

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

December 2025

### Academics:

I would like to take a moment to recognize and sincerely thank Beth Jones for more than 27 years of dedicated administrative service to Bridgman Public Schools. F.C. Reed Middle School is a safer, warmer, and more organized place because of Beth's unwavering commitment and the lasting influence she has had on generations of BPS families. Her professionalism, compassion, and quiet leadership have touched every corner of our school community. Thank you, Beth, for everything you have given to our students, staff, and families—you will be deeply missed by all of us, especially the middle school principal!

Students in seventh and eighth grade are busy preparing for exams on 12/16 - 12/18. [Click here](#) to view our exam schedule at the middle school. Winter benchmark assessments will be conducted via AimsWeb+ after Winter Break (1/5 - 1/31) to measure student growth in math and reading skills areas. This data will be used to reorganize and reprioritize intervention efforts.

Beyond core academics, it has been a busy time of the year in our Encore and Elective courses. Congratulations to Ms. Ammerman for directing a festive holiday choir concert performance on 12/4 and Mr. Reppart for leading a wonderful winter band concert on 12/8! The students and staff worked very hard to make this event memorable and represented our school community admirably. This year's concerts were some of the most attended public performances in recent memory.



I'm also thrilled to share that the RMS BeeBots attended the FIRST Robotics League regional competition at Lakeshore High School on 11/22 and finished in second place. This finish qualifies the team for the FIRST State Meet on 12/20 in Mason, MI. Congrats to the BeeBots, Mrs. Scott (Parent Volunteer), and Coach Foxworthy on a successful season!

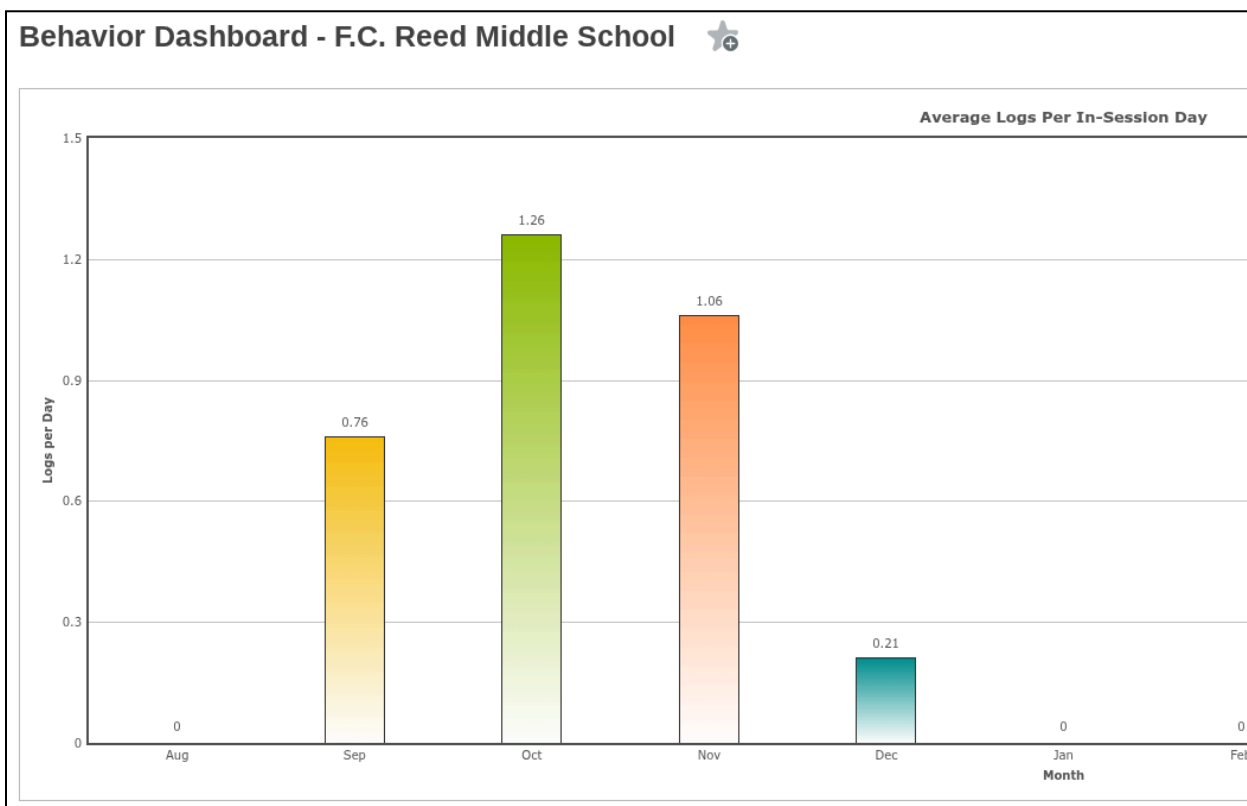


### **Behavior:**

As we shift into winter, I want to share the final behavior update of the fall. November's discipline data shows encouraging progress: we averaged 1.06 formal incidents per in-session school day, a significant improvement from 1.74 last November. This reduction reflects the collective impact of our tiered interventions—clear expectations, increased hallway/lunch/recess presence, layered mental-health supports, and more consistent restorative conversations. Any rate under 1.50 is excellent for a middle school, so maintaining 1.06 during a historically challenging stretch is something our staff and students should be proud of at F.C. Reed Middle School. RMS has also recently implemented a new universal pass system, which is expected to further reduce opportunities for poor choices.

Most November behavior incidents occurred in classrooms, with smaller clusters in the hallway, commons, and cafeteria. The highest-need times remained 11:00 AM and 2:00–3:00 PM, when fatigue, transitions, and hunger naturally make regulation more challenging for students. Our

most common behavior categories were Horseplay, Disrespect, Issues with Substitutes, Inappropriate Language, and Insubordination—our most common middle-school-level behaviors. These require prompt responses, but the data continues to show that our overall student population is predominantly kind, respectful, and safe.



F.C. Reed Middle School did experience two transient (“heat-of-the-moment”) verbal threats over the last month; both were thoroughly assessed by our multidisciplinary team (principal, social worker, counselor, and police officer), and each student returned to school under a formal support plan after the administration of disciplinary consequences. Continued emphasis on safe language and early intervention will help prevent issues from escalating. In total, the RMS Multidisciplinary Threat Assessment Team has conducted three (3) threat assessments during the 2025–2026 school year—two fewer incidents than at this same point in 2024–2025.

December is also off to a promising start, with an early average of 0.21 formal behavior incidents per day. The final rate for December 2024 was 1.57 incidents per day, so we will work diligently through the stretch leading up to Winter Break to keep issues to a minimum while

promoting positive behavior, healthy and sustainable study routines, and celebrating the end of a successful semester.

### **Mental Health:**

Mrs. Cooper and Ms. Hughes are currently working closely with the BPS Mental Health Team to organize and facilitate holiday meals through Bridgman Cares and the distribution of presents through Toys for Tots for more than 75 families across our district. This reflects an increase of approximately 25 families compared to last year and represents the largest number of families we have ever supported through this initiative. Families will pick up their meals and gifts during the week of December 15, prior to Winter Break. Unfortunately, this level of need continues to grow each year. Beyond meeting immediate necessities, this work is vital for strengthening relationships with at-risk students and ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) families, removing barriers to learning, and reinforcing the connection between school and home. We are incredibly grateful to Mrs. Cooper and to all BPS counselors and social workers for their leadership, compassion, and tireless efforts in making this holiday season brighter for so many of our families.

As we approach the close of the first semester, Ms. Hughes is completing her social-emotional learning lessons with students across all middle school grade levels. In alignment with the holiday season, students have been exploring the concept of Gratitude through the Character Strong curriculum. Lessons have focused on recognizing the people, places, and experiences they are thankful for, as well as the positive mental and physical health benefits associated with gratitude. Ms. Hughes is also finalizing plans for second-semester counseling lessons, which will include career exploration opportunities, continued Character Strong lessons, and intentional discussions focused on the importance of not using racial slurs and maintaining respectful language within our school community.

Mrs. Cooper continues to provide intensive support as we close out the semester. She is currently working one-on-one with more than 20 students, facilitating Tier 2 small-group interventions (wrapping up S1 groups and staging for S2), completing multiple Functional Behavior Assessments, and collaborating closely with our special education department on several high-risk student cases. Her work is instrumental in stabilizing students, strengthening intervention plans, and ensuring that appropriate supports are in place as we move into the second semester.

### **Student Voice Report:**

Recent RMS Student Voice feedback from Grades 5–6 highlighted several consistent areas of interest related to recess, student comfort, facilities, and daily routines. A significant number of



suggestions focused on Lunch/Recess improvements, including requests for new or better playground equipment (especially climbing equipment and adding swing sets), longer recess or lunch periods, and expanded à la carte food options such as pickles and novelty treats.

A second major theme centered on bathroom access and hygiene supports, particularly for female students. Multiple students requested improved access to period products, including larger-size pads, more frequent restocking, placement in all bathroom locations (including gym areas), and discreet access within individual stalls to reduce embarrassment.

Additional feedback shared interest in access to games during non-core instructional times, such as cafeteria time or indoor recess time.

Overall, student feedback reflects a strong desire for improved recreational options, student comfort supports, and greater flexibility during unstructured times, offering valuable insight into how students experience their school day and where they see opportunities for improvement. We will continue to review this feedback monthly as a leadership team and try to incorporate student ideas when possible into our programming and scheduling.

#### **Extracurricular Activities:**

Tickets are currently on sale for the RMS/BHS Drama Club's winter murder mystery performance at BHS on January 9, 10, and 11. Please [click here](#) to purchase tickets.

The following Appendix C clubs/activities have been approved for the 2025 - 2026 school year and will be up and running during the month of December: RMS Robotics (Foxworthy), RMS 5/6 Choir Club (Ammerman), RMS/BHS Drama Club, RMS Yearbook Club (Korson), RMS Student Council (Milligan), RMS Garden Club (Smiertelny), RMS Chess Club (Smiertelny), RMS Sideline Cheer (Doyle), and BPS Musical (Ammerman).

#### **Athletics:**

Winter sports have continued during the month of December, with boys' basketball and sideline cheerleading wrapping up their seasons. Currently, 95% (40/42) of student athletes are eligible to participate at RMS. Stay tuned for more updates as the season progresses. We are excited for girls' basketball to begin after Winter Break, along with recreational wrestling.

#### **RMS Weekly Bulletin:**

[December 8, 2025 Edition](#)

[December 2, 2025 Edition](#)

[November 24, 2025 Edition](#)

[November 17, 2025 Edition](#)