7th and 8th Grade ROCK Testing

Rockford Public Schools
Quality Community – Quality Schools
Together Building a Tradition of Excellence

- Testing for 7th and 8th grade ROCK Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies classes will take place the **on Thursday, March 15 and Friday, March 16** at NRMS and ERMS.
- ROCK classes provide faster-paced delivery of more complex curriculum for task committed, high-achieving students.
    - Specific class descriptions are available in the middle school counseling offices or at http://www.rockfordschools.org/academics/support-services/gifted-talented/
- Students *currently in a ROCK 7th* grade class are automatically enrolled in ROCK in 8th grade, unless teachers or parents request otherwise.

ELIGIBILITY for TESTING

6th grade students can qualify to test for ROCK in one of 3 ways:

- **Scoring in the top 5% of NWEA Math or Reading**
    - *(parents of these students have been notified by email)*

OR

- **Teacher recommendation**, provided student fits the below profile:
    - possesses a greater depth of knowledge than typical student
    - is insightful and able to transform new learning, not just memorize it
    - accurately uses advanced vocabulary
    - thinks conceptually and abstractly
    - demonstrates very strong fiction and non-fiction writing skills

OR

- **Parent recommendation,** provide student fits the profile above.
    - *Should your child's teacher not make a recommendation, it is strongly encouraged that you consult with him/her before making a recommendation yourself. Students are given a very rigorous, timed 10th grade level placement test and classroom teachers can provide excellent feedback on your child's readiness.*

7th grade students can qualify to test for ROCK in one of 2 ways:

- **Teacher recommendation** (same profile considerations as above)

OR

- **Parent recommendation**
    - *Should your child's teacher not make a recommendation, it is strongly encouraged that you consult with him/her before making a recommendation yourself. Students are given a very rigorous, timed 10th grade level placement test and classroom teachers can provide excellent feedback on your child's readiness.*

All recommendations are due on Wednesday, February 21*. This deadline is prior to conferences, so please take note of the need to* ***talk with teachers before conferences****.*

Parents wishing to recommend their child for ROCK testing should complete the form below by Wed., February 21@ 4pm. Exceptions cannot be made for late submissions.

https://goo.gl/forms/H5Aoy2lbMsC4pAFb2

Questions about the ROCK testing process can be directed to Jeremy Karel, jkarel@rockfordschools.org, Director of Gifted and Talented Programs.