Andalusia Elementary School
Family Newsletter

January 16th, 2026

Welcome back to school!

This week, our students completed their MAP Reading and Math benchmark assessments. The teachers also completed the SEL screening. This concludes our Winter Benchmarking! It will be a nice break to get back into the swing of things! On the bottom right corner of this page, you can click on our Fall to Winter growth. It is important to note that students in the yellow are our "typical" students. The goal is by the end of the year to have majority of students in the green.

We had some GREAT growth, and we moved a lot of students who were multiple grade levels behind to on grade level. I am super proud of our students and staff. Although I do not want time to fly, I always look forward to our yearlong growth the most!

We had a very special guest today from the Regional Office of Education named Jennifer Mayares! Ms. Mayares published her own book titled Every Day Counts! Ms. Mayares is Truancy Officer for the Regional Office of Education. Her mission is to ensure students have what they need to attend school every day! The kids had great questions about her job and her experience publishing a book. We were so lucky to have her visit. On the next page, you can see pictures of her visit, and a link to purchase her book on Amazon. We had quite a few students interested in purchasing the book!

Thank you for letting us be the present in your child's future!

Mrs. Saey

Every Day Counts!

Handbook Highlight

All treats and snacks brought to the school MUST be purchased from the store and have an ingredient label. Talk with your child's teacher about snacks, birthday treats, and inquire about any possible known allergies in your child's class. Please provide napkins and/or plates.



Fall to Winter Reading and Math Data Presentation



Every Day Counts!

By: Jennifer Mayares



















ROCKRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

2026 PTO UPDATES

What is the PTO?

Parent Teacher Organization - a collaborative group of people working to improve the learning environment, provide resources, and build a positive school culture, often through fundraising, communication, and organizing events that benefit students and staff

Meeting Schedule

All Meetings Begin at 6:00PM

Month	Day	Location
January	28th	Andalusia
February	25th	Taylor Ridge
March	25th	Illinois City
April	22nd	Andalusia

Who can attend?

Parents, teachers, school staff, community members - anyone interested in supporting the Rockridge elementary schools and students





For more information, contact:

Mandy Parchert, Abbie Hicks, Megan Doane, or Natalie Sloan

S.E.L. NEWSLETTER

Perseverance

Overview

January is all about Perseverance!
One way to think about Perseverance is "pushing yourself through challenges and obstacles."
We all experience challenges in our lives. We all have moments when we feel like we can't do it or that we want to give up on a big task. It is important to develop tools that help us work through those challenges in order to grow in those moments instead of giving up.

Perseverance is 1 of 3 traits we will focus on throughout the year that helps students Be Strong. Throughout the school, students will be developing skills like focusing, organizing, and goal-setting.

Conversation Starters

- How can you use flexible thinking to persevere?
- How can you use organizing to accomplish larger goals?
- How can planning for challenges help you reach goals?
- How does perseverance help us reach goals?

Third Grade

Third grade students will be focusing on flexible thinking. Students will work on their ability to adapt to new situations and challenges by finding multiple solutions to different problems.

Fourth Grade

Fourth grade students will be focusing on organization using the 3T's: organizing their Time, Tasks and Things. Students will apply organization skills to help them Persevere.



Fifth Grade

Fifth grade students will be focusing on goal-setting. Students will practice setting an important target to work towards, anticipating obstacles, and making a plan. They will do this by using TOP Goals.

Yearbook Orders

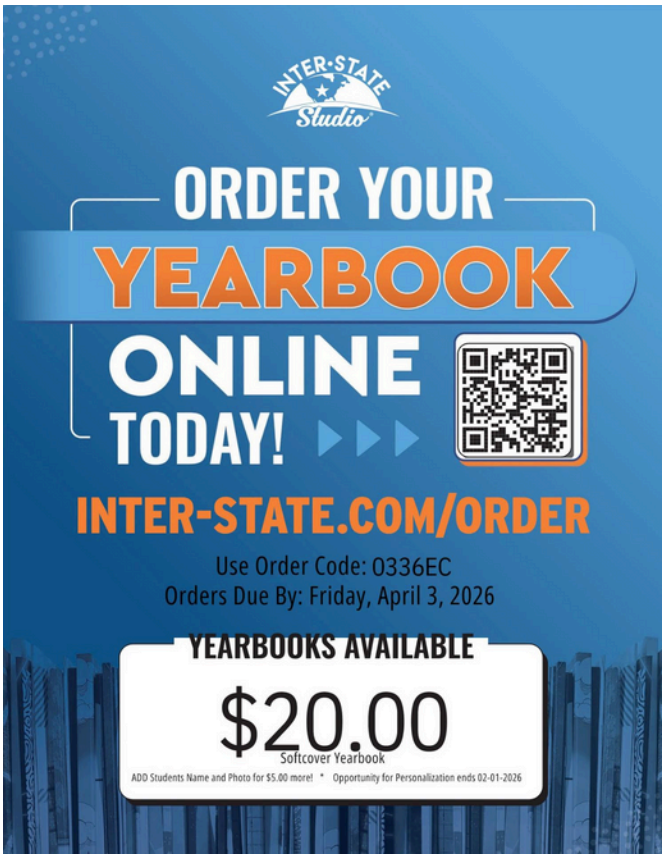
Personalized:

25.00 Due 2/1/26

Regular:

20.00 Due 4/3/26

All orders will be online!



ROCKRIDGE ROCKETS

January 2026 Lunch Menu for All Buildings

MENUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
29 **No School Holiday Break**	30 **No School Holiday Break**	31 **No School Holiday Break**	1 Happy New Year 2026	2 **No School Holiday Break**
5 **No School Teacher Institute**	6 Bosco Stick w/ Marinara Sauce Cooked Carrots Fruit Cup Milk	7 *Breakfast for Lunch* Biscuits & Gravy Hashbrown Patty Mandarin Oranges String Cheese Milk	8 Beef Ravioli Bread Stick Mixed Veggies Applesauce Cup Milk	9 Cheeseburger on Bun Baked Chips Green Beans / Pears Cookie Milk
12 Chicken Nuggets French Fries Peaches Pudding Cup Milk	13 Mini Corndogs Baked Beans Mandarin Oranges Teddy Grahams Milk	14 Pizza Side Salad (dressing) Apple Slices Cookie Milk	15 Meatballs Sub w/ Mozzarella Cheese Baked Chips Corn / Grapes Milk	16 **School Improvement Day 11:30a Dismissal**
19 **No School M.L. King's Birthday**	20 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Green Beans Applesauce Cup Cookie Milk	21 Chicken Strips Mashed Potatoes Pineapples Pudding Cup Milk	22 Rocket Rite on Bun Baked Chips Cooked Carrots Mandarin Oranges Milk	23 Crispito Chips & Salsa Refried Beans Pears Milk
26 Quesadilla Chips & Salsa Corn / Peaches Rice Krispy Treat Milk	27 Hotdog on Bun Baked Beans Grapes Cookie Milk	28 Sloppy Joe on Bun Baked Chips Carrots (PB) Apple Slices Milk	29 Walking Taco (Meat, Lettuce, Cheese) Fruit Cup Teddy Grahams Milk	30 **School Improvement Day 11:30a Dismissal**

Skim, Chocolate and 1% White milk served everyday

WELCOME

Future Kindergarteners

2026-2027



DO YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW HAVE A STUDENT WHO WILL BE ENTERING KINDERGARTEN IN THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR?! PLEASE SHARE THIS LINK FOR THEM TO FILL OUT TO HELP THE DISTRICT PLAN FOR THE UPCOMING CLASS OF 2039!

Calendar of Events

Date	Description
1/16	School Improvement Day - 11:30 Dismissal
1/19	No School - M.L. King's Birthday
1/30	School Improvement Day - 11:30 Dismissal
2/13	School Improvement Day - 11:30 Dismissal
2/16	No School - President's Day
2/19	Spring Picture Day
2/27	School Improvement Day - 11:30 Dismissal
3/13	End of the Third Grading Period
3/13	5th Grade BLAST!
3/13	School Improvement Day - 11:30 Dismissal
3/20	Quarter 3 Report Cards Sent Home
3/30-4/3	Spring Break
4/6	No School - in lieu of P/T Conferences
4/17	School Improvement Day - 11:30 Dismissal

