



ILLINOIS CITY

**AUGUST 28,
2026**

YOUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER ABOUT OUR SCHOOL!

IMPORTANT INFO:

- PLEASE TURN IN ANY PAPERWORK THAT IS NEEDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
- YOU CAN PAY REGISTRATION FEES THROUGH YOUR LUMEN ACCOUNT OR DROP A CHECK (MADE OUT TO ROCKRIDGE #300) OR CASH IN THE OFFICE.
- IF YOU NEED A FEE WAIVER OR REDUCTION FORM PLEASE ASK IN AT THE OFFICE
- REMINDER TO HAVE YOUR STUDENT HERE BY 8:05 TO PREVENT TRUANCY

UPCOMING EVENTS:

**SEPT 7 - NO SCHOOL
LABOR DAY**

**SEPT 24 - HOMECOMING
PARADE**

**SEPT 25 - HOMECOMING
GAME**

**SEPT 25 - SIP DAY 11:30
DISMISSAL**

OCT 2 - PICTURE DAY

FULL CALENDAR HERE

CLICK HERE

[RR300.ORG/O/ICES](https://rr300.org/o/ices)

TIMES

SCHOOL START: 8:05

SCHOOL END: 3:12

CAR RIDERS: 3:12

CONTACT US

MR BIZARRI - JBIZARRI@RR300.ORG

MRS ZAMPOGNA - KZAMPOGNA@RR300.ORG

OFFICE: 309-793-8090

FAX: 309-791-0710

24017 122ND AVE W

ILLINOIS CITY, IL 61259

SEPTEMBER

Sunday Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

30

31

1

2

3

4

5



6

7

No School Labor Day

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

Dental Theater

24

Homecoming Parade

25

SIP 11:30 Dismissal
Homecoming Game

26

PTO FUN RUN

27

28

29

30



OCTOBER

Sunday Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1

2

Picture Day

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

SIP 11:30 Dismissal
End of Grading

10

11

12

No School Columbus Day

13

14

15

16

Report Cards

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Book Fair

27

Book Fair

28

Book Fair

29

Book Fair
PT Conferences
1:30 Dismissal

30

Book Fair
PT Conferences
No School

31

HAPPY HALLOWEEN





ICE Car Rider Procedure

MORNING PROCEDURES:

- ****Avoid the parking lot when buses are loading or unloading****
- Car riders should arrive **NO** earlier than 7:40.
- The school day begins promptly at 8:05 am. Breakfast is over at 8:05.
- Enter the parking lot on the West end (Baseball diamond) Exit through the East end when buses are **NOT** in the parking lot.
- Parents should remain in their car at drop off.
- Students will enter through the front doors.
- Parents **MUST** stop at the office and not go on to their students classroom for the safety of the other students and staff.
- It is unlawful to go around or pass a school bus when the **STOP ARM** or **STOP HAND** is out. Even if the bus is in the parking lot!!

AVOID DRIVING OR WALKING ON EAST SIDE OF THE PARKING LOT WHEN BUSES ARE LOADING OR UNLOADING!

AFTERNOON PROCEDURES:

- Parents will line up along the baseball diamond. (West entrance).
- Parents will remain in their cars in the pick up line, our staff will get your child to your car around 3:15 once the early buses leave.
- Watchout for busses. (Our late buses load/unload approx 3:30)

Principal's Corner



We are two full weeks into the school year, and we are off to a great start. We are in year three of our new reading curriculum (CKLA-Amplify), in year two of our new math curriculum (i-Ready), in our first full year of our new SEL curriculum (Character Strong), and this year we are introducing MISSION CONTROL. This 60-minute block of time is scheduled during the morning with each grade level, and it's a time for targeted interventions of reading/language arts skills that need practice OR enrichment activities that build on other skills. And it's a team effort! During that time, a team of five staff members will work with different groups of students to meet them where they are at for the week and help them grow - those staff members include the two grade-level classroom teachers, Mrs. Stice - our building interventionist, and two paraprofessionals - Mrs. Sampica, and Mrs. Mills. Mission Control sessions will officially begin on September 8, and if you have questions, please feel free to reach out to your student's classroom teacher for more information.

-Mr. Bizarri



TARDY POLICY

IMPORTANT

A STUDENT IS TARDY IF THEY ARRIVE LATE WITHIN THE FIRST HOUR OR TO ANY CLASS. ARRIVING AFTER 8:30 A.M. OR CONSISTENTLY LEAVING SCHOOL EARLY WITHOUT A DOCUMENTED EXCUSAL IS CONSIDERED TRUANT.

[ROCKRIDGE ELEMENTARY HANDBOOK LINK](#)



September 2026 Lunch Menu for All Buildings

MENUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1 Pretzel Bites w/ Cheese Sauce Cooked Carrots Strawberries / Milk	2 Quesadilla Chips & Salsa Corn / Grapes Milk	3 Walking Taco (Meat, Lettuce, Cheese) Mixed Fruit Teddy Grahams / Milk	4 Cheeseburger on Bun French Fries Apple Slices Cookie / Milk
7 No School Labor Day	8 <i>Breakfast for Lunch</i> Biscuit & Gravy Tri-Taters Fruit Cup Granola Bar Milk	9 Chicken Patty on Bun Baked Chips Green Beans Mandarin Oranges Milk	10 Pizza Mixed Vegetables Applesauce Cup Teddy Grahams Milk	11 Crispitos Chips & Salsa Corn / Peaches Pudding Cup Milk
14 Chicken Nuggets Tater Tots Fruit Cup Sherbet Cup Milk	15 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Goldfish Crackers Grapes Milk	16 French Bread Pizza Side Salad (dressing) Strawberries Cookie Milk	17 Meatball Sub w/ Mozzarella Cheese Baked Chips Green Beans / Peaches Milk	18 Uncrustable Baked Chips Carrots Apple Slices Milk
21 Pizza Crunchers Goldfish Crackers Corn Pears Milk	22 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Green Beans Bread Stick Fruit Cup Milk	23 Hotdog on Bun Baked Beans Baked Chips / Peaches Pudding Cup Milk	24 Sloppy Joe on Bun Mixed Vegetables Mixed Fruit Rice Krispy Treat Milk	25 School Improvement Day 11:30am Dismissal
28 Bosco Stick / Marinara Cooked Carrots Fruit Cup Teddy Grahams Milk	29 Hamburger on Bun French Fries Mandarin Oranges Fruit Snacks Milk	30 Chicken Strips Mashed Potatoes Pineapples Cookie Milk	A reimbursable lunch menu consists of 5 offered components which are set by the new USDA meal pattern in certain varieties and portion sizes determined by student age. Meat/Meat Alternate minimum, Grain minimum, Vegetable, Fruit, Fluid Milk. Skim, Chocolate and 1% White milk served everyday	

IF YOU GET A CALL FROM US...



A call from one of us doesn't automatically mean your child needs to go home.

Rockets Health Team



- AMANDA LEWIS, DISTRICT RN
- JESSICA STUBBS, ELEMENTARY RN
- KRISTEN TUCKER, ILLINOIS CITY HEALTH AID

1

If they **HAVE** to go home, we will tell you.

If your child meets exclusion criteria or otherwise needs to leave school, we will specifically tell you they need to be picked up. That decision will be based on health and safety criteria we are required to follow. If we send your child home there will be instructions for return to follow.

****This absence is considered a Nurse EXCUSED absence and additional days if necessary****

2

If we **DON'T** say they have to go home, **YOU HAVE OPTIONS**

If they don't meet exclusion criteria but you still get a call from us, it's because I want your input on what to do next.

You can:

- Talk to your child.** We are always happy to put them on the phone
- Send them back to class.** You know your child best.
- Pick them up anyway.** That choice is always yours.

****most times this will not be an excused absence****

One quick note: Our offices can get pretty busy, you may not receive a call for every minor visit.

If you need to reach us:

- Amanda Lewis JH/HS/IL City
309-793-8040
alewis@rr300.org
- Jessica Stubbs Elementary
309-793-8080
jstubbs@rr300.org
- Kristen Tucker Illinois City
309-793-8090
ktucker@rr300.org

Every day in the classroom counts! While we always want to make sure your children are safe and comfortable, our main goal is to keep them in school and engaged in learning.

We know that minor, everyday aches and pains pop up from time to time. Often, a quick rest in the health office, a glass of water, or a little encouragement is all it takes to get them feeling ready to conquer the rest of their school day without needing to go home.

MUSIC NEWS



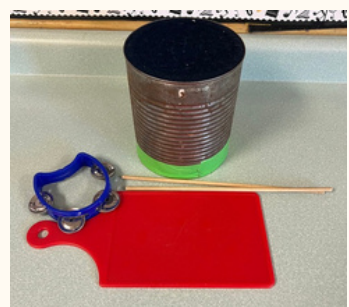
EMAIL:

awinn@rr300.org

HELLO, FAMILIES!

My name is Anna Winn and I am your child's music teacher this year! This is my 3rd year teaching at both Taylor Ridge and Illinois City. I am very excited for the year ahead, and to continue seeing each class every day for 20 minutes of music. My hope is that throughout the year, students will develop a love and appreciation for music while building skills through singing, movement, listening, and playing instruments. I will put out a newsletter once per quarter with info and updates on what's happening in the music room :)

PLAYING:



This quarter we will be doing a lot of activities that reinforce expectations when it comes to playing unpitched percussion instruments (pictured above). Games like "Silent Instrument Ninja" help students practice keeping instruments quiet until it's time to play. Kindergarten will participate in a farm unit where each instrument is represented by a different animal. They will learn how to play the above instruments properly and will learn lots of animal songs.

1st & 2nd graders will also use can stations - kind of like a mini drum set

SINGING:

Learning about the different types of voices and how we use them is a big focus at the beginning of the year, especially in kindergarten. Puppets will be used to help kids gain confidence in their singing voices, and children's books will be used for more vocal exploration. Some I will use this fall include We're Going on a Bear Hunt, Fortunately, and the Listening Walk.

MOVEMENT:

Being able to keep a steady beat is an essential 1st quarter skill, as students will need this skill for the rest of the year in music. Kids will practice steady beat through locomotor and non-locomotor movement and passing games. We will also use our steady "BEET" friend (below) when learning a new song to show where the beat is.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The K-2 Holiday Program will be held the evening of Wednesday, December 16th. More details to follow in the coming months.



TR/IC SEL NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026

Respect

This month's focus is Respect. One way to think about Respect is "seeing value in all people and things & treating them with care." Throughout the school, students will be developing skills like perspective-taking, conflict resolution, and leadership.

Kindergarten:

Listening to others is an important life skill – and it takes practice! In Kindergarten, we are focusing on listening skills this month. Being a good listener helps us show Respect to other people and treat them with care.

First Grade:

Friendship skills are life skills! In 1st grade this month, we are focusing on friendship. An important part of being a good friend is seeing value in others and treating them with care, which is practicing Respect!

Second Grade:

We all experience conflict in life. Whether we are frustrated with a friend or in an argument with a family member, we need tools to help us navigate conflict successfully. This month's focus for 2nd grade is on understanding conflict resolution through practicing Respect for others. This month, students will practice using the Tree of Choices, which is a simple tool to lead us toward successful conflict resolution

Skills:

Great listeners have:

1. Eyes are ready.
2. Ears are listening.
3. Brain is focused
4. Heart is caring

Tree of Choices:

1. The Roots of the Tree:
Identifying if the problem is big or small.
2. The Heart of the Tree:
Naming the emotions you are feeling.
3. The Branches of the Tree:
Make a choice to:
Move it out
Talk it out
Breathe it out

Conversation Starts

- Can you share or show what Respect means?
- Why do you think it is important to use Strong Listening when practicing Respect?
- Why do you think it is important to be Respectful as a friend?
- Tell me about the Tree of Choices. Which part is easiest for you? Most challenging?

Thank you,

Mrs. Sywassink & Mrs. Stice

ROCKRIDGE PTO

FUN RUN



Come run 1 mile with the RHS
Cross Country team!

Saturday: September 26

START AT 9:00AM
@ the RHS Track

2026



\$30 T-Shirt &
Registration



[Register Here!](#)



*All ages welcome to run!



Fun Run



School Lunch Info

**Make
Checks
out to
Rockridge**



**BREAKFAST: \$2.75
Elementary Lunch: \$3.45
Milk: \$0.44**

****If your family is interested in financial assistance for food, please fill out the free or reduced lunch pricing waiver form available in the office.**

ROCKRIDGE

School Break Planner

2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Labor Day	3 DAY WEEKEND SEPT 5-7 - NO SCHOOL
Columbus Day	3 DAY WEEKEND OCT 10-12 - NO SCHOOL
P/T Conferences	4 DAY WEEKEND OCT 30-NOV 2 - NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Break	5 DAY WEEKEND NOV 25-29 - NO SCHOOL
Christmas Break	14 DAY BREAK DEC 23-JAN 6 - NO SCHOOL
MLK Day	3 DAY WEEKEND JAN 16-18 - NO SCHOOL
President's Day	3 DAY WEEKEND FEB 13-15 - NO SCHOOL
Spring & Easter Break	8 DAY BREAK MAR 22-29 - NO SCHOOL

Join our team!

WE ARE HIRING SUBSTITUTES

Great pay, flexible hours, & a LOT of fun!

Contact Dawn Finley to find out more!

309-793-8001

dfinley@rr300.org

**Do not hesitate to reach out
and ask questions!**



**HIRING SUBS FOR: TEACHERS,
PARAPROFESSIONALS, SECRETARY,
KITCHEN, BUS DRIVERS, NURSE**

GIRLS

in AVIATION DAY

When: Saturday, Sept.19

Location: 10a.m. – 2 p.m.

Quad Cities International
Airport | Quad Cities Aero
3100 George Kirk Dr.
Moline, IL 61265



FEATURING: Elliott Aviation, Jet Air Inc, Quad Cities International Airport Police and Fire Department, QCIA Airport Services LLC, US Air Force, US Navy, US Marines, Iowa State University, Department of Homeland Security, Envoy Air/American Airlines, EAA, Quad Cities Aero, CMT, Eaton, Arconic, University of Iowa AirCare, Unmanned Aerial Systems, and more!

Girls 
IN AVIATION DAY
A Women in Aviation International® Event

**REGISTER
HERE:**

