

## F.C. Reed Middle School 2025 - 2026 Board of Education Report

March 2026

### Academics:

The third marking period concluded on March 13, 2026, and students will receive their electronic Q3 report cards on March 20. I am proud to share that 193 students are currently on track to earn second semester Honor Roll (3.0+ GPA) or Principal's Honor Roll (3.5+ GPA) recognition, representing 76% of our student population. As we enter the final marking period of the school year, 59 of 61 (96.7%) eighth grade students have demonstrated High School Readiness proficiency. We will continue working closely with the families of our remaining students to ensure they are as prepared as possible for the transition to Bridgman High School.

The third marking period also coincided with a challenging cold, flu, and stomach illness season. Despite this, RMS maintained a strong average daily attendance rate of 94.27%, consistent with last year's 94% Q3 rate and reflective of continued student engagement and family support.

Several important instructional programs are concluding and beginning this spring at F.C. Reed Middle School. Our annual middle school swim unit has recently wrapped up, providing students with opportunities to build water safety skills and confidence through structured instruction at the Bridgman High School pool. This long-standing program remains an important component of our physical education curriculum and supports student safety in our Great Lakes region.

Looking ahead, students will participate in their annual Human Growth and Development lessons during the month of April. These lessons will take place during Encore rotations and will be taught by guest instructor Jami Roden. Mrs. Roden brings over 30 years of experience in health and physical education from Niles Community Schools and holds a master's degree in education with certification in human growth and development. She currently works with the Children's Advocacy Center of Southwest Michigan, supporting youth safety and prevention education. Her experience ensures that RMS students receive high-quality, age-appropriate instruction aligned with district expectations.

Standardized testing also begins in April, please [click here](#) to view the full test schedule for RMS.

### Behavior:

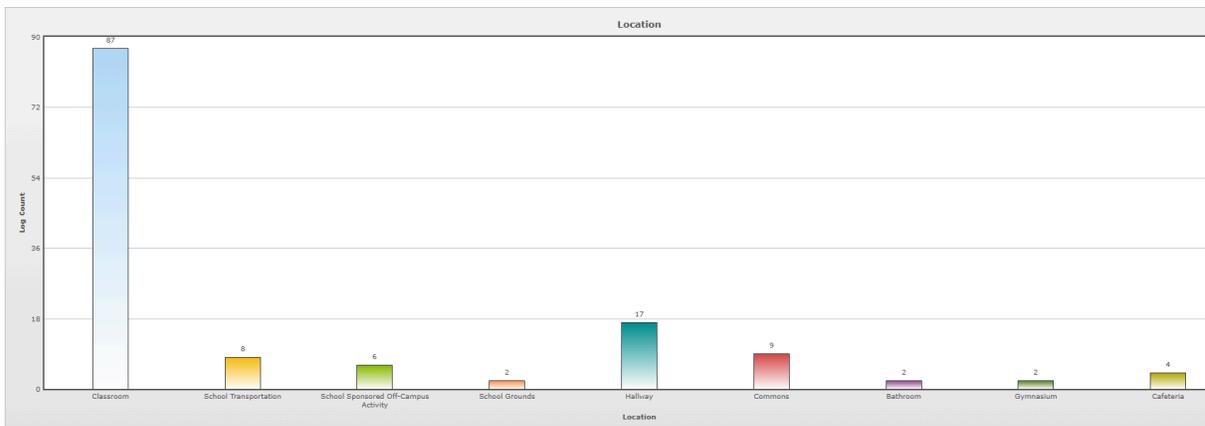
Student behavior trends at F.C. Reed Middle School remain generally stable. February closed as the highest month of the school year with 1.95 formal behavior incidents per day. While this represents an increase compared to previous months, the rate remained below the 2.00 daily incident threshold. Past practice and our historical PBIS implementation experience indicate that

this threshold is an important benchmark for maintaining a manageable and sustainable behavior system.

March has started very positively, with behavior incidents averaging 0.58 per day. This early data suggests that behavior trends have stabilized following the February increase. As weather conditions improve and students have increased opportunities for outdoor movement, we are optimistic this positive trend will continue.

Incident location data continues to show that most behavior events occur in classrooms (87 logs), while hallway incidents remain comparatively low (17 logs), indicating that supervision structures and hallway expectations continue to be effective. See below for the full location report results:

Behavior Dashboard - F.C. Reed Middle School



The most frequently reported behavior categories during this period were Disrespect (20), Horseplay (17), Technology Violations (16), Disruptive Behavior (16), and Negative Substitute Reports (12). Due to the frequency of technology violations, the Building Leadership Team (BLT) is reviewing whether blocking YouTube.com by default for students next school year may help reduce misuse and improve student engagement.

The RMS Multidisciplinary Threat Assessment Team has completed six threat assessments during the 2025–2026 school year, including one case reviewed since the February 2026 update. In each instance, the team followed established procedures to promptly assess the situation and implement appropriate safety and support measures.

As we move through the remainder of the school year, our continued emphasis is on prevention and early response. By monitoring behavioral patterns, reinforcing supervision, and providing timely support for students, we will continue working to maintain a safe, structured, and supportive learning environment at RMS.

### **Mental Health:**

Student support and transition programming have remained a continued focus at F.C. Reed Middle School this month.

On March 9, Bridgman High School Counselor Kelley Fast visited all eighth grade students to present information about high school scheduling and the transition to BHS, including how the credit-based system supports progress toward graduation. Students then traveled to Bridgman High School on the morning of March 13 for a building tour, orientation activities, and to begin scheduling their ninth grade classes. These experiences help reduce transition anxiety and ensure students feel prepared for the expectations of high school. In addition, students who have consistently met High School Readiness standards during the first three marking periods are beginning to receive formal invitations to the Grade 8 Honors Night promotion ceremony scheduled for the evening of June 4, 2026.

March has also served as Career Month in the RMS Counseling Department. School Counselor Emma Hughes has led multiple lessons across grade levels, introducing students to career exploration through the online platform Xello. Xello is an interactive college and career readiness program that helps students explore career clusters, identify personal interests and strengths, and begin mapping potential career and post-secondary pathways. Students have been highly engaged in identifying areas of interest, and these initial experiences will serve as a strong foundation for future career planning.

School social worker services continue to support student mental health and well-being. Mrs. Cooper is scheduled to conclude several small group interventions following Spring Break and will begin preparing for summer service programming. As a reminder, Mrs. Cooper successfully secured grant funding to extend services into the summer months, allowing students to continue receiving support beyond the school year. This work requires significant coordination prior to the end of the year. We are also grateful for Mrs. Cooper's continued support of students at Bridgman Elementary School while the district works to hire the next BES school social worker.

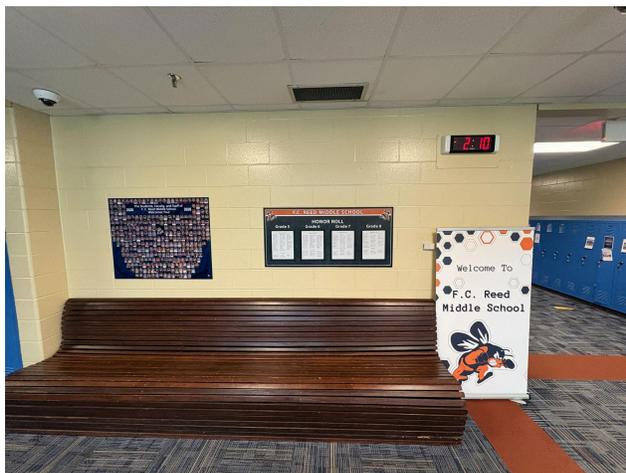
### **Student Voice Report:**

F.C. Reed Middle School continues to emphasize authentic student voice as a meaningful component of our school improvement efforts. This winter student feedback helped guide

several small but visible improvements that support both academic culture and the day-to-day student experience, most notably the addition of our new Honor Roll display.

Through our Student Voice Survey and ongoing informal conversations in the cafeteria and hallways, many students shared a desire to see academic achievement more visibly celebrated within the building. In response, RMS recently installed a custom Honor Roll display in the main entrance above the iconic RMS Bench. The display will be updated each semester to recognize students who earn Honor Roll and Principal's Honor Roll distinction.

This student-driven addition highlights the importance of academic effort while creating another opportunity to celebrate student success. While initiatives like this may seem modest in isolation, they reflect an important principle at RMS: student feedback leads to meaningful action. When students see their ideas translated into real improvements, it strengthens their sense of belonging, ownership, and pride in the school community.



### **Extracurricular Activities:**

As a reminder, the RMS Grade 7/8 Washington, D.C. trip, led by Mr. Milligan and Mrs. Smiertelny, will depart from campus on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 5:00 PM. Students are scheduled to return on Monday morning at approximately 11:00 AM. This trip continues to be a valuable enrichment opportunity, providing students with real-world connections to their social studies learning.

In addition, several Appendix C clubs and activities are active during the month of March for the 2025–2026 school year. These include the BPS Musical (Ammerman), RMS Yearbook Club (Korson), RMS Student Council (Milligan), RMS Garden Club (Smiertelny), RMS Chess Club (Smiertelny), and RMS Choir Club (Ammerman). These extracurricular opportunities provide students with meaningful ways to stay engaged, build relationships, and explore interests beyond the classroom.

### **Athletics:**

Spring athletic programs are beginning at F.C. Reed Middle School. Track and Field practices start on March 18, followed by the beginning of the soccer season on March 23. These programs provide valuable opportunities for students to stay active, build teamwork skills, and represent RMS through interscholastic competition.

In alignment with district expectations for student-athletes, the first academic grade check for spring athletes will take place on April 7, following Spring Break. This checkpoint helps ensure that participation in athletics continues to support, and not interfere with, students' academic progress.

### **RMS Weekly Bulletin:**

[March 16, 2026 Edition](#)

[March 9, 2026 Edition](#)

[March 2, 2026 Edition](#)

[February 23, 2026 Edition](#)