JUNIOR HIGH

ROCKET NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 27TH, 2026

WEEKLY REMINDERS:

Mon Sept. 28th

Tue Sept 29th
- **JH Football at HOME**

Wed Sept 30th
- **FCA at 7:20 am**

Thur Oct. 1st
- **Art Club at 3:15 pm**
- **Girls Basketball at United**

Fri Oct. 2nd
- **Picture Day**

IMPORTANT LINKS

- Lumen
- JH Morning Announcements
- Student handbook
- Music Newsletter
- JH/HS Event Calendar

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Homecoming Week was a wonderful success, and it was so great to see our students showing so much Rocket pride! As we move into another exciting week at Rockridge Junior High, please keep in mind that Fall Picture Day is coming up this Friday, October 2nd.

This week, students in grades 6-8 will complete the Youth Needs Screener to help us identify social, emotional, and academic supports. For more information on the survey, please see page 4.

Finally, please take a look through the rest of this newsletter for several other great opportunities and events. Check out our newest addition, the "Ripple Effect." This includes a scholarship opportunity for our Junior High Students! Our Fall After School Art Club holds its first meeting on Thursday, October 1st. Additionally, extra 2025-2026 yearbooks are still on sale for 50% off ($15 each), and tickets are available for the Rockridge Booster Club's Dueling Pianos Fundraiser on Saturday, October 17th.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support of our students!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Corlett



JUNIOR HIGH

ROCKET

RIPPLE EFFECT

REFLECTIONS FROM THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR

We all have the need to be
Known.
Seen, &
Loved
to experience
belonging
and
feel safe.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It's been a fun month getting to know our students! I have the awesome opportunity to share the load of Character Strong lessons in each of the MTSS classes this quarter and have enjoyed the way students participate and share real life experiences and emotions with their peers! Our first few lessons focused on community. As an outsider, it's been a pleasure to be welcomed in to such a nice community in such a short time! Our main focus has been on how we all have a need to be known, seen, loved and belong and when those needs are being met, we feel safe in our community! Over the next few weeks, we will focus our attention on emotional awareness and how emotions help us manage our reactions and make decisions that impact our lives and those around us. Each week we end the lesson with a character dare. I'd love for our families to encourage each other to complete each dare, talk about the 'why' and share your experiences with each other. Let's continue to be a community that soars toward supporting and succeeding for a shared tomorrow! - Mrs. Hoover

Character Dares:

- Hold a door open for 3 people this week. Smile, nod, or acknowledge them in some way.
- Ask someone you live with about their day. Then, ask a follow-up question to learn more, like, "What was the best part?"
- Invite a friend to join you at 1 school event or lunch.







Academic Corner

I'm not trying to turn the clock too fast, but here's a great opportunity to apply for a scholarship as a middle schooler! A 300-400 word essay could get you a great headstart! Click the link to have your student apply and enter today! Submissions due Oct. 31st!

https://bit.ly/4ycPAAR



September is: National Suicide Prevention Month

Call 988 for help
https://www.safe2helpil.com/

JUNIOR HIGH

ROCKET

RIPPLE EFFECT

REFLECTIONS FROM HOMECOMING WEEK













Hoco Week '26























Date: September 25, 2026

TO: All Families and Caregivers

FROM: Mrs. Brittany Corlett

RE: Youth Needs Screener

Each year, we work to make sure every student in our school receives the support they need to achieve success and experience positive outcomes on our campus. Ongoing screening in both academic and social, emotional, and behavioral functioning can identify students that need additional support to increase their academic performance and improve overall well-being.

Screening tools help school staff develop effective plans and allocate resources at the school, class, and individual levels. During the week of September 28th, we will administer the Youth Needs Screener. The Youth Needs Screener is completed by students in grades 6-8 and is available at the school for your review. Please email ahoover@rr300.org or call (309) 793-8020 for more information.

The results will be used as one data point in a proactive process that supports students with mentoring, organizational strategies, social skills, coping strategies, and other supports that help them fully engage in their learning. Should our team identify your child as needing additional support, you will be notified just as you would with academic interventions on our campus.

We encourage every child to participate in the Youth Needs Screener as it gives us important information about how well we are doing at the school level and how to best support each student in our school. We also know it is important to provide families and caregivers with the option of not having their child participate in the screening process.

If you decide that you would like to have your child not participate in the screener, please sign this form at the bottom and return it to us by Tuesday, September 29th or email Mrs. Hoover ahoover@rr300.org.

We appreciate the ongoing partnership with our families to ensure all students receive what they need and can experience success at Rockridge Junior High School.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Brittany Corlett

I wish to opt my child out of participating in the screening assessment this year. By signing this form, my child will not participate in the Youth Needs Screener.

_____
Name of Parent / Caregiver

_____ _____
Parent / Caregiver Signature Date

Fall Picture Day 2026 is here!

When: October 2nd, 2026

Just a reminder! ALL picture orders are online ordering only!

Link to Order: **HTTPS://INTER-STATE.COM/FLYERENTRY**

Each School has their own code. See below:

Illinois City Elementary School: 0556VYF

Taylor Ridge Elementary School: 0556XYF

Andalusia Elementary School: 0557KPF

Rockridge Junior High School: 0557RDF

Rockridge High School: 0557YNF

If you have questions, please reach out to your building's secretary.



Retake:

11/16/2026

NURSE NOTE

Parents!!

Don't Forget!

Do you have a 6th Grader

- Illinois school physicals and updated vaccines are due by October 15, 2026 for all 6th grade students.
- Dental exam is due by May 15, 2027

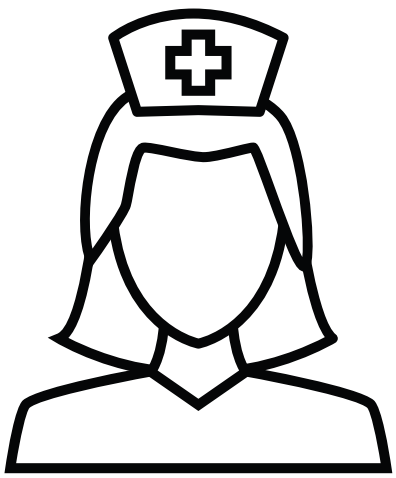
Is your student new to Illinois?

- Our health office needs a copy of an Illinois school physical form that was completed within one year of starting school by October 15
- If you are new to Illinois please turn in a current eye exam from an eye doctor.

Is your student playing a sport?

- Physicals are good for 13months
- School required (6th grade) are okay for sports as sports physical cannot be use for school
- Students in 8th grade playing sports can have a school form completed and it will be accepted for 9th grade admittance.

Contact Amanda Lewis (alewis@rr300.org)







Rockridge JH

YEARBOOK

50% OFF

NOW $15







WE STILL HAVE EXTRA 25-26 YEARBOOKS!

WHEN THEY ARE GONE
THEY ARE GONE!



Rockridge Junior High

2026 Fall After School Art Club



WHERE: Rockridge High School Art Room or Mrs. Wright's Room

WHEN: 3:15-4:30pm on **select** THURSDAYS

DATES

October: 1st, 8th, 15th, & 22nd
November: 5th, 12th, & 19th
December: 3rd, 10th, & 17th

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- PICK UP IS AT **JUNIOR HIGH DOORS** AT 4:30 pm
- Students may bring a snack
- It is not mandatory to come to every session; however, it is recommended that students come to as many as possible since each session builds on the previous session. Students participating in Speech will be excused on Thursdays to attend Art Club if they wish.

CONTACT DANA WRIGHT (facilitator) with questions: dwright@rr300.org

THE BOTTOM PORTION OF THIS FORM MUST BE TURNED IN TO THE JUNIOR HIGH OFFICE OR MRS. WRIGHT BEFORE THE STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE

Student's Name _____

I give my child permission to participate in the Rockridge Junior High After School Art Club.
Parent Signature _____

Parent Contact Information
Parent's Name _____
Parent's Phone Number _____
Parent's Email Address _____

The Rockridge Booster Club will be hosting

DUELING PIANOS

Sign Up Now! FUNDRAISER

Join us for a night of amazing music by **HOWL 2 GO**, great food, and cold drinks!

All proceeds from the event to support the new fitness center and weight room at Rockridge High School.

Saturday, Oct. 17 | 5-11 p.m.

Reynolds Legion Club

*Scan the **QR code** to get your tickets today!*
Or visit
https://forms.gle/uX3Gm19HhDGVtozR7

Event Details

Adults *(21 and older)*
Limited seating
Cost: **$75** per individual ticket
$600 per table *(8 per table)*

More pricing options available with the online form.

For more information, email
rockridgeboosters@gmail.com.

ROCKRIDGE BOOSTER CLUB

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

14110 134TH ST. TAYLOR RIDGE, IL 61284 | WWW.RR300.ORG

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

ALL DAY. EVERY DAY

It adds up...

EVERY Tardy

\+

EVERY Absence

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

ONE DAY	→ ONE WEEK	→ ONE MONTH	→ ONE YEAR
15 MINUTES	= 1.25 HOURS	= DAYS 1	= DAYS 8
30	= 2.5 HOURS	= DAYS 2	= DAYS 16

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

Rockridge Junior High School
Upcoming Events

Oct 9, 2026	**End of First Grading Period**
Oct 9, 2026	**School Improvement Day- 11:30 Dismissal**
Oct 12, 2026	**No School- Columbus Day**
Oct 29, 2026	**Parent- Teacher Conferences- 3:00-8:00 pm**
Oct 30, 2026	**Parent- Teacher Conferences-8 am - 1 pm**
Oct 30, 2026	**No School – P/T Conferences**
Nov 2, 2026	**No School – in lieu of P/T Conferences**



CLICK HERE FOR THE DISTRICT CALENDAR!