

ROCKFORD AREA SCHOOLS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 883 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Subject: RMS-CES Rocket Spotlight Award.			
Meeting Date: May 19th 2025			
Prepared by: Paul Warzecha			
Date Prepared: May 14th 2025			
Information	Briefing	Action	Enclosure Item(s)

We are proud to shine this month's Rocket Spotlight on Jan Hendrickson, whose dedication to her students and craft exemplifies the very best of Rockford Middle School. Jan was nominated after a colleague had the opportunity to read a test she had prepared for students with accommodations—and was deeply impressed by the thoughtful design. Jan's assessments feature "mild," "medium," and "spicy" options for open-ended questions, giving students the chance to build confidence while also pushing themselves to deeper levels of thinking. This kind of intentional differentiation not only supports learners with specific needs—it empowers all students to own their learning.

Jan is widely respected by her colleagues for her quiet strength, unwavering patience, and deep commitment to continuous improvement. Whether it's staying late to refine a lesson, offering a helping hand to a colleague, or finding new ways to reach her students, Jan consistently goes above and beyond. Her instructional superpower? The remarkable ability to get the most out of every student in her care.

Congratulations, Jan, and thank you for the powerful impact you make every day. You truly embody what it means to be a Rocket.