

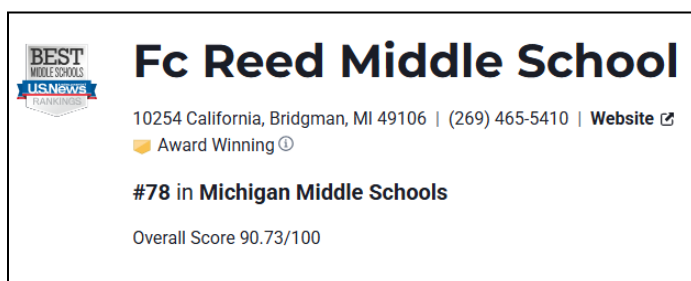
F.C. Reed Middle School 2025 - 2026 Board of Education Report

November 2025

Academics:

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students—our newest class of RMS Students of the Month! Each was nominated and recognized by staff for consistently demonstrating respectful, responsible, honest, and safe behavior: David Shonk (Grade 8), Faith Butler (Grade 8), Anastasia Lepeniotis (Grade 7), Ella Frazee (Grade 8), Mya Franklin (Grade 7), Brooklyn Fields (Grade 5), Peyton Seyfred (Grade 5), Carwin Ernsberger (Grade 5), and Pablo Corn (Grade 5).

During the last month, F.C. Reed Middle School was named one of the *Best Middle Schools in Michigan* by U.S. News & World Report:



RMS ranked #78 in the state, placing us in the top 6% of all middle schools statewide—a 22-place improvement from last year! The report highlights that RMS is performing *above expectations* in both math and reading. [Click here for the full report.](#)

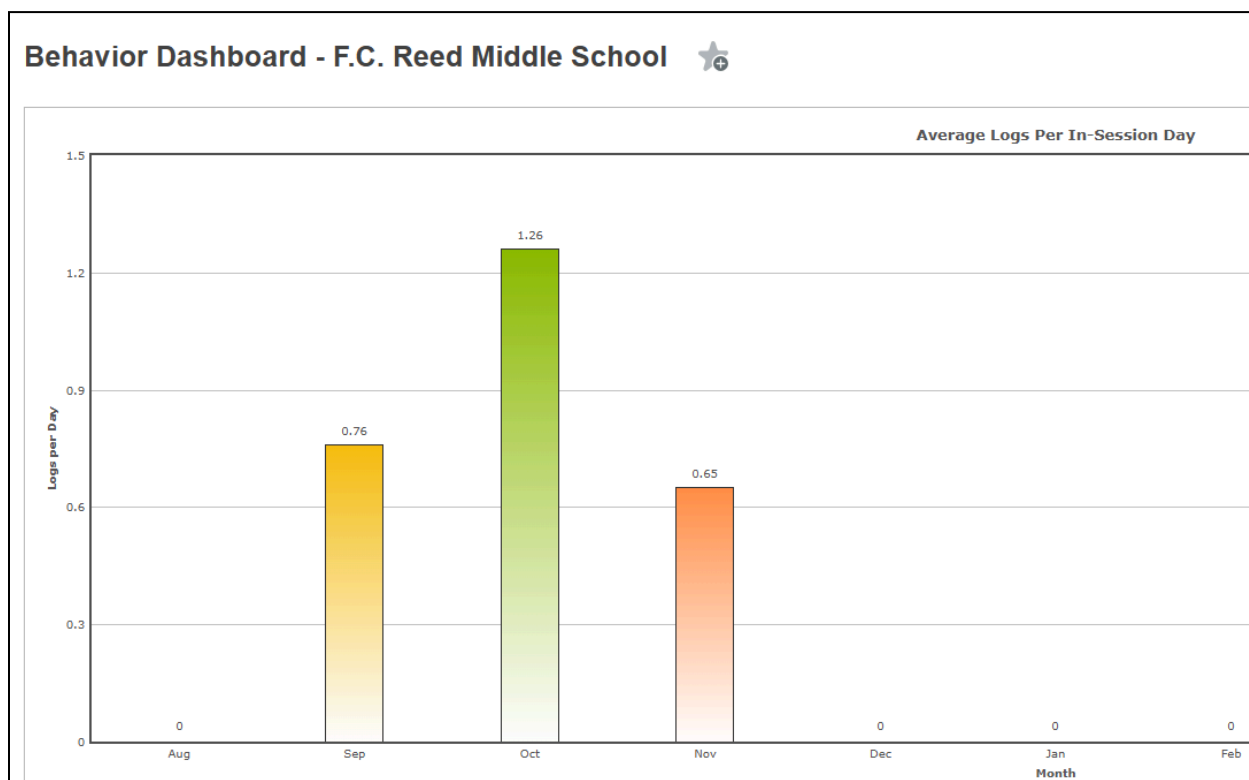
Last week, RMS Art Teacher Mrs. Erin Korson traveled to the Michigan Art Education Association (MAEA) Annual Conference, where she was selected to present in front of a statewide audience of art educators. Her presentation highlighted her ongoing partnership with the City of Bridgman to create one of the largest public art displays in Southwest Michigan through the Downtown Bridgman Banner Project. Mrs. Korson continues to emerge as a regional leader in art education, and we were proud to have her represent Bridgman Public Schools on the state stage. Her session was very well received, and her work continues to showcase both the talent of our students and the strong community connections we value at RMS.

Finally, F.C. Reed Middle School hosted its Fall 2025 parent-teacher conferences with 68% of RMS families attending at least one session—an overall 4% increase from the 2024–2025 school year. Fifth grade saw participation from 44 of 59 families (75%), an 8% decrease from last year, while sixth grade recorded strong engagement with 55 of 67 families (82%), reflecting a 6% increase. Seventh grade experienced a significant rise, with 40 of 68 families (59%) attending, up 14% from 2024–2025. Eighth grade had 35 of 63 families (56%), representing a 6% increase from the previous year. In total, 174 families participated schoolwide,

demonstrating continued value, strengthened relationships, and steady growth in conference engagement as we work to Bee Connected with our families.

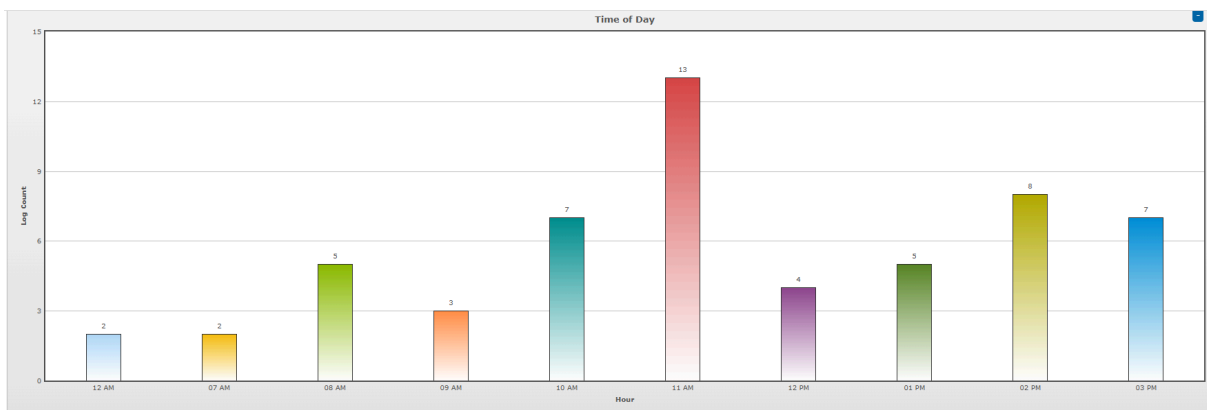
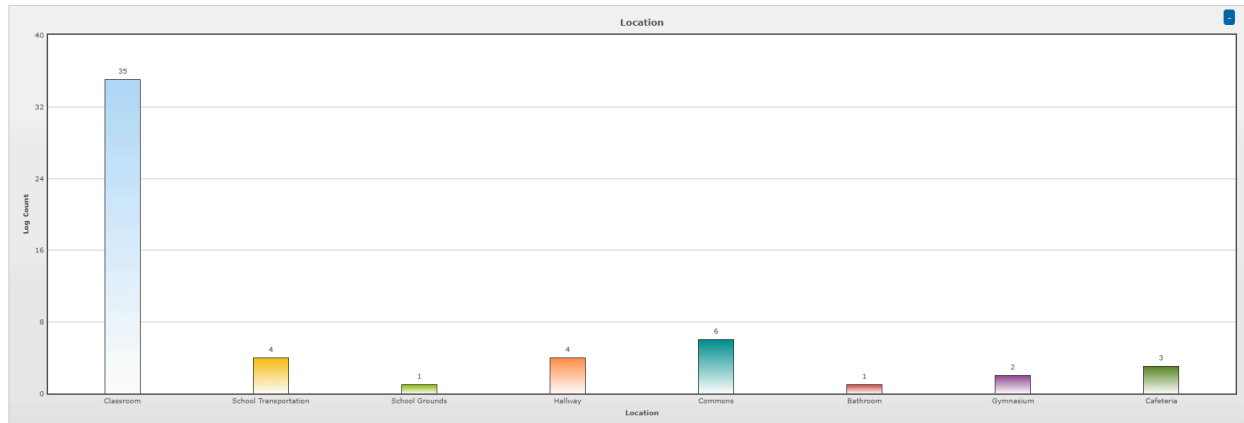
Behavior:

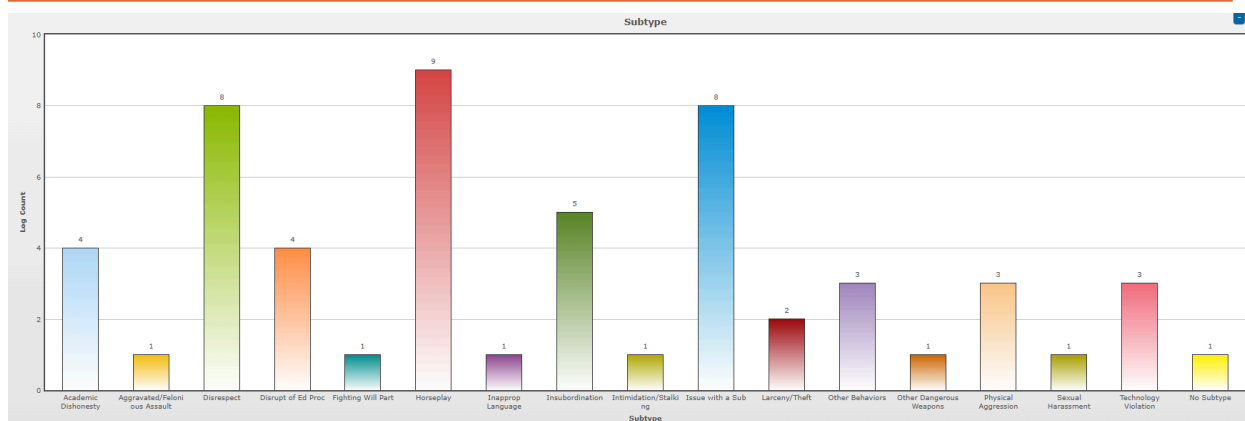
October is officially behind us and feels like a distant memory at this point! Behaviorally, the last 30 days have been positive at RMS. October started with a very low referral rate, then—as expected—formal discipline increased as Halloween approached. We finished the month at 1.26 formal discipline issues per school day, which is nearly identical to October 2024 (1.22). For context: anything below 1.50 is excellent, and anything below 2.00 is considered healthy, sustainable, and not requiring additional intervention. November is off to a promising start with referral rates of only 0.65 formal incidents per day. We'll try to keep that trend going as we head into Thanksgiving Break:



Overall, most issues occurred in the classroom and were clustered between 10:00–11:00 AM and 2:00–3:00 PM. This aligns with typical adolescent patterns, as misbehavior tends to increase when students are tired and hungry. Recognizing these patterns, many Bonus periods are using outdoor recess or free choice time as an earned reward. We also continue to provide free snacks to students during the day if they cannot afford one from home.

Our current top behavior categories this month are Horseplay (9), Issues with Substitutes (8), and Disrespect (8). We are also seeing a slight uptick in physical altercations (5), so our staff is actively working to re-emphasize the importance of reporting conflicts, using de-escalation strategies, pursuing non-violent problem solving approaches, and using restorative language when holding students accountable. We have also updated and adjusted supervision during many facets of the day to be more proactive during problem spots in our schedule:





The RMS Multidisciplinary Threat Assessment Team has still only conducted one homicidal threat assessment so far in 2025 - 2026.

This data is reviewed by the staff on a monthly basis to inform future adjustments to supervision and adapt our classroom, counselor, and school social worker efforts.

Mental Health:

Trunk or Treat once again proved to be an outstanding community-building event for F.C. Reed Middle School. More than 500 students and family members attended and engaged with over 18 community partners and stakeholders. The evening offered a safe, festive environment that strengthened our sense of belonging, connection, and goodwill across the district. We are grateful to the Board of Education for being present and supporting this event.

November has also been a productive month for professional learning within our mental health team. Mrs. Cooper attended the Michigan School Social Workers (MSSW) Conference in Ypsilanti from November 5–7, where she participated in sessions focused on trauma-informed practices, MTSS supports, and statewide trends in student mental health. Additionally, Ms. Hughes attended the Michigan School Counselors Association (MSCA) Conference on November 17–18 in Kalamazoo, where she received updated training in student advocacy, whole-child counseling models, and effective strategies for strengthening school-wide social-emotional learning. These opportunities continue to enhance the depth and alignment of our services at RMS.

As we enter the holiday season, Ms. Hughes has continued to deliver universal school counseling lessons in all grade levels. Fifth graders have been learning about empathy and practicing skills that support kinder, clearer communication. Sixth graders have focused on identifying personal values and understanding how those values guide healthy decision-making and peer conflict resolution. Seventh and eighth graders have engaged in lessons centered on

gratitude and its benefits—both physical and mental—including stress reduction, improved mood, and stronger relationships.

November has also been a particularly busy and productive month for Tier 2 and Tier 3 supports. Mrs. Cooper is now providing individual services to more than 20 students and continues to facilitate or supervise over 10 small-group intervention programs targeting social-emotional skill building, emotional regulation, anxiety, and peer conflict. She has also played an essential role in supporting our special education team by conducting CA-60 file reviews and updating multiple Functional Behavior Assessments (FBAs) and Behavior Intervention Plans (BIPs). Her work has been critical in ensuring legally compliant documentation, effective behavioral supports, and smooth coordination between general education and special education staff.

Overall, our mental health department continues to grow its capacity, refine its systems, and strengthen supports for all RMS learners as we work to Bee Safe, Bee Adaptive, and Bee Connected throughout the 2025–2026 school year.

Student Voice Report:

Student Voice continues to play a meaningful role in shaping daily life at F.C. Reed Middle School, and November provided several opportunities for our learners to influence schoolwide decisions and improvements.

Thanks to the wonderful leadership and organization of Sheri Bredice (RMS Media Center Paraprofessional), the middle school Scholastic Book Fair had an unexpectedly strong turnout this year, with impressive participation from both students and families. Gross sales totaled \$2,875.87, generating \$1,085.50 in Scholastic Dollars for our building account. These funds directly supported literacy initiatives across the building. Specifically:

- 57 new books (valued at \$726.60) were purchased for the RMS Library (Based on student requests)
- 47 books (valued at \$499.91) were purchased for the Book Vending Machine

In total, 104 books (all reviewed by the administration)—valued at \$1,226.51—were added to our school through book fair proceeds. We extend our appreciation to families, staff, and the stakeholders for helping advertise and support this event. The increase in family engagement and book access aligns directly with our district's literacy priorities and student-centered learning goals.

In response to student requests collected by the monthly RMS Student Voice survey, the RMS Student Council purchased new playground balls for recess at a cost of \$201.14, ensuring students have safe, quality equipment available during unstructured play.

Additionally, based on student suggestions that were reviewed by Mrs. Wells (RMS Culture & Climate BLT Leader):

- 60 new fidgets were added to the Bee Buck Store to support student self-regulation needs.
- A maintenance work ticket was submitted and completed to address flickering lights reported in the 5th/6th grade bathroom.
- Maintenance also inspected the 5/6 boys' restroom toilets to ensure they are flushing and functioning properly based on student survey feedback.

Students continue to offer thoughtful recommendations for improving the school environment. Recent suggestions include:

- Permitting birthday treats (this was allowed, so we just had to clarify with students).
- Adding additional sanitary pads and tampon sizes to the female student restrooms.
- Increasing the number of stand-up desks available in classrooms.
- Addressing temperature concerns raised by 8th graders who report that several classrooms feel too cold.

These suggestions reflect students' growing ownership of their learning environment and their commitment to making RMS a safe, comfortable, and engaging place to learn. As always, we remain grateful for their perspective.

Extracurricular Activities:

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 November: RMS 5/6 Choir Club (Ammerman), RMS/BHS Drama Club (Ammerman), RMS Yearbook Club (Korson), RMS Student Council (Milligan), RMS Garden Club (Smiertelny), RMS Chess Club (Smiertelny), RMS Robotics (Foxworthy), and Sideline Cheer (Doyle). These clubs continue to offer students meaningful ways to connect, build skills, and strengthen their sense of belonging within RMS.

Athletics:

Winter sports have officially begun with the boys' basketball season continuing throughout November, alongside sideline cheerleading. Currently 90.5% of students are eligible for competition (42/46).

RMS Weekly Bulletin:

[November 17, 2025 Edition](#)

[November 10, 2025 Edition](#)

[November 3, 2025 Edition](#)

[October 27, 2025 Edition](#)