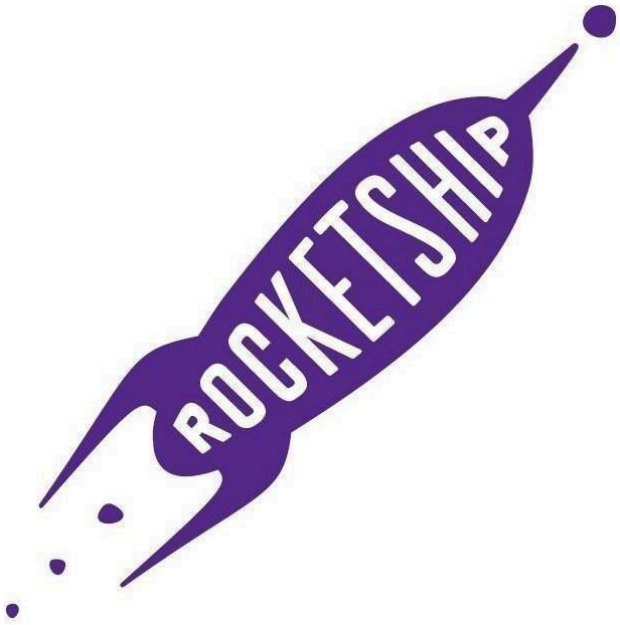
Rocketship Stellar Elementary



Title I Schoolwide Plan
26.27 SY

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School Profile

School Name	Rocketship Stellar Elementary
Local Education Agency	Rocketship Education Wisconsin
School Address	2431 S 10th St, Milwaukee, WI 53215
Principal	Jessica Lira
Email	jlira@rsed.org
Phone	(262) 993-2918
Executive Director	Dr. Kadeem Ruiz
Email	kruiz@rsed.org
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Rocketship's Mission

At Rocketship Public Schools, we believe in the infinite possibility of human potential. We believe that every student deserves the right to dream, to discover, and to develop their unique potential. And it is our responsibility and our privilege to unleash the potential inside every Rocketeer we serve. Our non-profit network of public elementary charter schools propels student achievement, develops exceptional educators, and partners with parents who enable high-quality public schools to thrive in their community. Rocketship's vision is to ensure equal access to opportunity for all by catalyzing transformative change in low-income communities through a scalable and sustainable public school model that propels student achievement, develops exceptional educators, and partners with parents who enable high-quality public schools to thrive in their community.

Rocketship's Model

Rocketship rotates between four content blocks every day: Humanities, STEM, Small Group Instruction (SGI) and Enrichment. Our teachers receive content based coaching and observations to support developing their skills in the specific content that they teach. In addition, our teachers engage in regular collaboration to develop classroom management strategies, create lesson plans, and engage parents.

Every student we serve receives both whole group grade level instruction and differentiated instruction to meet each student at their individual level. Independent learning, small group tutoring, and adaptive online learning programs augment teacher-led instruction and provide valuable time for students to develop more ownership of their learning and achieve the mastery they need to advance. This carefully orchestrated combination of instructional methods is made possible through robust and regular data streams that map precisely where students need support to achieve mastery.

We educate the whole child at Rocketship. We pride ourselves on creating schools that promote our core values of persistence, empathy, responsibility, and respect. We also supplement our core instruction in Humanities and STEM with social emotional learning and positive behavior interventions and supports. All our schools offer a diverse array of enrichment classes, selected in partnership with our parents. Delivering a well-rounded education builds the critical thinking, team work, character skills and values that our Rocketeers need to thrive in school and life.

25.26 Community Demographics

School	
Grades	K4 - 5
School Type	Elementary
25.26 Enrollment	228
Race/Ethnicity	
Pacific-Isl	1
American Indian/Alaska Native	0
Asian	3
Black or African American	25
Hispanic/Latino	177
White	14
Multiple Race	8
Special Populations	
Students with Disabilities	72
English Learners	118
Economically Disadvantaged	161

Schoolwide Program Planning Team

The Title I Schoolwide Program Planning Team consists of school administrators who work with ESSA programs and funds and are familiar with their uses and requirements, school staff that help implement ESSA programming, and parent leaders who seek to be a part of program improvements.

Schoolwide Program Planning Team

Parents	*RST Parent Organizing Committee*
School Staff ***(Include Position)***	MLL Specialist/Instructional Coach - Laura Lerand Assistant Principal - Denial Jurgens Principal - Jessica Lira
Administrator(s) ***(Include Position)***	Dr. Kadeem Ruiz - Executive Director Mariah Galarza - Director of Operations & Strategy Dellianna Hardy - Director of Schools

Schoolwide Engagement

Our Title I Schoolwide Program Planning Team has 4 designated meeting times during the year, where they review data, review use of Title I funds, and review the current Title I Schoolwide Plan. Additionally, Rocketship hosts several other parent involvement opportunities throughout the year which allow for the Schoolwide Program Planning Team to educate parents on their rights, and receive feedback on our Schoolwide Program and Plan.

Meeting Cadence

Meeting Date	Meeting Purpose	Meeting Attendees
Mid-January	Annual Planning Launch	Regional Executive Leaders
March	All Region Leader Annual Planning Retreat	All Regional Leaders
April	School Wide Plan & Program Annual Review Meeting	School Wide Planning Team
May/June	Annual Planning ● Data Review ● Plan Finalization	Regional Executive Leaders & School Wide Planning Team
September/ October	Schoolwide Title I Annual Parent Meetings	Parents & School Leaders
September	ESSA Application Review ● Review LEA Plan Language	Regional Executive Leaders & Grants Team

Comprehensive Needs Assessment

Rocketship Stellar Elementary (RST) School-Wide Plan is deeply rooted in a Comprehensive Needs Assessment designed to identify and address the specific needs of our students, staff, and community. This annual needs assessment, internally called annual planning, incorporates qualitative and quantitative data, including state assessment results, internal benchmarking data, classroom observation findings, and stakeholder feedback from families, students, and staff. These data points are analyzed collaboratively to highlight academic achievement gaps, resource allocation challenges, and opportunities for programmatic improvement. By aligning strategies with these identified needs, the plan ensures targeted interventions and resource use that strengthen the academic program, improve instruction for all students, and foster long-term success.

Annual Needs Assessment and Planning Process

- Rocketship Stellar Elementary conducts an annual needs assessment as the foundation of its strategic planning process. This involves a comprehensive review of student performance data, stakeholder feedback, and resource allocation to identify strengths, gaps, and opportunities for improvement. Key inputs include academic achievement metrics, progress on specific metrics identified by the Executive Director, teacher feedback, and insights gathered from family and community engagement surveys. The assessment helps prioritize objectives aligned with our mission to support all learners.

Annual Planning Process

- The annual planning process begins with collaborative sessions involving school leaders, educators, and support staff to set priorities based on the needs assessment. These sessions focus on defining clear objectives, allocating resources effectively, and identifying potential barriers to success. Goals are informed by district and state standards, as well as by the unique needs of our student population. Action plans are then developed with detailed timelines, responsible parties, and measurable benchmarks to ensure accountability. The annual planning process is also supported by our National network and done collaboratively to compare multiple sets of data points and normed metrics across all Rocketship schools.

Data-Informed Objectives and Action Plans

- Multiple data sources inform the objectives and action plans, including student assessment results (state and internal benchmarks), attendance and engagement data, and staff and family surveys. This evidence ensures that our strategies are both targeted and grounded in real-time insights. For example, if data shows a lag in math achievement among students with disabilities, we may prioritize hiring additional math specialists or implementing targeted interventions.

Identify Evidence-Based Improvement Strategies (EBIS)

- Based on the annual planning process, Rocketship selects evidence-based improvement strategies that align with identified needs. These may include implementing co-teaching models, providing intensive professional development on differentiated instruction, integrating assistive technologies, or expanding family engagement programs to foster better support systems at home. All chosen strategies are research-backed and designed to maximize impact within our specific educational context.

Monitoring Implementation and Success

- Implementation of EBIS is monitored through regular progress checks, including classroom observations, staff self-assessments, and analysis of student outcomes. A centralized tracking system allows school leaders to monitor key performance indicators (KPIs) tied to each strategy, ensuring alignment with our objectives. Monthly data reviews enable adjustments to be made in real-time, fostering a cycle of continuous improvement.

Annual Evaluation and Review Process

- At the end of the academic year, Rocketship conducts a formal evaluation of progress toward established goals. This process includes reviewing achievement data, soliciting stakeholder input, and comparing outcomes to the original benchmarks. Results from the evaluation are documented in a comprehensive report and shared with staff, families, and governing bodies to ensure transparency. Insights from the review inform the next cycle of needs assessment and planning, reinforcing our commitment to adaptive, data-driven improvement.

Needs Assessment Process Table

Step	Action	Outcome
Data Collection	Gathered state assessments, internal benchmarks, attendance data, and stakeholder feedback surveys.	Identified gaps in student performance, particularly in math and reading for underserved student groups, and areas for teacher professional growth.
Analysis	Conducted data review meetings with leadership, educators, and specialists.	Prioritized areas for improvement, such as differentiated instruction and extended learning time for students needing additional support.
Goal Setting	Used findings to develop SMART goals aligned with identified needs.	Created clear objectives, including improving math and reading proficiency and increasing the number of students meeting grade-level expectations.
Action Planning	Designed specific, evidence-based strategies to meet goals.	Finalized initiatives such as co-teaching, enrichment programs, and professional development for staff.
Implementation Review	Established monitoring systems for ongoing strategy evaluation.	Developed tracking tools to assess progress, such as student achievement dashboards and teacher self-assessment rubrics.

Strategies to Address Needs and Align Funding

To ensure that all students receive a high-quality education, we are committed to implementing strategic initiatives that enhance instruction, strengthen academic programs, expand learning opportunities, and provide an enriched curriculum. These efforts are designed to address diverse learning needs, promote equity, and foster academic excellence. Through targeted actions and aligned funding, we aim to create an educational environment where every student can thrive. Below are key focus areas and the corresponding strategies to support our mission:

1. Improving Instruction for All Children

- Current Actions: Investing in high-quality professional development focused on differentiated instruction and culturally responsive teaching. Providing instructional coaches to support teachers with data-driven lesson planning.
- Funding Alignment: Allocate funds to professional development workshops, coaching staff salaries, and instructional technology that supports adaptive learning.

2. Strengthening the Academic Program

- Current Actions: Enhancing literacy and math curricula to include evidence-based interventions and integrating universal design for learning (UDL) principles. Supporting multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) to meet diverse student needs.
- Funding Alignment: Allocate funds to support staff in executing curriculum updates, implementing intervention models, and improve facilitation of Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS).

3. Increasing the Amount and Quality of Learning Time

- Current Actions: Implementing scheduling that allows for intensive intervention blocks during the school day.
- Funding Alignment: Provide funding to support staff in implementing schedules that incorporate intensive intervention blocks during the school day.

4. Providing an Enriched and Accelerated Curriculum

- Current Actions: Introducing elevated coursework and project-based learning opportunities, such as STEM challenges, small group instruction, and enrichment options.
- Funding Alignment: Support these initiatives through investments in professional development for instructional methods.

Monitoring and Long-Term Funding Plans

To ensure that funds are effectively used to support these strategies, Rocketship Public Schools employs a centralized financial tracking system to monitor spending against objectives. Progress is reviewed monthly, with adjustments made to align resources with evolving needs. By maintaining a strong connection between the CNA, strategies, and resource allocation, Rocketship Public Schools ensures its funds are used to drive measurable and equitable student outcomes.

Parent & Family Engagement

At Rocketship, parent and family engagement is a foundational pillar of our Schoolwide program, reflecting our belief that families are essential partners in the success of our students and the continuous improvement of our schools. Families are engaged through multiple pathways that foster collaboration, advocacy, and shared decision-making. By fostering consistent opportunities for collaboration, Rocketship creates an environment where families feel seen, heard, and valued as true partners in their child's education. The parent engagement opportunities listed below are year round, and underscore our belief that the collective efforts of families, educators, and school leaders lead to a stronger, more responsive Schoolwide program where every child can thrive:

Parent Coffees
Each month, Parent Coffees provide families with a space to connect with school staff, discuss the school academic progress, and explore strategies for supporting learning at home. These gatherings focus on key academic priorities and upcoming events, ensuring parents stay informed and engaged. Information is also shared through multiple communication channels, including monthly calendars, Parent Square, Class Dojo, and automated voicemails.

Family & Community Events
To build strong connections between families and the school community, several events throughout the year encourage participation. Events like Granola with Grandparents, Muffins with Mom, Donuts with Dad, and the Family Picnic provide opportunities for intergenerational involvement, emphasizing the essential role family members play in a child's academic success. These events create a welcoming environment where families can bond with school staff and learn more about supporting students at home.

Cultural & Achievement Celebrations
The school celebrates its diverse community through cultural and achievement events like Toy Drives, Winter Holiday Celebrations, Black History programming, and 5th Grade Graduation. These gatherings foster gratitude, inclusion, and a strong sense of community while encouraging families to support student success. Engaging activities promote generosity and reinforce values that connect home and school. By honoring cultural traditions and student milestones, the school ensures families feel valued and provides opportunities to connect, celebrate, and discuss student growth. Through these events, the school creates a welcoming environment where every family plays a vital role in the educational journey of students.

Academic Support & Student Success
The school prioritizes academic support by offering events that equip families with the tools to help their children thrive. Special Population events foster collaboration between families and teachers, strengthening relationships to support students with specialized learning needs. Parent-Teacher Conferences and Test Preparedness Meetings keep families informed about academic progress and how to best prepare students for success. Rocketship also helps families prepare for the transition to middle school, ensuring students have the resources they need for success by engaging in a Middle School Fair.

Community Outings
Beyond the classroom, the school offers community outings and engagement activities to enhance student and family involvement. Events like Read at Milwaukee Public Library foster a love for reading and connect families with literacy resources. Additionally field trips provide an enriching learning experience outside traditional academic settings.

Health & Wellness Initiatives
The school prioritizes student well-being through initiatives like Dental Days, which emphasize the vital connection between health and academic success. By providing essential health services and resources, these events ensure that students have the support they need to thrive both physically and academically, reinforcing the importance of overall wellness in achieving educational goals.

Civic Engagement & Advocacy
The school empowers families to take an active role in their child's education through civic engagement initiatives that promote advocacy and leadership. The Parent Organizing Committee serves as a platform for families to engage in meaningful discussions about student achievement and ways to collaborate with the school. By fostering open communication, this committee strengthens family involvement and ensures parents have a voice in shaping their children's educational experience. The Rocketship Votes Campaign encourages families to participate in discussions on civic engagement and the role of advocacy in securing high-quality education for all students. Through monthly calendars, social media updates, and flyers distributed at arrival and dismissal, the school ensures families have the information they need to stay involved in important initiatives.

Coordination

As outlined above, Rocketship Stellar Elementary (RST) uses its Title I resources to provide additional academic support to all students. In addition to these federal funds, RST uses other state and local resources to best meet the needs of our students and our school's mission. Utilization of all these resources follows federal requirements.

The following is a list of programs that have been made possible through state and local resources (this list is continuously changing, and is not be comprehensive):

- *Free breakfast and lunch meals for all students*
- *Specialized Supports Staff*
- *Special Education Services*
- *Routine screenings for hearing, vision, or academic concerns*
- *Summer School Program for extended learning opportunities*
- *Intervention materials and support programming for both gifted and at-risk students*
- *PD opportunities for all staff*
- *Growth and Human Development Classes*
- *Project Back-to-School Backpack (school supplies for students in need)*