



Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning

"As a K-12 community, the mission of the Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning (RMSEL) is to empower students and staff to be learners, thinkers, citizens, and explorers engaged in and inspired by the real world. We are crew, not passengers."

August 6th, 2025: Message from the Executive Director

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Dear RMSEL Community,

We continue to prepare for your child's first day of school next week as our teachers engage in professional learning around creating a community of learning centered on belonging, aligning on expectations of high-quality work, and digging into the principles of [Positive Discipline](#). Excitement is escalating as we anxiously await the arrival of our beloved students!!

REMINDER: Please register your child and turn in ALL required RMSEL forms if you have not already; and, be on the lookout for communications from your child's crew leader regarding school-level specific updates. Take note that the date for the Back to School Carnival has been changed from this Friday to **9/5/25** from 5 - 8 pm.

If you missed previous communications for the 25-26 school year, please check out our website under [RMSEL News](#).

First Day of School Expectations

Since RMSEL has a K-12 model, we will welcome students back over two days:

- **1st Grade-12th Grade – August 11th, 2025**
- **Kindergarten – August 13th, 2025**

The main entry doors at the east end of the school parking lot are the only access points for all kids. The building opens to students at 7:30 am (M/T/Th/Fr) and 8:30 am (W). We urge students to arrive on time, starting at these designated hours, since it gives them up to fifteen minutes to get settled in, connect with other crew members, and prepare for class. A tardy slip must be obtained from the office for each student who arrives after the start of class. If a student arrives on campus late more than once, administrative action will be taken.

School hours:

Grades 9-12: M, T, Th, F 7:40 am – 3:10 pm W only 8:40 am – 3:10 pm

Grades 7-8: M, T, Th, F 7:40 am – 3:00 pm W only 8:40 am – 3:05 pm

Grades K-6: M, T, Th, F 7:45 am - 3:00 pm W only 8:45 am – 3:00 pm

Lunch

The first serving of school lunch is free to all students. If a student requests a second or third serving on any given day, the student's account will be charged. Lunch is served in four blocks of time daily. The lunch block consists of 20 minutes indoors and 20 minutes of outdoor recess time.

- Kindergarten-3rd Grade: 11:35 am - 12:15 pm
- 7th-8th Grade: 12:00-12:40 pm

- 4th-6th Grade: 12:25-1:05 pm
- High School: 11:14 am - 12:04 pm – High school students are permitted to go off-campus for lunch.

Students must be in good academic standing (no NE/LE grades) to participate in off-campus lunch.

End of the Day Dismissal

At the conclusion of the school day, students will be dismissed to the following locations for pick-up. Please pick up your child in their designated location, this helps streamline traffic flow during dismissal.

Kindergarten-5th Grade

- Students will line-up with their crew leader at the conclusion of the day at 3:00 pm on the playground.
 - Parents may:
 - Remain in your vehicle in the car line and an administrative team member will walk each student to the car.
 - In the event you need to exit your vehicle, please park in the parking lot and walk to sign your child out from their teacher.
 - All K-5 students are required to be dismissed to a parent / guardian.

6th - 12th Grade Students

- 6th Grade Students will exit the east doors. Students can wait independently in the pick-up area and/or walk/ride home.
 - Parents are encouraged to park alongside Ashgrove Park for 6th grade pick-up
- 7th-8th Grade Students will exit the east doors and cross Holly St. at the crosswalk to be picked up at Ashgrove Park.
 - Parents are encouraged to park alongside Ashgrove Park for 7th / 8th grade pick-up
- High School Students are dismissed at 3:10 pm and permitted to exit campus independently

Parking Lot and Virginia Village Neighborhood

As a community, we need to be good neighbors to those adjacent to school in Virginia Village. You can expect daily congestion in our parking lot within the first and last fifteen minutes of each school day. We welcome 400 students and their families to our campus daily, commuting from a variety of distances, all to arrive in a brief period of time. We are efficient in moving through the carpool line, often within 10 minutes. During the time of daily congestion, we request that you remain understanding and patient. Also, do not park within a car length of any neighbor's driveway and if you are waiting in line on Holly St. at any time, do not block residential access for community members. We have been fortunate to maintain positive relationships with our neighbors in this community for more than two decades, and we aspire to sustain these relationships for the next two decades.

Back to School Night: 8/14/24 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm

The school-to-home connection is critical to the success of our students. To gain a strong understanding of what is expected at each grade level this upcoming year, we encourage you to thoroughly read the Continuum of Community Systems and Structures that you will receive for your child's school level. This document contains a vast amount of valuable information to help you start the year. **RMSEL Back to School Night is scheduled for Thursday, August 14th, 2024.**

Your crew leader will inform you of your planned time before the first day of school. Back to School Night is scheduled to begin at 5:30 pm and will conclude promptly at 7:30 pm. During this period, every family has the chance to meet the team of teachers at their specific school level.

- The first weekly Field Notes (RMSEL's weekly school communication that contains important information and dates)
- Your students' crew leader assignment
- School-level systems and structures (RMSEL's version of a student handbook)
- A message from our Parent-Teacher-Student-Organization, the Parent Teacher Student Crew (PTSC), regarding details about our Back-to-School events* (RMSEL Carnival, Community Clean Up, Ask a Crew Parent), volunteer opportunities, and fundraising priorities

*Check out our website [calendar](#) for dates and times of these events

Just a reminder, the summer letters and fall crew trip packing lists are posted on our [website](#) should you need to review them prior to the start of the school year.

In crew,

Tiffany Almon (she, her, hers, and why they matter)

Executive Director, RMSEL