



# SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

April 16, 2024

Good afternoon,

At the Rockford Board of Education meeting on Monday evening, the board acted on several important items:

**A new elementary language arts curriculum was approved.**

- Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) was approved by the board for the 2024-2025 school year.
- This curriculum aligns with the state standards, provides instruction that supports the science of reading, and will provide a consistent elementary language arts experience across all of our buildings.

**Edgerton Trails Elementary startup funds for instructional programs were approved.**

- Funds for the learning commons (media center), art, music, and physical education

**Valley View Elementary improvements were approved.**

- Changes to the bus loop and parking lot improvements were approved.
- Included in this will be the removal of the portables.

You can find the board agendas and the board agenda information packets on the Board Meeting page of our district website: [Board Meetings – Rockford Public Schools \(rockfordschools.org\)](#)

Newsies Jr., the play starring our 8th, 9th, and 10th grade students, will be performed May 9, 10, and 11. Tickets can be purchased at [Ludus - ROCKTIX](#)

The play Silent Sky will be performed by our high school students in our black box small theater at Rockford High School on May 1, 2, and 3. Tickets can also be purchased at [Ludus - ROCKTIX](#).

A new Rockford Public Schools podcast was started this week. Rams News and Views is available on Apple, Spotify, and Amazon Music. Or you can find a link on the District Updates page on our Rockford website: [District Updates – Rockford Public Schools \(rockfordschools.org\)](#) On the first episode, I speak with three Rockford High School students – Abbey House, Camille Dahlke, and Trina Varano - about their Rockford experience.

I hope you are getting out to see some of our athletes this spring. Check our district website on the athletics tab for schedules.

After today, we have 32 school days left in the 2023-2024 school year!

Steve

Dr. Steve Matthews  
Superintendent  
Rockford Public Schools