

OUR MISSION

The mission of Eleanor Roosevelt Middle School is to develop respectful, responsible learners through a rigorous curriculum in a caring, diverse community.

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT REPORT

MIDDLE SCHOOL

VOLUME 25 | ISSUE 2 | OCTOBER 2025

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OUR NEWSLETTER

The Roosevelt Report is sponsored by the ERMS PTO and the ERMS Staff. In future issues we hope to bring you important information about events and activities at ERMS.

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

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EBLYONS
Nature Center

NOTES FROM MR. JOHLL

Dear Roosevelt Families,

Here are a few points of information I would like to share with you in this October Newsletter.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES | This past Monday, you received a Parent Square message with instructions on how to schedule your conference time. Thank you to all the families who have already signed up. As you know, we are making a shift in how conferences are held at Roosevelt. This change is the result of feedback and planning from a district-level committee (which included parent representation) and our ERMS Conference Team.

Conferences this fall will last no longer than thirty minutes in total. The new format begins with a 10-minute meeting with your child's Homebase/Raptor Time teacher. That is a change from past practice. With this opening meeting, homebase teachers will share information centered around experiences with our three guiding principles—the 3 R's: Respect, Responsibility, and Resourcefulness. In addition, each grade will have a specific focus: 6th grade will discuss the transition to middle school, 7th grade will focus on employability and organization skills; and 8th grade will address the transition to high school.

After this initial session, families may use the remaining 20 minutes to connect with other teachers of their choice OR choose to conclude their conferences—and that is okay. Please know that there is no expectation to meet with every teacher.

This year's schedule will include two virtual evenings and one in-person evening. Feedback from past conference surveys showed that families appreciate the convenience of meeting virtually through Microsoft Teams, which is why we've designated two nights in this format. The conference dates are as follows:

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FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

ERMS Houses each have their own Instagram accounts. On a computer type in the following website and add the house user name after the "/" without the "@" symbol. Go to:

Instagram.com/_____

OR

via the free Instagram app, create an account if you don't already have one, then search for the user name listed below. Make sure to include the "@" symbol.

THEN

Make sure to click "FOLLOW" on each of the pages.

HOUSE INSTAGRAM USER NAMES

HOUSE 6-1

@erms6.1

HOUSE 6-2

@erms6_2

HOUSE 6-3

@ermshouse6_3

HOUSE 7-2

@7.2raptors

HOUSE 7-3

@ermshouse73

HOUSE 8-1

@mskresshistory

@mspociask_ela

HOUSE 8-2

@house82_erms

@Mrs_Norby

- **Thursday, October 23** (3:00–7:30 p.m., virtual via Microsoft Teams)
- **Monday, October 27** (3:00–6:30 p.m., in-person at Roosevelt)
- **Wednesday, October 29** (3:00–8:00 p.m., virtual via Microsoft Teams)

It is important that families register for a time slot in advance. Please note that walk-ins cannot be accommodated under this new format. Scheduling ahead ensures that each family has dedicated thirty-minute time block and helps us maintain a smooth and organized experience for everyone. Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to visiting with you later this month.

BULLYING, HARASSMENT, AND DISCRIMINATION ARE NOT ALLOWED | At Roosevelt, we take reports of bullying and harassment seriously. Concerns that are brought to our attention are investigated to ensure the safety and well-being of all students. In addition to reporting directly to school staff, we want to inform you about an electronic reporting option available to students, staff, parents, and community members. The district's online reporting form can be found <https://www.dbqschools.org/parents/say-something/>. This form can be submitted anonymously and is routed directly to me for follow-up. While this is a helpful additional tool provided by the district, we continue to encourage anyone with concerns to report them directly to us at school.

RAPTOR TIME | Monday through Thursday, after second period, we have a class called Raptor Time. This period is dedicated time to work with students to foster a strong and caring community of learners. This year, we are continuing to use a program called '7 Mindsets,'—a program that is implemented at all three middle schools in Dubuque.

The curriculum is based on an extensive three-year research effort that sought to answer a simple question: What do the world's happiest and most successful people have in common? Researchers reviewed the most significant studies on personal achievement and interviewed over 400 leading experts. They discovered that the key to happiness and success wasn't related to gender, ethnicity, location, socioeconomic status, education level, or skills. Instead, it was all about mindset. From this research, seven mental habits of thinking emerged as a foundation to living an enriched life. The '7 Mindsets' program helps students build happiness, intentionality, and success. It uses simple, powerful language to teach and activate success strategies for everyone to reach their fullest potential. The seven mindsets are: Everything Is Possible, Passion First, We Are Connected, 100% Accountable, Attitude of Gratitude, Live to Give, and Time Is Now.

It has been exciting to see this program in action and the wonderful discussions it has sparked among our students. Speaking of powerful discussions, this year we are also using Raptor Time for something we call 'Circle Conversations'. These discussions provide an opportunity for students to share with a staff member and their peers, promoting communication and understanding within the circle. From my observations, students feel heard and valued through this process. Circles help create a sense of community within the house, reinforcing positive relationships between students and teachers. This supportive environment allows the circle to collaboratively tackle challenges and contributes to a more inclusive learning environment for everyone. Each week, you might want to ask your child about the specific '7 Mindset' they are discussing and the weekly challenge that accompanies the lesson. You could also inquire about the topic of their circle discussion.

Sincerely,



Mr. Johll - Principal

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ADDITIONAL ERMS INSTAGRAM USER NAMES

@ermslibrary
@msmontanaerms
@feldermanwellness
@lucaswellness1002
@erms.orch
@erms.fame

MEDICAL APPOINTMENT TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to **medical** appointments is available through RTA transportation bus and funded by United Way Dubuque.

For more information please contact Roosevelt School Nurse:

Katie Vogt
PH: 563-552-5016
FAX: 552-5001

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Click **HERE** for our **SCHOOL** page!

Click **HERE** for our **PTO** page!

ERMS ATTENDANCE PROCEDURE

If your child(ren) will be out for an extended period of time for a non-illness reason such as a family trip, we ask that you please provide notification to the office a minimum of one week in advance of the first day of absence. Options:

1. **You can send a note with your child, OR**
2. **You can call the attendance line at 563-552-5012, OR**
3. **You can send an email to ermsattendance@dbqschools.org**

Please include the student name, the dates of the absence and the reason. The student will then receive a letter from the Main Office to be reviewed by each of their teachers so that they are informed of the dates.

Best procedure for your convenience: ERMS Attendance procedure for picking up your student for an appointment during school hours.

- Send a note with your student in the morning.
- The note should include: student's name, pick-up time, reason for leaving early, and parent's signature.
- The student should bring that note to the main office first thing in the morning. He or she will be given a pass out of class in exchange for the note.
- Then your student will meet you at the east door by the flag pole. And he or she can come out when you pull up to the curb.

Option 2: If you know in advance that your child will miss school you can send an email to ermsattendance@dbqschools.org. Please include your child's name, pick-up time and reason for leaving early.

If you need to pick up your student due to a last minute situation, call the attendance line at **552-5012**. If we received the information through a phone call, then you have to meet your student in the building. When picking up your student, you will need to enter the building through the door by the flag pole. Then check in with the secretary at the window. **Please notify us as early in the day as possible so that we can better serve you.**

NURSES NOTES

Reminder, students must be evaluated by the Health Office before going home ill. The absence is unexcused if a student calls or texts a guardian for pick up.

1. **We can no longer give cough drops or Tums to students.**
2. **Written consent has to be obtained before giving Tylenol or Motrin to students. We can no longer call home for verbal consent.**

ILLNESS REMINDERS: Students with a temperature of 100.4 F or higher should stay home until fever free for 24 hours without any fever-reducing medication. **If your child is ill, PLEASE keep them home** to avoid passing the illness to their class. DCSD requires a student to be free of fever (without Tylenol or Ibuprofen), vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school.

FROM THE ACTIVITIES OFFICE

Submitted by: Mark Lawler, Assistant Principal/Activities Director

In the next couple of weeks we will already wrap up our fall sports season. Wow, that went quickly! We hope all of the participants had fun, improved their skills, and learned about teamwork and sportsmanship.

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CONTACTS

Main Office: 552-5000

Principal: Mr. Jeff Johl

Business Manager/Principal's
Secretary: Mrs. Jordan Coleman

Activities Office: 552-5010

Assistant Principal/Athletic
Director: Mr. Mark Lawler

Assistant Principal's Secretary/
Activities: Mrs. Tiffany Amico

Attendance Office: 552-5012

Assistant Principal: Mrs. Bobbie
Jones

Attendance/Assistant Principal's
Secretary: Mrs. Amanda Herrig

Health Office: 552-5016

Nurse: Mrs. Katie Vogt
Health Para: Mrs. Dana Sullivan

Guidance Office: 552-5013

Grade 6: Mrs. Sara Dowell
sdowell@dbqschools.org

Grade 7: Mrs. Casie Kaiser
cakaier@dbqschools.org

Grade 8: Mrs. Amy Glennon
aglenon@dbqschools.org

Records/Counselors Secretary:
Ms. Mo Dietzel

DCSD Anonymous Tip Line:
552-3075

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If your child wants to participate in Wrestling or Girls Basketball, please be sure you have registered them in Bound.

Our FIRST LEGO League and Tech Challenge teams are preparing for their seasons in robotics competitions, and several others groups will begin soon.



Please remember you can learn about what activities are available by navigating to the daily announcements on the school website and clicking on the megaphone icon found on our homepage.

Questions: Contact us at 563-552-5010 or tamico@dbqschools.org.

COUNSELORS CORNER

Submitted by: Casie Kaiser, Counselor

Fall is here! Students have been accessing the Counseling Canvas, and we've heard positive feedback from them! Please have them share a few things on there!

Once again, this school year we will be providing necessities through our Open Closet. Open Closet is funded through the Dubuque Community School District and offers a variety of resources to meet our families needs. Some needs include clothing, hygiene items, school supplies and dry foods. Your student can share a short video with you from their counselor's canvas page. If you would like to use the DCSD food pantry, please contact your student's counselor or you can visit the pantry on Monday's from 2:00–4:00 p.m. and Wednesday's from 10:00 a.m.–Noon at the NICC Dubuque Center located at 700 Main Street. For more information, call 563-552-4608.

How does your student get in touch with their Counselor? Students can make an appointment with their counselor through a Microsoft form located on their canvas page or by email. Please know if you as parents and guardians have any questions or concerns, you can email us as well!



OUR 2025-26 STUDENT COUNCIL

Submitted by: Wendy Winger

We would like to congratulate our new Student Council representatives:

House 6-1: Tucker Bowman, Noell Hoffman, Abby Krausman

House 6-2: Zealand Ellerbeck, Sophia Medina, Addey King

House 6-3: Braylen Amico, Aisling Wagner, Lucy Lincoln

House 7-1: Elsie Herr, Aubrey Mohr, Claire Nadermann

House 7-2: Eleanor Deutsch, Kaitlyn Kahler, Vivienne Klar, Hope David

House 7-3: Mila Metcalf, Meena Sinno

House 8-1: Ashlynn Ostendorf, Gavin Reimer, Michelle Valentino

House 8-2: Claire Baumhover, Carson Bird, Ellie Blok

House 8-3: Kendall Hill, Angel Parram, Madison Simmons



GARDEN CLUB: ONE WITH NATURE

Submitted by: Stephanie Yager, Band Director

Members of the Garden Club traded their trowels for paddles during a scenic canoe trip down the Maquoketa River. Students enjoyed viewing the bluff-lined river, maneuvering the current, and wading into the cool water as the temps rose. After the river float, the group headed into Monticello for some ice cream. It was a fun trip down the river and the Garden Club is looking forward to more adventures in the 2025-26 school year!

GARDEN CLUB: SALSA PARTY

Submitted by: Garden Clubbers Evelyn Hilkin, Raelyn Johnson and Kayla Hess

This year's salsa party was hot, hot, hot!

The students in Garden Club 2025 worked extremely hard on this year's salsa party at Roosevelt middle school. The Garden Club used produce from their garden to make three gallons (48 cups) of salsa—prepared and made entirely by Garden Club members.

When asked what he likes about the club, Oscar, a Garden Club member, said **"I enjoy garden club because I like to watch the plants I plant grow and thrive. It feels like the work I have put into growing them has payed off."**

Rowan, another garden club member, was asked why she joined garden club and she said, **"I love how I can hang out with my friends and favorite teachers!"**

Some Roosevelt staff, including Mr. Johll and Mr. Lawler, stopped in for a visit to enjoy some chips, fresh salsa and festive music! All-n-all, a spicy time was had by everyone!!

SPECIAL RECOGNITION: We would like to thank doctors Charlie and Katie Parker for helping fund us since 2023. With their help, we were able to buy supplies like gardening tools, propane fluid to heat the green house, raised beds, seeds, snacks, and all things garden-related.



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Click **HERE** for our PTO page!

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ACTIVITIES OFFICE CONTACTS

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the following staff in the Activities Office:

Mr. Lawler

mlawler@dbqschools.org

Mrs. Amico

tamico@dbqschools.org

Ms. Montana

dmontana@dbqschools.org

PHYSICAL PACKET

Visit the page below to download the complete packet. It is the first link on the page titled: Athletic Participation Required Forms (PDF)

<https://roosevelt.dbqschools.org/athletics/forms-and-documents/>

LEAP INFORMATION

Visit the LEAP page to view upcoming events. Students will either be given a permission form to take home or can pick one up from the Activities Office.

<https://roosevelt.dbqschools.org/activities/leap/>

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FTC INVITES YOU TO A SPOOKY STEAM NIGHT

Submitted by: Roosevelt FIRST Tech Challenge Teams

The Roosevelt FIRST Tech Challenge teams are hosting our **2nd Annual Spooky STEAM** Night on **Tuesday, October 21st from 5:00–7:00 p.m.** in the cafeteria. **YOU'RE INVITED!**

This educational event provides an opportunity for students to explore engaging activities that integrate **Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics**. This event also gives students a chance to learn about the robotics programs we have in middle school. Students are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes and go trick-or-treating at each activity station.

Save the date and please help us spread the word about this awesome event!





HEALTH CLASS RECEIVES GRANT

Submitted by: Kelly Neumann, Health Teacher

Neumann's Health class would like to send a big **THANK YOU** out to the Judi Chandlee Family and Foundations for Dubuque Public Schools! With the grant they awarded us, we were able to replace our waffle makers, griddles, waffle spatulas and disposable silverware. Your generosity was overwhelming. The students couldn't believe we were going to be able to make so many new things during our cooking unit and after-school cooking classes.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR STOMACHS and HEARTS!

ERMS PTO

CONFERENCES & DONATION OPPORTUNITY | The PTO will provide two meals for teachers and staff during the upcoming conferences. We are in need of items to fill in the meals as well as provide quick grab items! If you are able to donate please sign up using the link below:

<https://tinyurl.com/ERMS2025FallMeals>

FALL DANCE & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES | Our Fall dance is on Friday, October 24th from 6:00–8:00 p.m. Students must purchase tickets during their school lunches from the 22nd through the 24th.

REMINDER: Tickets will NOT be sold at the door. Students MUST have IDs with them along with a dance ticket to enter the dance. Students may wear a costume to this dance. However, please follow all guidelines provided by the Roosevelt Administration. We will have food for purchase at the dance, CASH ONLY. The items that will be available include:

Pizza slice \$2.00
 Flavored bottled water \$2.00
 Bottled water \$1.00
 Fruit snacks \$0.50
 Popsicle \$0.25

We are in need of volunteers to sell tickets prior to the dance as well as chaperones for the event.

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PTO BOARD

Jeff Johl, School Principal
Bobbie Jones, Asst. Principal
Mark Lawler, Asst. Principal
Tiffany Amico, Staff Representative

2025-26 OFFICERS

President:

Christy Heller
ermspto@yahoo.com

Vice-President:

Jessica Schreyer

Treasurer:

Tiffany Amico

Assistant Treasurer:

OPEN POSITION

Secretary:

OPEN POSITION

2025-26 COMMITTEES

Sports/Activity Booster:

Mark Lawler

Apparel Chair:

Lynn Valley

Events Chair:

Amanda Backstrom

Hospitality Chair:

Angela Ambrose

Communications Chair:

Kimberly Davis

Fundraising Chair:

Emily Sunquist

Membership Chair:

OPEN POSITION

Yearbook:

Stacey Bryson
Alex Schiavoni

NEXT PTO MEETING

Our next meeting is November 6th at 5:30 p.m. Please follow us on Facebook (see link below) to stay up-to-date with new info and events.

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Click **HERE** for our **PTO** page!

Dance Ticket Sales

Dance tickets will be sold during lunch periods on Wednesday 22nd, Thursday 23rd, and Friday 24th. If you can help please sign up at the below link:

<https://tinyurl.com/ERMS2025DanceTicketSales>

Dance Chaperones

We will need volunteers from 5:45- 8:15 p.m. on Friday, October 24th. There are a handful of tasks you may choose from, including food sales, supervising the students and a floater. If you are interested, please sign up at the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/2025ERMSDanceChaperones>

SPIRIT NIGHTS | A great way to support our school is to attend our Spirit Nights. Each month we partner with a restaurant and they donate a portion of sales back to our PTO to benefit our school. **Our next Spirit Night is on Wednesday, October 21st at Your Pie at 800 Wacker Drive, Suite 100.** Save the date and please share with your friends and family.

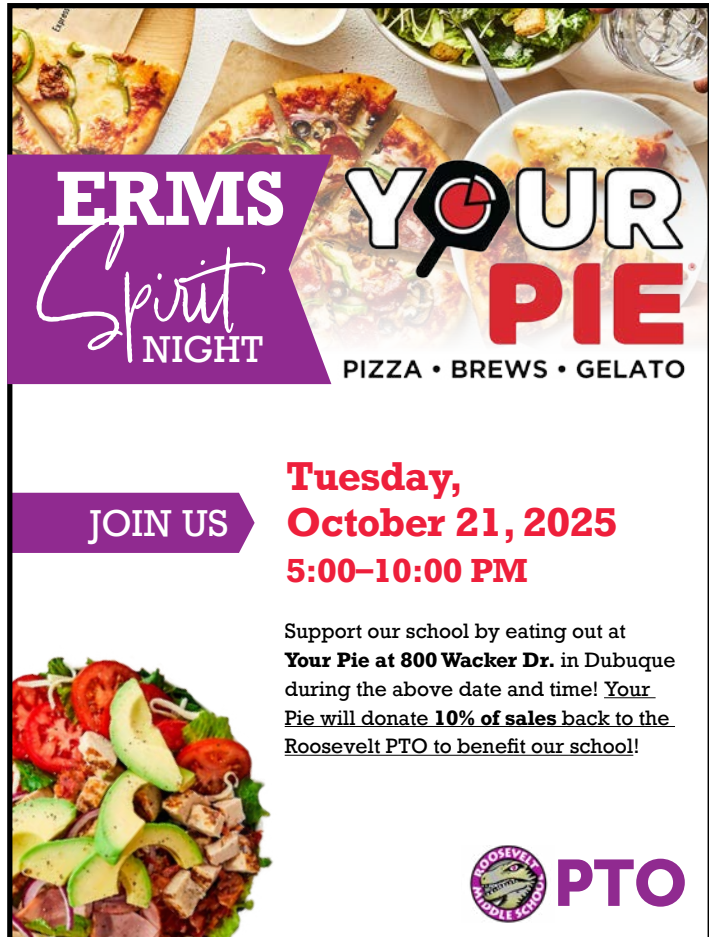
PTO MEETINGS | Note that we have a different time set for our November meeting due to other conflicting school events. Please join our next meeting on **Thursday, November 6th in the school library from 5:30–6:30 p.m.** Save the following dates as well:

December 4, 2025
January 8, 2026**

February 5, 2026
March 5, 2026

April 9, 2026**
May 7, 2026

**** Second Thursday of the month**



ERMS Spirit Night

YOUR PIE
PIZZA • BREWS • GELATO

JOIN US

**Tuesday,
October 21, 2025
5:00-10:00 PM**

Support our school by eating out at **Your Pie at 800 Wacker Dr.** in Dubuque during the above date and time! Your Pie will donate 10% of sales back to the Roosevelt PTO to benefit our school!

 **PTO**



ELEANOR ROOSEVELT MIDDLE SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Activities Grade Check	4	5	6 Wrestling @ Drexler PTO Meeting 5:30PM Orchestra Concert 7pm	7 7SGBB @ Washington 8SGBB vs Washington	8
9	10 7PGBB @ Mazz 8PGBB vs Mazz	11 Band Concert 7pm Girls Basketball Pictures	12 Wrestling Pictures	13 Wrestling @ Home	14 Music Day	15
16	17 7PGBB vs WD Black 8PGBB @ WD Black	18 Raptor Recognition Rally 1:40pm 7SGBB @ WD Black 8SGBB vs WD Black Wrestling @ Washington	19 7PGBB @ Washington 7SGBB vs Jefferson 8PGBB vs Washington 8SGBB @ Jefferson	20 7PGBB @ Jefferson 7SGBB vs Washington 8PGBB vs Jefferson 8SGBB @ Washington Wrestling @ Drexler	21 7PGBB @ WD Red 8PGBB vs WD Red FIRST Tech Challenge Spooky STEAM Night 5:00-7:00 p.m.	22
23	24 Activities Grade Check 7PGBB vs Washington 7SGBB vs Mazz 8PGBB @ Washington 8SGBB @ Mazz	25 8 th Grade Hempstead Orchestra/Band Fly-up	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL	28 NO SCHOOL	29
30						*All activities start at 4pm unless otherwise noted

DISTRICT INFORMATION

SAFE ZONE

This school is free of harassment, bullying and discrimination. The Anti-Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination Assurance Statement and School Board Polycys #1001/#1005 is available at The Forum, 2300 Chaney Road, Dubuque, Iowa 52001. Questions can be directed to 552-3000.

LUNCH MENU HOTLINE

Call the lunch menu hotline for the DCSD menu of the day at 552-3250. NSF CHECKS (NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS) There is a \$20.00 charge for all NSF checks per DCSD guidelines.

ABSENCE PROCEDURES

When a student is absent from school, the parent or guardian should call the Attendance Office (563-552-5012) before 9:00 a.m. Please be sure to give your name, student name and reason for the absence. If you prefer send us an email to ERMSAttendance@dbqschools.org.

PAY STUDENT FEES ONLINE

Parents, can pay student fees and deposit breakfast/lunch money into your child's meal account by using the Infinite Campus website or app under "My Accounts".

WEATHER HOTLINE

The Dubuque Community School District has a "Weather Hotline." When school may be closed due to inclement weather, individuals may call 552-3035 for school district updates. In addition, YOU CAN NOW press "1" for athletic contest changes and press "2" for fine arts activity changes. You can also sign up for Iowa School Alerts at: <https://schoolalerts.iowa.gov>