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

March 2025

Academics:

Spring has sprung! The third marking period of the 2025 - 2026 school year concluded on 3/14. Teachers worked quickly to finish end of term grade tabulations and Q3 report cards were released to all middle school families on 3/21 via PowerSchool. We continue to monitor high school readiness for our eighth grade class and will conduct a final round of parent meetings and intervention adjustments based on student growth and demonstrated needs.

We also audited our attendance at the end of Q3. I'm encouraged to share the total daily attendance average at F.C. Reed Middle School was 94.8%. We currently have 55 students who have missed more than five days of school this year. Those families received an attendance letter from the administration last week reminding parents/guardians of the importance of sending their students to school when they are healthy.

During the month of March, all RMS students completed their annual human growth and development lessons with guest teacher Tracey Martindale. This year's lessons continued to utilize the Health Smart curriculum. Only one student opted out of the lesson, with parent consent, demonstrating the continued value that our stakeholders find in these lessons and the trust they extend to our faculty. Thank you to Mrs. Martindale for her professionalism and expertise as she taught at F.C. Reed Middle School.

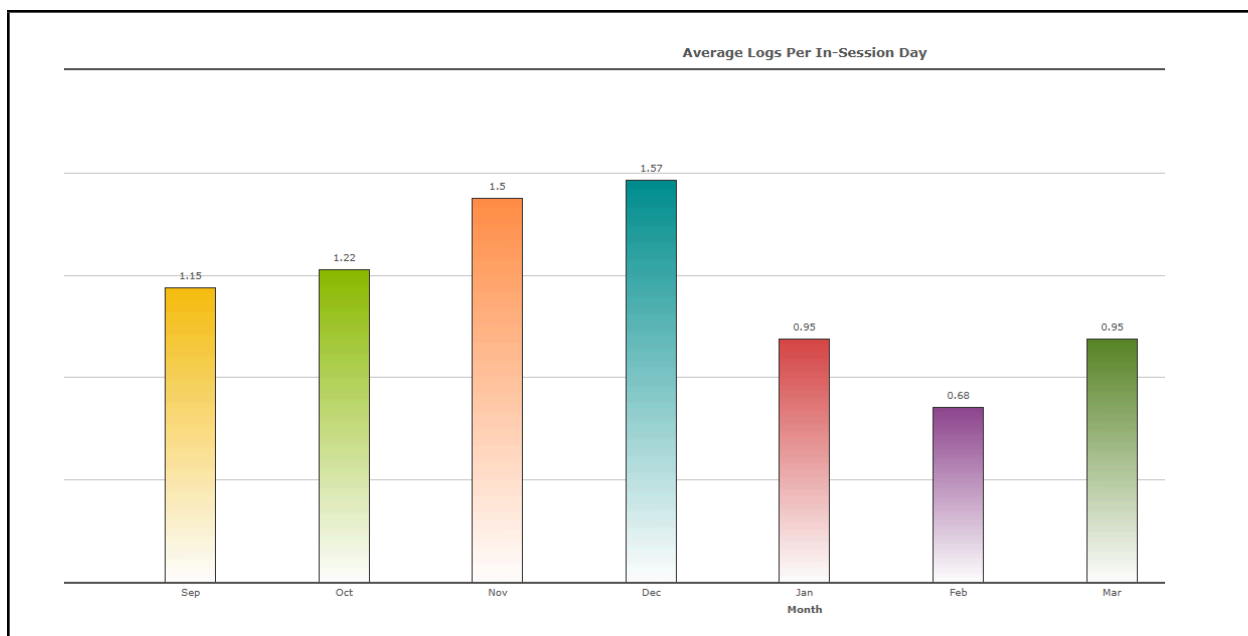
A major academic focus over the last four weeks has prioritized communicating with all faculty members about the anticipated master schedule for the 2025 - 2026 school year. In preparation for Superintendent Peters' 3/24 presentation on the AEP Tax Tribunal Settlement budget plan, I have met with each RMS staff member individually to discuss how their role and responsibilities may change next year and answer questions. My goal has been to facilitate honest and transparent awareness for faculty members prior to 3/24 so that everyone has had the time and opportunity to process this information. As we return from Spring Break, the team will transition to the process of looking forward and collaboratively planning for next school year's success under our updated schedule and structure.

Finally, please be advised that spring standardized testing is right around the corner. Please [click here](#) to review.

Behavior:

F.C. Reed Middle School is currently experiencing 0.95 formal student behavior incidents per school day during the month of March. There was a slight uptick in referrals related to Horseplay and Disrespectful behavior this spring, and we are actively addressing this by

universally reviewing basic behavior expectations with students and contacting families for disciplinary meetings as necessary. This referral rate is a slight increase from February 2025, but expected given the increased sunshine, temperatures, and absence of extra snow day breaks. Interestingly, the rate of behavior incidents is exactly the same as we experienced in March 2024 (0.95). When reviewing this data, anything below 1.0 incidents per day is excellent, so we are encouraged by these results. We continue to trend far below the total number of student behavior referrals for the current school year (149) when compared to 2023 - 2024.



During the 2024 - 2025 school year, the top five student behavior incidents are Insubordination (20), Disrespect (20), School Bus Misconduct (18), Technology Violations (17), and Horseplay (17).

The RMS Multidisciplinary Threat Assessment Team has conducted seven (7) threat assessments during the 2024 - 2025 school year. No assessments were conducted since our last report.

Mental Health:

Ms. Hughes and SRO Wyman continue to deliver Tier 1 counseling lessons to students using the Character Strong and SRO curriculum. During the months of March Emma taught fifth and sixth graders about Empathy. Students worked to understand others' viewpoints and

perspectives in order to better communicate with peers. SRO Wyman taught students a lesson about how to recognize and report bullying behaviors as a bystander.

RMS seventh and eighth grade students have also enjoyed two guest speaker presentations over the last month that were organized by Ms. Hughes as part of our career cruising efforts. On 2/26, Delta Airlines Captain Spencer Buschauer presented to all learners about the field of aviation. Then on 3/14, Nick Knowlton and Savanna Cleaver presented about the engineering profession to upper level students.

All eighth grade students have also successfully completed the high school orientation and scheduling process. Incoming fifth grade orientation will take place on May 13 - 15 for students currently in fourth grade at BES. RMS will begin scheduling for the 2025 - 2026 school in May after we return from spring break.

Mrs. Cooper, the RMS School Social Worker, is continuing to provide essential programming through individual and group services, as well as push-in support within the school environment. After spring break, she will start winding down group services to begin the process of wrapping up support for students. This also includes preparing for summer services under her Berrien Foundation grant to ensure continued support during the break. Moving forward, Mrs. Cooper will be shifting her focus to providing families with mental health services and basic needs support throughout the summer. This will include connecting families to resources for essential needs such as food, clothing, and hygiene items. Our pantry and clothing areas will play a key role in providing these resources to help families during the months when school is not in session.

Additionally, Mrs. Cooper will be offering more targeted, individualized support for students with higher behavioral needs during the remaining school months. Angie has begun completing Functional Behavior Assessments (FBAs) and implementing Behavior Intervention Plans (BIPs) as part of her services to students, staff, and families.

Student Voice Report:

Our first student voice project was completed during the month of March. Based on student feedback/requests and with the support of Bridgman Cares, RMS installed feminine hygiene dispensers in all female student restrooms. These products are free to students and pushing resources into the restroom eliminates the potential embarrassment of having to come to the office and ask a staff member (or the principal!) for a pad/tampon. Student feedback has been positive so far and we will continue to monitor usage so we can budget for the long term sustainability of the project. Thank you to Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Knowlton, and Mrs. Cooper who helped bring this idea to reality at F.C. Reed.

Student voice feedback collected in the month of March also indicated that students are excited about some of the changes we have made to our Bee Buck PBIS system. This includes the addition of instant win tickets. Students are actively inquiring how they can earn more Bee Bucks for teachers, demonstrating they are a productive tool when facilitating motivation. We continue to share this feedback with the RMS Building Leadership Team and all staff members on a monthly basis.

Mrs. Yauchstetter, Mrs. Foxworthy, Mrs. Knowlton, Mrs. Wells, Ms. Hughes, and Mrs. Cooper all attended the spring Berrien RESA Whole Child Summit on 3/18 to learn and identify new ideas for how we can empower student voice, facilitate student belonging, and increase learner motivation through our school improvement systems, procedures, and initiatives at F.C. Reed.

Extracurricular Activities:

Congratulations to Mrs. Teed and the Science Olympiad Team AND Mr. Reppart and the RMS 7/8 Band for both qualifying for state competitions during the last month. The Science Olympiad team had a breakthrough performance at their regional tournament at LMC, finishing fourth and qualifying for the state competition at MSU later in April. The band earned a prestigious Division 1 rating and will also go on to compete at the state festival later this April. Stay tuned for updates next month! This is the first school year that RMS clubs/activities have qualified for three state level competitions (Robotics, Band, Science Olympiad) in one school year in at least a decade!

The following Appendix C clubs/activities have been approved for the 2024 - 2025 school year and will be up and running during the month of March: RMS Broadcast Club (deBest), RMS 5/6 Choir Club (Ammerman), RMS Yearbook Club (Korson), RMS Student Council (Milligan), RMS Garden Club (Smiertelny), RMS Chess Club (Smiertelny), RMS Science Olympiad Club (Teed), and BPS Musical (Ammerman).

Athletics:

Spring sports are gearing up for a busy spring season! We are excited to welcome Coach Denney to lead the female RMS soccer club and grateful for the return of Coach Cramer and Coach Wyman for the RMS Track & Field Program.

RMS Weekly Bulletin:

- [March 17, 2025 Edition](#)
- [March 10, 2025 Edition](#)

- [March 3, 2025 Edition](#)
- [February 24, 2025 Edition](#)