first day of school.

## Special Transportation Requests

Just a reminder that special transportation request forms/parent pickup notes need to be submitted each year. Any notes on file from last year have been thrown out and new ones are needed. If we do not have a note that your child is going to be picked up, they will be put on the bus.

## Immunizations

If your child has had any recent immunizations, please send a note to the office with their name, type of immunization, and dates of those dosages. This will help us keep your child's records up to date!



**Rockfield Elementary School  
Germantown, WI**

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Rockfield School is  
Rockin' with Respect!"

**We're on the Web!**

[www.germantownschoools.org](http://www.germantownschoools.org)