ROCK ISLAND-MILAN SCHOOL DISTRICT #41

Board of Education Meeting

November 24, 2026

Sharon Williams, Ed. D.

Superintendent

AGENDA

1. School Recognitions
2. Washington Junior High School
3. Committee of the Whole:

Athletics, Extracurricular Activities & Scholar Engagement

ROCK ISLAND-MILAN SCHOOL DISTRICT #41

School Improvement, Accountability & State Designation Recognition

November 24, 2026

Jeff Dase

Deputy Superintendent

Profiles of Performance

Accountability Performance Levels

01 Exemplary

Highest Tier

The highest levels of performance.

Schools with an Exemplary overall profile demonstrate strong patterns of performance and have no student groups with a Comprehensive profile.

02 Approaching Exemplary

High Tier

Strong performance across many indicators.

Student group performance may vary.

No group has the lowest overall profile.

03 Commendable

Solid Performance

Solid performance, with multiple possible patterns of strengths and areas for improvement.

This is the highest overall profile a school can receive if any student group has a Comprehensive profile.

04 Developing

Targeted Support Needs

Patterns of performance showing greater need for improvement.

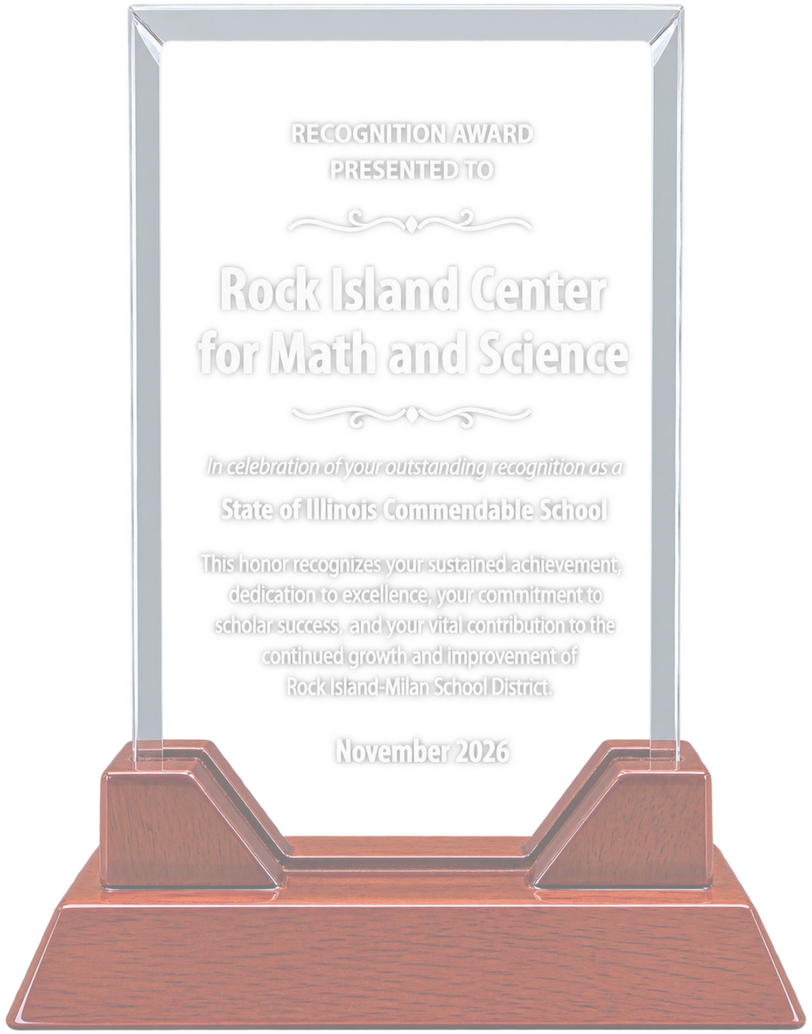
Schools may have one or more student groups with a Comprehensive profile.

05 Comprehensive

Intensive Support

Patterns reflecting particularly low Core performance.

For Title I schools, a Comprehensive overall profile results in identification for Comprehensive Support and Improvement.



Commendable Schools
Congratulations!

Earl Hanson Elementary School

Eugene Field Elementary School

Rock Island Center for Math & Science

Exemplary School
First in RIMSD 41 History

Congratulations!

Denkmann Elementary School

Thank You!

To all school staff members for your hard work and dedication. Your commitment to scholars, families, and each other has played a vital role in this recognition for your school. We are grateful for all you do, every day, and proud to celebrate this accomplishment with you.

ROCK ISLAND-MILAN SCHOOL DISTRICT #41

Washington Junior High School

November 24, 2026

Tonya Smith

Principal

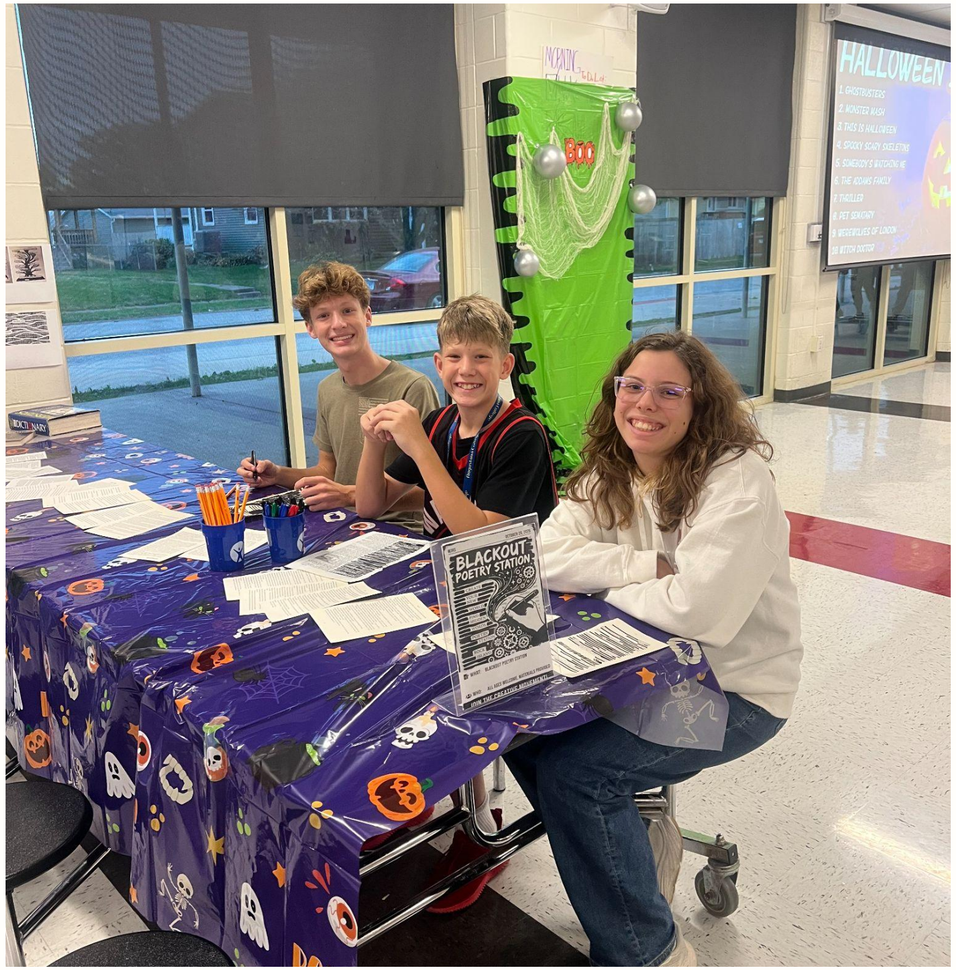
Vision & Mission

OUR MISSION

To prepare all students for college, career and life readiness.

OUR VISION

To provide an opportunity to learn and grow.



WJHS ABC’s

A **Attendance**

- 90% Goal for all students
- Weekly Attendance Team Meetings
- Attendance Interventions

B **Behavior**

- Quarterly Goal: Less than 12 Out-of-School Suspensions
- Restorative Practices
- Family Involvement

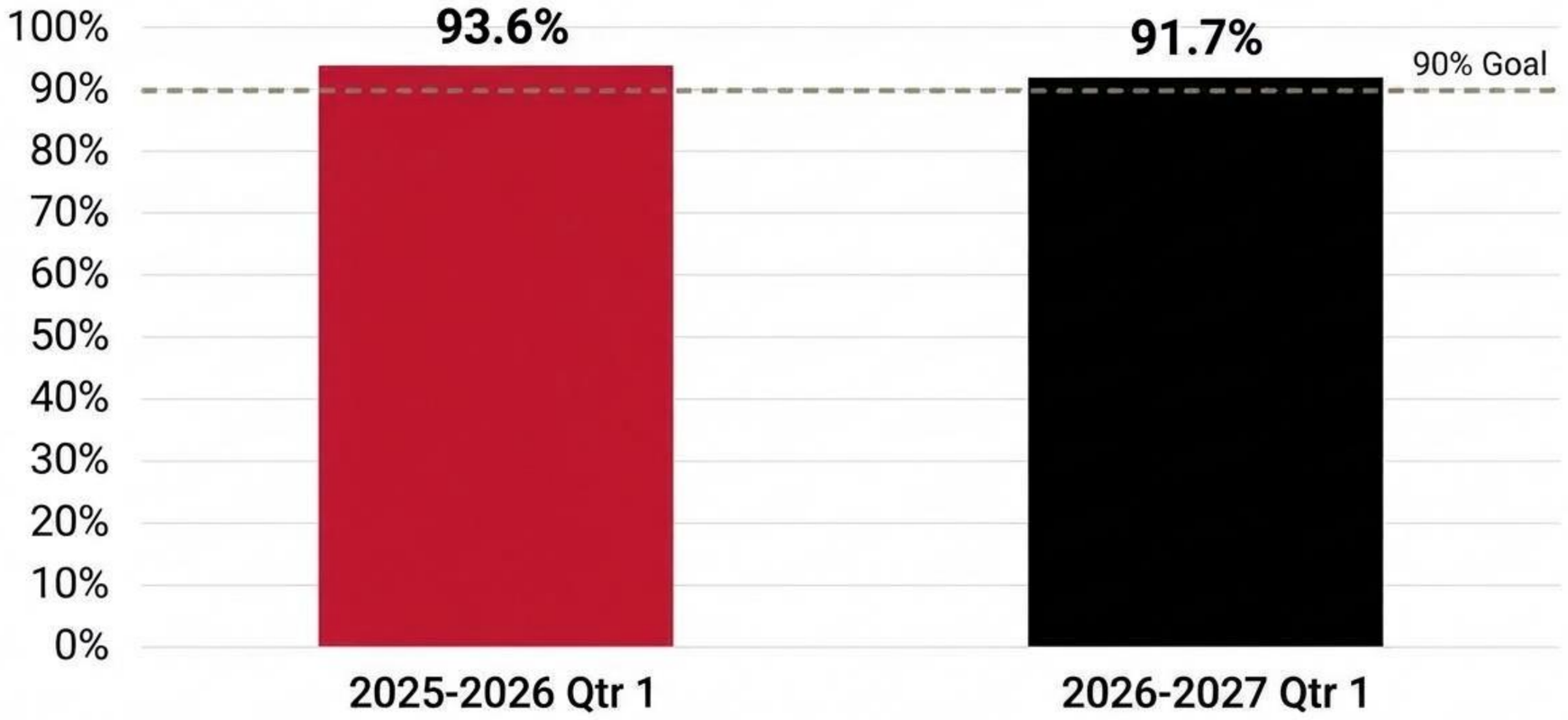
C **Curriculum**

- Realign Special Education
- Performance Based Objectives
- AVID



WJHS Student Attendance

Consistently exceeding our Attendance Goal of 90%



Focus: Student Attendance

Interventions

Direct & Family Support

- Home Visits
- Conferencing with Student
- Individualized Phone & Email Contacts
- Family Attendance Agreement

Incentives & Rewards

- Perfect Attendance Incentives
- Quarterly Celebrations
- Attendance Raffle
- Attendance Incentives

Formal & Admin Notices

- Automated Attendance Letters
- Exclusion Letters
- Truancy Referral
- Attendance Team

Behavior - Q1 Data

Tier Level	Count	Percentage
Tier 1 Students	234	47.2%
Tier 2 Students	116	23.4%
Tier 3 Students	146	29.4%
Total Enrolled	496	100.0%

2nd Quarter Behavior Goal
Less than 12 Out-of-School Suspensions

BEHAVIOR (OSS)

28.6%

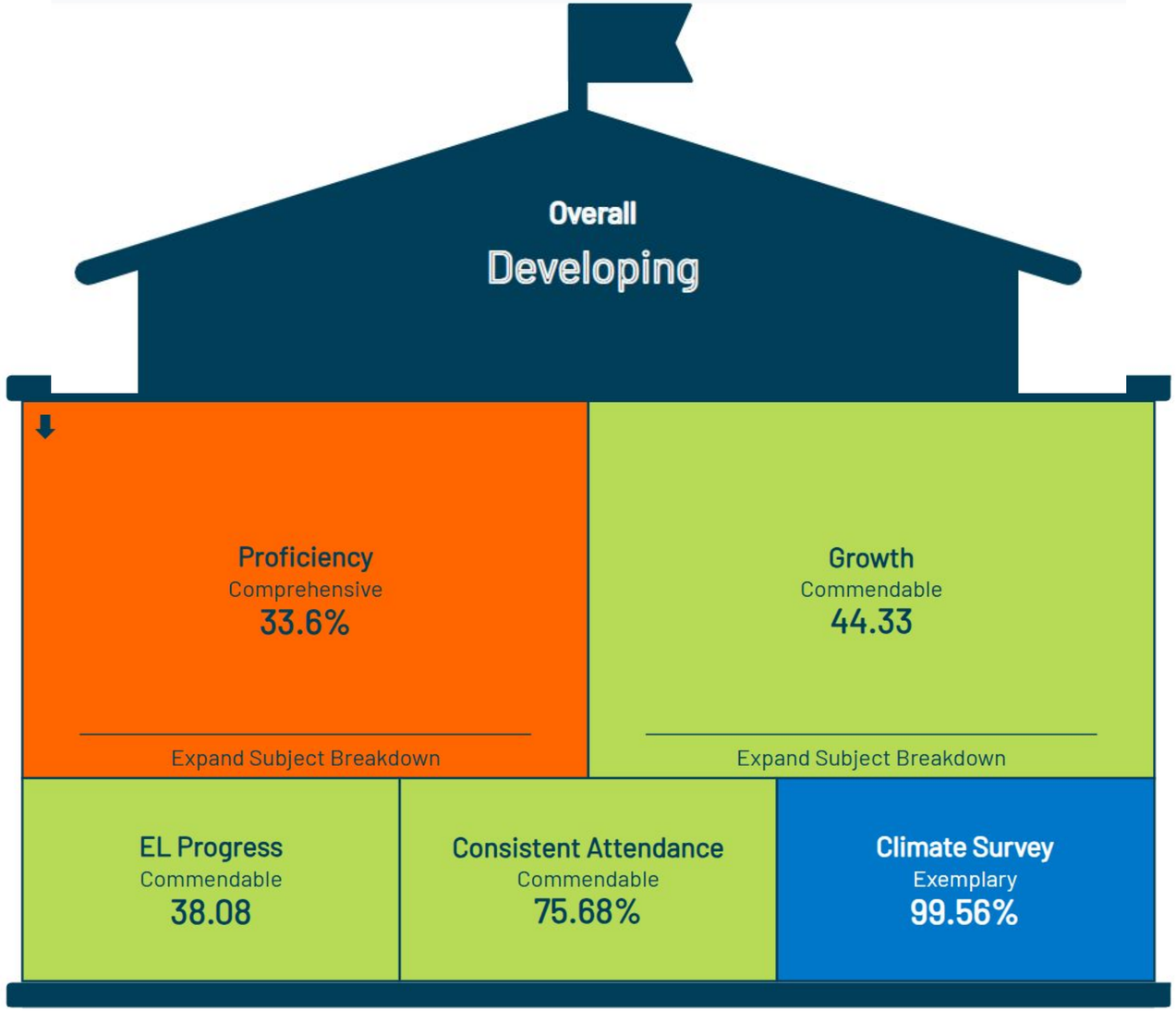
Reduction in Suspensions

Quarterly Comparison: Q1 2025: 7 OSS → Q1 2026: 5 OSS

Key Takeaway

Substantial decline in out-of-school suspensions demonstrates a healthier school climate.

2026 State Designation



Curriculum & Instructional Practices

Performance-Based Objectives

100% of certified teachers will establish performance based objectives that are accessible to students, teachers, observers and linked to the content and a higher order thinking for student application.

Goal Metric
86.7% → 100%

Vocabulary Strategies

100% of classroom teachers will select a strategy to provide curriculum-driven opportunities to determine word meanings before, during, and after reading.

Teacher Action Steps:

1. Engage in PD around vocabulary strategies
2. Determine Strategy
3. Use Strategy

Explicit Vocabulary Instruction Goal
65.1% → 100%

Next Steps & Support Initiatives

- Continue Professional Development with Educational Epiphany, AVID and Consortium for Education Change (CEC).
- PLC and Walkthrough Feedback

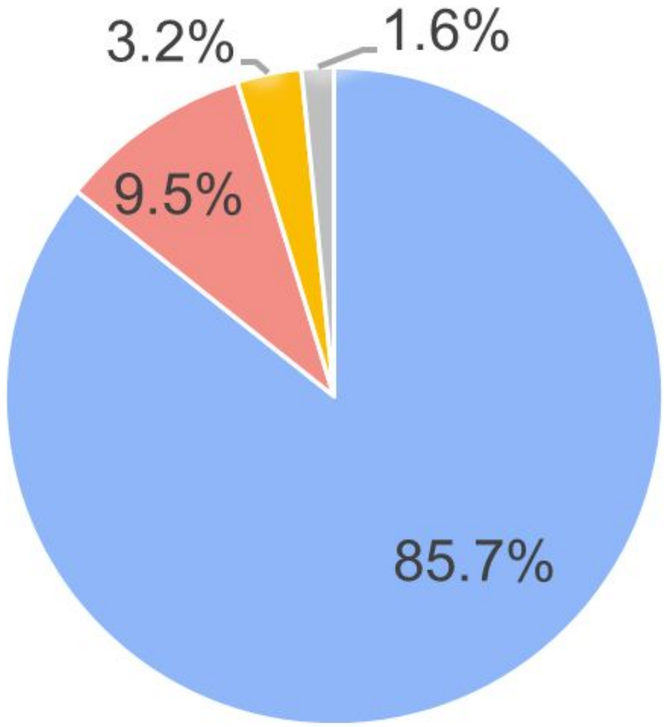
Consistent Monitoring & Feedback

Evidence of Progress PBO

Question 1: Learning Objective Status Across Walkthroughs

(N=63 Total Walkthroughs)

- Yes, Performance Based: 54
- Yes, Content Based: 6
- Yes, Flawed: 2
- No: 1



Consistent Monitoring & Feedback

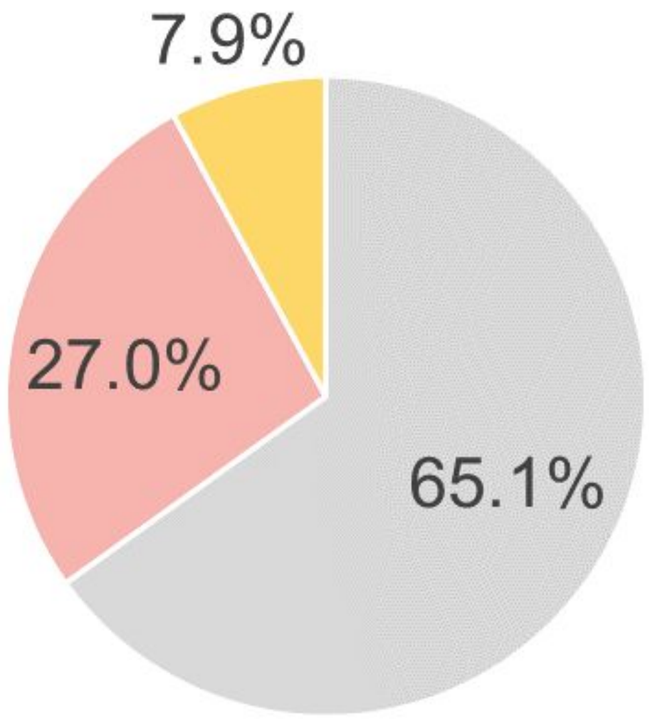
Evidence of Progress

Academic Vocabulary

Question 2: Academic Vocabulary Taught Across Walkthroughs

(N=63 Total Walkthroughs)

- Yes, Explicitly Taught: 41
- Yes, Somewhat Taught: 17
- No: Not Taught: 5



Curriculum and Instructional Impact

Special Education

120 Students

24% of WJHS Scholars

Leadership

- Special Education Resource Hub
- Progress Monitoring

Ambitious Instruction

- Co-Teaching
  - Co-Teaching Trainings
- Reading Horizons
- Resource
  - Goals
  - Progress Monitoring
  - Support Skill Gaps

Supportive Environment

- PLC Content Area Weekly
- SPED PLC Twice a Month

AVID Advancement Via Individual Determination

GOAL: *"To prepare students for college readiness and success by equipping them with the academic skills, study strategies, and mindset needed to excel in rigorous coursework."*

WHAT WE DO — THE WICOR FRAMEWORK

W
Writing

Focused note-taking, learning logs, reflective writing, and structured summaries.

I
Inquiry

Costa's Levels of Thinking, Socratic Seminars, and critical questioning strategies.

C
Collaboration

Collaborative study groups, tutorials, peer editing, and team problem-solving.

O
Organization

Binder management, agenda planning, goal setting, and time management tools.

R
Reading

Critical reading strategies, vocabulary building, graphic organizers, and marking text.

AVID Advancement Via Individual Determination

Career & College Focus

- College and Career Exploration & Planning
- Guest Speakers & Industry Leaders

Academic Growth & Skills

- Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
- Self-Advocacy & Leadership Development

Support & Community

- Collaborative Academic Tutorials
- Test-Taking Strategies & Preparation

Committee of the Whole:

Athletics, Extracurricular Activities & Scholar Engagement

November 24, 2026

Sharon Williams, Ed. D., Superintendent

Dr. Patty Ulrich, Rock Island High Principal

Joey Dilulio, Edison Junior High Principal

Tonya Smith, Washington Junior High Principal

Mike Emendorfer, Athletic Director

What are the benefits of extracurricular activities?

Engagement in extracurricular activities is positively associated with student **achievement**, including better **attendance**, higher **academic performance**, and stronger **educational aspirations**.



What are the benefits of extracurricular activities?

Key **Outcomes** Linked to Participation:

- **Attendance:** Participants generally report fewer unexcused absences and skipped classes.
- **Academic performance:** Involvement correlates with higher GPAs and stronger assessment results, particularly when balanced with schoolwork.
- **Educational aspirations:** Students involved in activities are more likely to set college and degree goals.
- **Personal and social skills:** Activities build time management, teamwork, leadership, self-confidence, and a sense of belonging.



Junior High Activities

Joey Dilulio, Edison Junior High Principal
Tonya Smith, Washington Junior High Principal

Warrior & Eagle Athletics

The following athletics are offered at both junior high schools.

FALL

- 7th Football
- 8th Football
- 7th Girls Volleyball
- 8th Girls Volleyball
- Boys & Girls Cross Country
- Girls Tennis **Co-op**
- Boys & Girls Golf **Co-op**
- 7th Football Cheer
- 8th Football Cheer

WINTER

- 7th Boys Basketball
- 8th Boys Basketball
- Boys Wrestling
- Girls Wrestling
- 7th Boys Basketball Cheer
- 8th Boys Basketball Cheer
- 7th Girls Basketball
- 8th Girls Basketball
- 7th Girls Basketball Cheer
- 8th Girls Basketball Cheer
- Jr High Boys & Girls Swimming **Co-op**

SPRING

- 7th Boys Track
- 7th Girls Track
- 8th Boys Track
- 8th Girls Track
- Boys Tennis **Co-op**

EJHS After School Activities/Clubs

EJHS offers a wide variety of after school activities and programs to help support our scholars.

- Gamers Club
- Chess Club
- Math Counts
- Tabletop Game Club
- Edison Plus
- Futbol (Soccer) Club
- LBTGQ & Allies Club
- Student Council
- 2nd Semester Boys Volleyball
- Her Voice Media



WJHS After School Activities/Clubs

Washington Junior High provides after-school activities, clubs, and programs that enrich learning, build connections, and support the growth and success of our Warriors.

- WIN (What I Need)
- Student Council
- Gamers Club (Winter)
- Chess Club (Winter)
- Builders Club
- Soccer Club (Spring)
- Wrestling Club (Spring)



Rock Island High School
Extracurricular Activities

Dr. Patty Ulrich

Principal

Culture and Heritage



Latin American Student Organization (LASO)

Sponsor: Norma Ramirez

Thursdays after school
9 student members

LASO provides academic, social, and cultural opportunities that build unity and pride among Latino students at Rocky.

German Club

Sponsor: Nick Eli

Every other Thursday
10 student members

Students practice German through conversation, games, films, and crafts. Traditions include a fall welcome picnic and a December Secret Santa exchange.

African American Heritage Club

Sponsor: Dr. LaShanta Williams

Weekly
96 student members

Members celebrate and explore positive aspects of African American culture.

Culture Club

Sponsors: Mike Mertel, Maria Trigueros, Norma Ramirez, Jose Burgos

Every other week
30–40 student members

Students and staff share and learn about cultures and host cultural events, including Culture Fest.

Culture and Heritage

Swahili Heritage Club

Sponsor: Robert Mwaga

Tuesdays, 3:30 p.m., Room 121
46 student members

Students celebrate Swahili language and culture while building bilingual literacy through fiction and nonfiction texts.

Activities support preparation for the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy and college readiness through campus visits and exploration of future pathways.

Cultural celebrations, games, guest speakers, writing, and picnics build friendships, leadership, and pride in students' multilingual identities.



Arts and Shared Interests



Drama Club

Sponsor: Dori Foster

Thursdays, 3:30 p.m., Room 146
60 student members

Students produce plays and musicals and participate in community service through theatre.

Chess Club

Sponsors: D. Singleton & S. Singleton

Once a month, Tuesday, 6th hour

Students learn to play chess and practice different strategies.

Reading Rocks

Sponsors: Mary Mendelin & Amy Curtiss

Every other Tuesday, 6th-hour Pride Time
20 student members

Members read and discuss books, typically from the Abraham Lincoln Award list. They advise the library and help organize author visits.

A Rock Island Public Library young adult librarian frequently joins meetings to share programs and reading incentives.



Band, Orchestra, Choir

Sponsors: Pete Carlin, Scott Voigt, Cameron Kotovsky

The Rock Island High School Music Department is a vibrant community of 260 scholars whose talent, dedication, and passion for music have helped build a tradition of excellence.

Home to award-winning ensembles, our department provides a wide range of opportunities for scholars to learn, lead, perform, and grow through Marching Band, Jazz Band, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Pep Band, Percussion Ensemble, Chamber Orchestra, Concert Orchestra, Chamber Singers, Concert Choir, and Symphonic Choir.

With a commitment to musical excellence, creativity, and collaboration, we strive to ensure every scholar has an opportunity to find their voice and make a meaningful contribution.





Band

Sponsor: Peter Carlin

Jazz Band 19 members
Students explore, prepare and perform various styles of musical art known as jazz.

Concert Band 60 members
Students prepare and perform music from a variety of genres.

Marching Band-80 members
Students explore, prepare, and perform music and participate in musical competitions.

Symphonic Band-30 members
Students prepare and perform music from a variety of genres.

Percussion-23 members
Students explore, prepare, and perform a variety of music written for percussion.



Orchestra

Sponsor: Cameron Kotovsky

Concert Orchestra - 34 members
Students explore, prepare and perform music from a variety of genres.

Chamber Orchestra - 17 members
Students explore and perform masterworks written for string and symphonic orchestras.



Choir

Sponsor: Scott Voigt

Symphonic Choir - 30 members
Students perform a variety of choral music for community performances as well as state contests and festivals. This is the largest choir.

Chamber Singers - 18 members
Students perform a variety of choral music for community performances as well as state contests and festivals. This is the top audition choir.

Concert Choir - 21 members
In this beginning choir, students prepare and perform a variety of choral music.



Leadership and Service



National Honor Society

Sponsors: Andrea Parer & Morgan Maring

When announced
150 student members

NHS recognizes excellence in scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Members serve the school and community while upholding high academic and personal standards.

Rotary Interact Club

Sponsor: Lonnie Behnke

Tuesdays: 6th hour monthly,
after school other weeks
12 student members

Members partner with the Rock Island Rotary Club, staff the Pride Store, and organize an annual talent show.

Student Council

Sponsor: Kyle Taylor

Thursdays, 7:15 a.m.
54 student members

Members give students a voice, organize school events, promote school spirit, and lead service projects that strengthen the school and community.

Silver Cord

Sponsor: Keith Dunker

No regular meetings
250 student members

Silver Cord shares volunteer opportunities, promotes RIHS events and fundraisers, and connects students with service for Silver Cord, NHS, and IJAG.

Leadership and Service

Gray Matters

Sponsors: M. Greenwood & C. Hayek

Wednesdays, 7:15 a.m., Room 158
50 student members

The Gray Matters Collective brings mental health into public conversation and works to end the stigma surrounding mental health.

Rocky Riveters

Sponsors: Karolyn Harris & Julie Churchill

Every other Thursday, Pride Time
15 student members

Rocky Riveters promotes female empowerment and equal rights for people of all genders. Students of any gender are welcome.



Academic

Journalism
Newspaper and Yearbook

Sponsor: Sarah Vens

Daily
60 student members

Students create the Watchtower yearbook and the Crimson Crier online newspaper. They also update school social media, photograph events, and produce multimedia stories about Rocky students and staff.



Community and School Activities

Environmental Action Club

Sponsor: Keith Dunker

Tuesdays, 7:30 a.m., Room 29 & LT
150 student members

EAC runs Rocky's recycling program, maintains the butterfly garden and greenhouse, and supports community events. Members care for campus grounds, plant flowers, and join local park and community cleanups.



Prom Committee

Sponsor: Haley Jarrin

As needed for event preparation
10–15 student members

Members help plan prom, developing teamwork, leadership, and event-planning skills. They collaborate on the theme, decorations, and other details to create a memorable celebration.

Athletics

Mike Emendorfer

Athletic Director

Building Student-Athletes, School Pride & Community



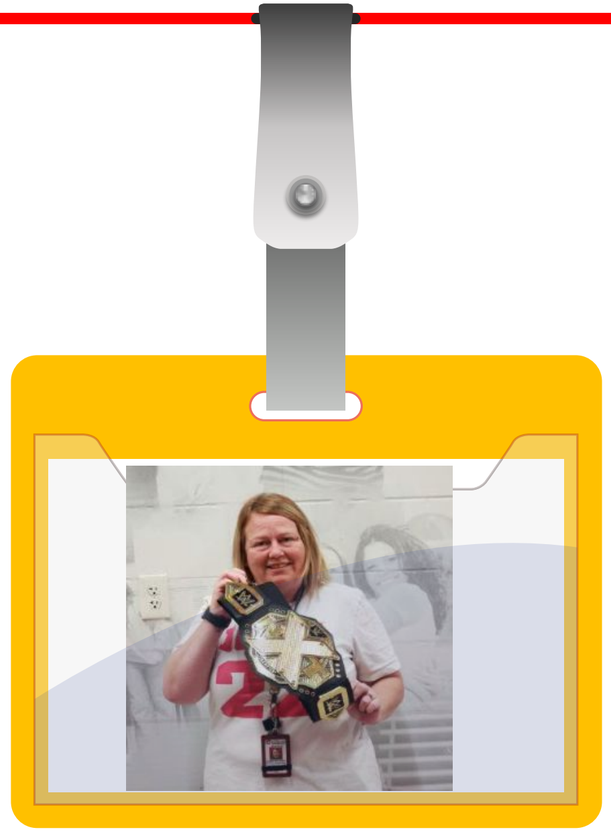
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Rock Island Athletics

Athletic Department Staff



Kyle Hoffman
Assistant Athletic Director/Athletic Trainer

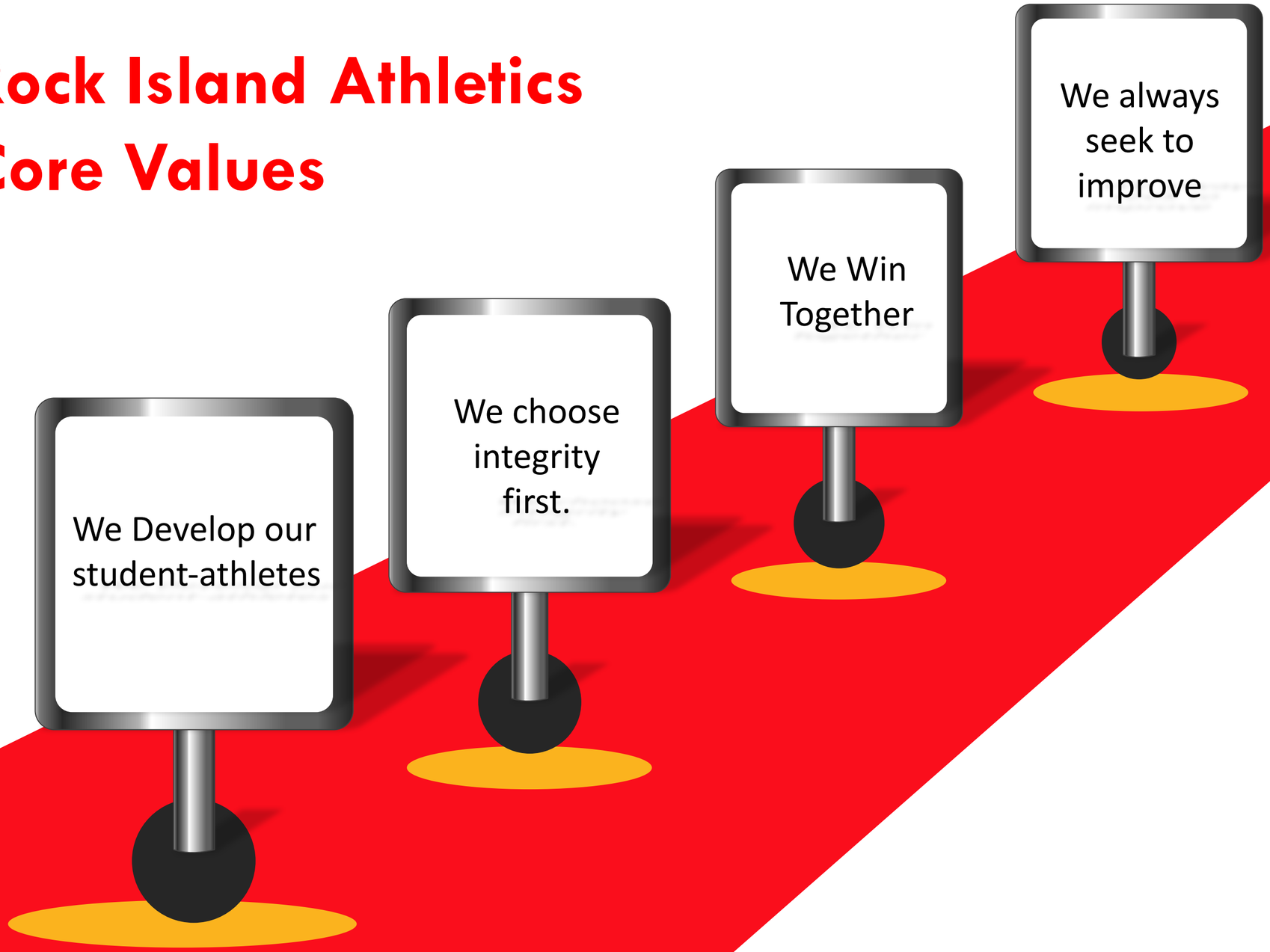


Dawn Maloney
Athletic Secretary



Lance Riccio
Ticket Manager

Rock Island Athletics Core Values



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

1. Athletics provides learning experiences that support physical, mental, social, and emotional growth.

2. Athletics fulfills an important function in the educational process throughout the Rock Island-Milan School District.

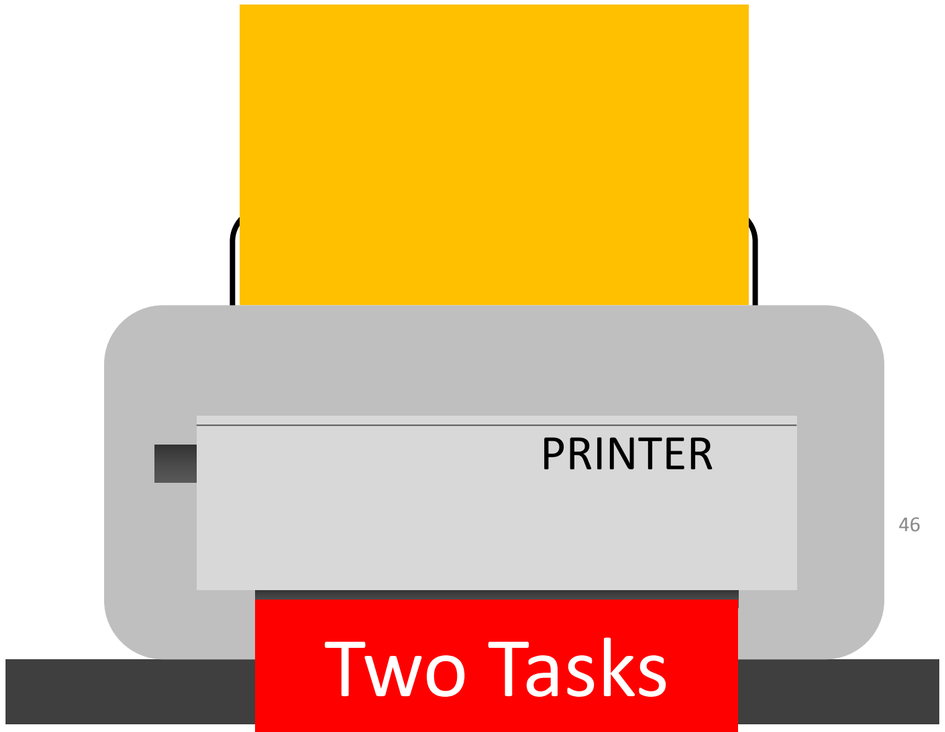
3. Our coaches teach the following values: accountability, citizenship, sportsmanship, tolerance, leadership, adherence to rules, performance under pressure, persistence, a strong work ethic, physical well-being, responsibility, self-discipline, social skills, striving for excellence, the ability to take instruction, and teamwork.

4. Athletics should foster positive self-esteem and a climate among coaches and team members that values mutual respect.

5. Athletics is an extension of the school day.

6. Athletics are open to all students, providing they are in good academic standing, are good citizens, and are physically fit to participate. Participation is a privilege that students earn by maintaining these standards.

Coaching Tasks



Two Tasks
One Minor
One Major

- (Minor Task)
- Teach techniques

- (Major Task)
- Teach life skills like discipline, teamwork, perseverance, and good sportsmanship

More Than Competition
Rock Island High School Athletics Provides Students With Opportunities To:



March 3, 1945 vs Moline.

1. Develop leadership and teamwork
2. Build discipline, confidence and resilience
3. Represent Rock Island High School and the community
4. Develop healthy habits and lifelong connections
5. Pursue opportunities for collegiate athletics and beyond

Rock Island Athletics Provides A Visible Connection Between:
Students ↔ Families ↔ School ↔ Community

Athletic Events Create Opportunities For:

- School Spirit
- Family engagement
- Alumni involvement
- Local partnerships
- Positive Community identity



The goal is for every home athletic event to reflect the values of Rock Island High School.

Health & Safety



- Pre-participation physicals
- Athletic training and injury response
- Concussion awareness and management
- Hydration and heat-safety & weather protocols
- Appropriate equipment
- Safe practice & competition environments
- Mental-health and student-support resources

Affiliation

Since 1969, Rock Island High School has been affiliated with the Western Big 6 Conference. Rock Island High School is a member of and abides by the bylaws of the Illinois High School Association and the Western Big 6 Conference.

Members of the Western Big 6 are:

Alleman High School, Galesburg High School, Geneseo High School, Moline High School, Quincy High School, Rock Island High School, Sterling High School and United Township High School

All varsity coaches must attend and participate in Western Big 6 Conference meetings. Coaches are expected to promote the Conference and build professional relationships with other Conference coaches.

















The Western Big 6 Conference establishes policies and procedures for member schools regarding conference game schedules, league standings, and player or team awards. All participants and coaches must meet and adhere to any policies and procedures established by Rock Island High School and the applicable by-laws and policies of the IHSA and the Western Big 6 Conference.

Athletic Opportunities By Season (26 Sports)

Boy's

Fall	Winter	Spring
Cross Country	Basketball	Baseball
Football	Wrestling	Tennis
Golf	Swimming & Diving	Track
Soccer	Cheerleading	-
Cheerleading	Bowling	-

Girl's

Fall	Winter	Spring
Cheerleading	Basketball	Soccer
Cross Country	Bowling	Softball
Swimming & Diving	Cheerleading	Track
Golf	Girls Wrestling	-
Tennis	-	-
Volleyball	-	-

Athletics Dashboard



- 550-600 Athletes Per Year
- Multi-Sports Athletes (250)
- Female Participation 280-300
- Male Participation 280-300
- High School Coaches 100-110
- Average GPA (3.0)

Student-Athlete Success

Program	Achievements the Last Two years
Boys Soccer	4th place finish in the state tournament, conference championship 2026
Cheerleading	1st place at Knoxville Invitational, 1st place at Sterling Showdown, and 2nd place at Normal West Invite
Cross County Boys & Girls	Number State Qualities over the last two years.
Boys basketball	28–5. Shared Western Big Six title. 2026
Girls Basketball	15th straight Regional Championship game appearance.
Girls wrestling	State champion. Second in WB6 tournament.
Boys wrestling	3 state qualifiers. Fourth-place state medal.
Girls Bowling	Conference Champion 2025
Boys bowling	Regional team champion 2026
Boys swimming	2 state qualifiers. 2026
Girls Track	Conference champion 2025 & 2026 14 State Qualifiers 2026
Boys Track	5 State Qualifiers 2026
Softball	Conference champion 2025

Rock Island Athletics Is About More Than Winning

Athletics can extend the classroom.

When done well, athletics helps students:



- **Represent Rock Island With Pride**
- **Grow.**
- **Compete**
- **Lead**
- **Belong**

Committee of the Whole Discussion

Are there opportunities for students who may not participate in sports to receive comparable extracurricular experiences?

How do we measure the academic benefits of participating in athletics and extracurricular activities?

How do scholars express their interest in starting a club or activity?

Are scholars involved in extracurricular activities more likely to maintain strong academic performance?

How will families, scholars, staff, and community members have opportunities to provide feedback on programs over time?


BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCK ISLAND MILAN