



7/8 Summer Letter - SY 2026-2027

Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning

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June 2026

Hello 7th and 8th Grade Families,

We hope everyone's summer is off to a terrific start and that you are finding time to rest and relax between summer adventures and busy schedules! We are already excited to kick off the 26-27 school year and can't wait to be back in the building learning and laughing with our students!

We wanted to share some information with you now so that you know what is around the corner, as summer always flies by. Expect to find out more closer to August as the details get settled.

Fall Crew Trip Dates: August 24 - August 28, 2026

As you are getting ready for the new school year, we wanted to let you get to know us a little bit.

From Carolyn:

This will be my fifth year at RMSEL, and I could not be more excited! I'm originally from Louisville, Kentucky, and I went to school for Park Administration and Recreation to pursue my dream of being a professional outdoor guide for all the activities. Before teaching, I ran multiple summer camps for the YMCA and supervised and ran many after-school programs. My past experiences have helped shape my values of compassion and creating a classroom culture where students feel safe, accepted, and free to express themselves and their learning styles. I teach Middle School Science, and I'm so excited to help your students grow their love for science.

From Kate:

This will be my second year at RMSEL, and I am over the moon about another year with the crew! I'm originally from Fort Collins, Colorado and studied at Gonzaga University, where I fell in love with outdoor education. In the summers, I instruct at Colorado Outward Bound School in Moab, where I lead rafting and backpacking expeditions for students. Working for Outward Bound has instilled in me a deep appreciation of expeditionary learning. I am so excited to teach Middle School English to connect with students about the joys of reading and writing!

From Leigh:

This is my eleventh year teaching and my fifth year here at RMSEL. I am originally from Richmond, Virginia, earned my Bachelor's degree in History and Secondary Education from Temple University and my Master's Degree in Education with a concentration in STEAM Instruction from Clemson University. In my spare time I enjoy running, traveling, reading and spending time with friends and family. I love teaching and learning about history and can't wait to be back in the classroom exploring the past with your students!

From Mitchell:

This will be my first year at RMSEL and I am beyond excited! I was born and raised in Colorado, mowed lawns since I was 9 years old till I joined the Marine Corp after high school. I hold a Bachelors in Mathematics from the University of Colorado at Denver and a Masters in Teaching. I am an outdoors person, through and

through. I love to go camping and hiking whenever I can, and love to get out and do all the winter activities as well. I enjoy teaching math and guiding kids to learn and discover about the true beauty that numbers hold in nature and our lives.

Included with this letter, you'll find a School Supply List. You may have also ordered supplies through [Sprouts](#) in which case your order will be delivered directly to RMSEL prior to the start of the school year. You're welcome to send any classroom supplies on the first day of school. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Email is the best way to get in touch over the summer, although we plan to spend time away from technology, so it may take us some time to respond! You can reach Carolyn at ccarrillo@rmsel.org, Leigh at lbuzzard@rmsel.org, Mithcell at mpetersen@rmsel.org, and Kate at klammons@rmsel.org. Enjoy the summer, and we are so thrilled to start our school year together in August!

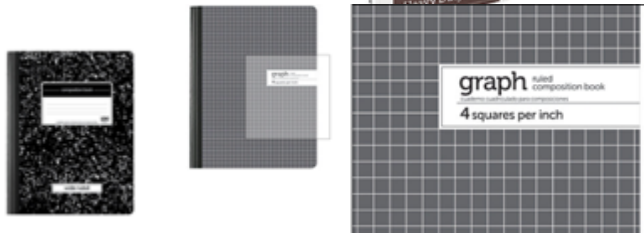
Yours in Crew,

Carolyn, Leigh, Mitchell, and Kate

7th and 8th Grade Individual and Crew Supply List 2026-2027

Individual:

- Pencil Pouch
- 2 Grid paper Composition Notebook for Math (sewn binding)
- 3 Lined Composition Notebooks- one for Science, Literacy, and Humanities (sewn bindings only, no spiral notebooks)
- One folder for each class, or an accordion folder
- 3 Highlighters of different colors
- Package of pencils (mechanical or wooden)
- Package of plastic page protectors (100 count)
- EIGHTH GRADE ONLY- one 1 inch binder for Humanities with a clear plastic cover
- EIGHTH GRADE ONLY- pack of lined paper for Humanities
- SEVENTH GRADE ONLY should bring 1-inch D-Ring binder with a clear cover insert (Should be white)- For presentation portfolio
- SEVENTH GRADE ONLY- 2-inch binder for a 'working' portfolio



CREW ROOM SUPPLIES TO USE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Students with with last names A-L

- o 1 package of **loose-leaf paper** (wide ruled preferred)
- o 1 large box of **Kleenex**/Tissue
- o 1 large **Clorox**/Disinfecting wipes container
- o 1 pack of Notecards

Students with last names M-Z

- o 1 pack of colored pencils
- o 2 extra boxes of pencils
- o Hand sanitizer
- o 2 boxes of glue sticks

Brianne's Wish List

Since our specialists don't have a Crew of their own, 7/8 is sponsoring Brianne, our Spanish and Anthropology teacher here at RMSEL. She would love the following supplies for her students this year. Please bring supplies for Brianne in a separate name with her name on it.

- Pencils
- Loose-leaf paper
- Expo markers
- Highlighters
- Notecards
- Black/Blue Ballpoint Pens