

# Taylor Ridge Elementary School

## Updates and Information

Happy Friday TRE Families and Friends.

**Please check out the flyer from Miss Winn regarding the upcoming K-2 Holiday Concert. Please see the attached flyer, as well as the letter from Miss Winn that went out earlier this week.**

**There is a lunch menu change on Wednesday 12/10 - uncrustables, chips, fruit, cookie and milk will be served as the hot lunch option.**

**Snow is upon us, which means different recess procedures.** We will go out for morning and lunch recess if the “Feels Like” temp is 18° or higher. Lower than 18° we will have indoor recess.

In order for students to go out and play in the snow, they will need to have all winter gear available to wear. (Snow pants, Coat, Hat, Gloves and Boots.) If students do not have these items, they will still be able to go outside to play, they will just be limited to hard surfaces. (Blacktop/basketball court etc.) If you are in need of assistance providing winter gear, please reach out to us in the school office.

More about winter recess procedures... in an effort to make sure that everyone is having injury free fun, please remind students that they are not to throw snowballs at others. Often times the snow balls can be icy, leading to more harm than fun.

If you have a student who will be entering Kindergarten next year, please click this link and fill out the form!

[!\[\]\(17413706fd4997a1a4bdf85c6864eee1\_img.jpg\) Kindergarten Interest Form 2026-2027](#)

As always, if you have any questions for us at TRE feel free to contact the office at (309)-793-8070. Have a great weekend!

-Mr. Goben

## **Important Dates for this Week/Near Future**

Holiday Program - 12/10 - Rockridge HS South Gym

Taylor Ridge Elementary &  
Illinois City Elementary

# Holiday Program

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH, 2025

KINDERGARTEN 5:30PM

1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE 6:15PM

2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE 7:00PM

All performances will take  
place in the Rockridge High  
School South Gym.





# TRE/ICE Holiday Program Information 2025

Wednesday, December 10th

## Daytime dress rehearsal at RHS South Gym: 12:40-2:20pm

During the school day, students will be bussed to Rockridge High School for a dress rehearsal of their program. This rehearsal will also be open to grandparents (or other family members) who may prefer to attend a daytime concert. Please keep in mind that this is still a rehearsal and will be less formal than the evening performance. Following the rehearsal, students will return to their schools for normal bus routes and pick-up.

## Evening performances at Rockridge High School South Gym:



|              |        |
|--------------|--------|
| Kindergarten | 5:30pm |
| 1st Grade    | 6:15pm |
| 2nd Grade    | 7:00pm |



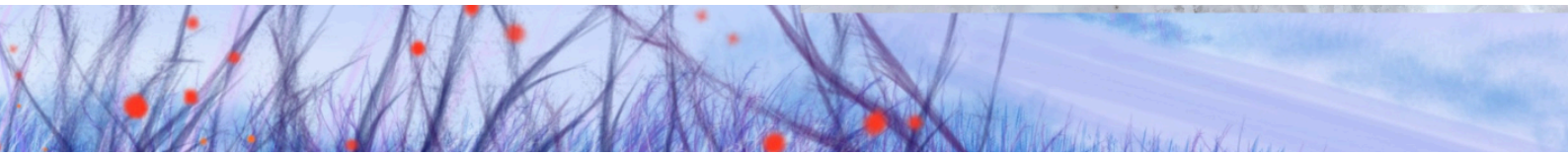
Each performance will be approximately 20-25 minutes long.

## Important Information:

- ❖ Upon arrival, students should sit in the bleachers with their families. Make sure performing students are arriving with plenty of time to be seated in the bleachers BEFORE their performance start time. Doors will open for each concert 20 minutes before each performance, or after the previous concert has ended.
- ❖ All students should come dressed for the evening performance in their best holiday attire. (1st and 2nd grade students will be sitting on the gym floor in order to play instruments, so plan outfits accordingly.) Students do not need to be dressed up for the afternoon dress rehearsal.
- ❖ Please note that all performances will take place at Rockridge High School, NOT either of the elementary schools. The address is 14110 134th Avenue West, Taylor Ridge, IL 61284.
- ❖ All guests for both dress rehearsal and evening performances should park in the Southwest parking lot near the main high school entrance, and enter through the main doors of the high school.

**Questions?** Contact Ms. Winn at [awinn@rr300.org](mailto:awinn@rr300.org)





# TR/IC SEL NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025

## Grade-level learning

### 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 is also an important way to practice Empathy. We will learn and practice these Strong Listening strategies at school. Try them at home with your student!

### FIRST GRADE

Friendship skills are life skills! In 1st grade, we are focusing on being a good friend. Understanding and connecting to other people's feelings (practicing Empathy) is a powerful way to grow in friendship. Friendship skills we are working on: Communicating with Kindness and understanding how our actions impact others. Talk about friendship with your student and the importance of connecting with others!

### 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 the lens of Empathy. Students will practice using the Tree of Choices, which is a simple tool to lead us toward successful conflict resolution.

## Empathy Overview

This month's focus is Empathy. One way to think about **Empathy** is **"understanding and connecting with other people's feelings."** Empathy is a practice that can help us grow strong relationships. Empathy is 1 of 3 traits we will focus on throughout the year that helps students Be Kind. Throughout the school, students will be developing skills like perspective-taking, conflict resolution, and leadership.

### STRONG LISTENING

- Eyes are ready.
- Ears are listening
- Brain is focused
- Heart is caring

### TREE OF CHOICES

**The Roots:** is the problem big or small?

**The Heart of the Tree:** name your emotions

**The Branches:** make choice (move it out, breath it out, talk it out).

## Be Kind, Be Strong, Be Well

Miss Noe &  
Mrs. Sywassink

# 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!



**ORDER YOUR**  
**YEARBOOK**  
**ONLINE**  
**TODAY!**



**INTER-STATE.COM/ORDER**

Use Order Code: 0336EC  
Orders Due By: Friday, April 3, 2026

**YEARBOOKS AVAILABLE**

**\$20.00**

Softcover Yearbook

ADD Students Name and Photo for \$5.00 more! \* Opportunity for Personalization ends 02-01-2026



# December 2025 Breakfast Menu for All Buildings

**MENUS SUBJECT  
TO CHANGE**

**\*Served Daily: cereal, toast, fruit or juice & milk**

| Mon                                                                                                                             | Tue                                      | Wed                                      | Thu                                                                                                            | Fri                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1<br>Muffin<br>Yogurt                                                                                                           | 2<br>Mini Pancakes<br>Sugar Free Syrup   | 3<br>Whole Grain<br>Pop-Tart             | 4<br>Mini Waffles                                                                                              | 5<br>Biscuits<br>&<br>Gravy              |
| 8<br>French Toast Sticks<br>Sugar Free Syrup                                                                                    | 9<br>Breakfast<br>Bagel Pizza            | 10<br>Bagel<br>&<br>Cream Cheese         | 11<br>Bacon, Egg & Cheese<br>Biscuit                                                                           | 12<br>Whole Grain<br>Pop-Tart            |
| 15<br>Donut<br>Yogurt                                                                                                           | 16<br>Biscuits<br>&<br>Gravy             | 17<br>Muffin<br>String Cheese            | 18<br>Mini Pancakes<br>Sugar Free Syrup                                                                        | 19<br>Breakfast<br>Bagel Pizza           |
| 22<br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b><br> | 23<br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b> | 24<br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b> | 25<br><b>No School</b><br> | 26<br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b> |
| 29<br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b>                                                                                        | 30<br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b> | 31<br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b> | 1<br><b>No School</b><br> | 2<br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b>  |

Skim, Chocolate and 1% White milk served everyday



# December 2025 Lunch Menu for All Buildings



**MENUS SUBJECT  
TO CHANGE**

| Mon                                                                                | Tue                                                                                                                                | Wed                                                                                                                | Thu                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Fri                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b><br>Chicken Nuggets<br>Mashed Potatoes<br>Applesauce Cup<br>Cookie<br>Milk | <b>2</b><br>Mini Corn Dog<br>Baked Beans<br>Mandarin Oranges<br>Teddy Graham<br>Milk                                               | <b>3</b><br>Pretzel Bites w/<br>Cheese Sauce<br>Peas / Apple Slices<br>Granola Bar<br>Milk                         | <b>4</b><br>French Bread Pizza<br>Side Salad (ranch)<br>Mixed Fruit<br>Gold Fish Crackers<br>Milk                                                                                                       | <b>5</b><br>Tomato Soup<br>Grilled Cheese Sandwich<br>Carrots (ranch)<br>Fruit Cup<br>Milk |
| <b>8</b><br>Super Nacho<br>Refried Beans<br>Pears<br>Rice Krispy Treat<br>Milk     | <b>9</b><br>Chicken Strips<br>Green Beans<br>Peaches<br>Pudding Cup<br>Milk                                                        | <b>10 (TR &amp; IC Subject to change)</b><br>Cheeseburger on Bun<br>Baked Chips<br>Tater Tots<br>Fruit Cup<br>Milk | <b>11</b><br>Crispito<br>Chips & Salsa<br>Corn / Pineapple<br>Cookie<br>Milk                                                                                                                            | <b>12</b><br><b>School Improvement<br/>Day</b><br><b>11:30a Dismissal</b>                  |
| <b>15</b><br>Bosco Stick w/<br>Marinara Sauce<br>Corn<br>Fruit Cup<br>Milk         | <b>16</b><br>Walking Taco<br>(Meat, Lettuce, Cheese)<br>Applesauce Cup<br>Rice Krispy Treat<br>Milk                                | <b>17</b><br>Hotdog on Bun<br>Baked Beans<br>Mandarin Oranges<br>Fruit Snacks<br>Milk                              | <b>18</b><br>Chicken & Noodles<br>Mashed Potatoes<br>Peaches / Dinner Roll<br>Dessert<br>Milk                                                                                                           | <b>19</b><br>Pizza Crunchers<br>Green Beans<br>Pineapples<br>Teddy Grahams<br>Milk         |
| <b>22</b><br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b>                                    | <b>23</b><br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b>  | <b>24</b><br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b>                                                                    | <b>25</b><br><b>No School</b>   | <b>26</b><br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b>                                            |
| <b>29</b><br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b>                                    | <b>30</b><br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b>                                                                                    | <b>31</b><br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b>                                                                    | <b>1</b><br><b>No School</b>                                                                                        | <b>2</b><br><b>No School<br/>Holiday Break</b>                                             |

Skim, Chocolate and 1% White milk served everyday



# **Join the Rockets Team!**

**Teachers, Paraprofessionals,  
and Kitchen Staff!**



**Teachers - \$130.00/day**

**Paraprofessionals - \$15.00/hr**

**Kitchen Staff - \$15.00/hr**

**Flexible days! You decide when you want to or are  
able to! Staff will prepare everything for you to  
jump in that day! Breakfast and lunch is free  
when you sub. Substitutes also receives passes  
to athletic events! Email Dawn Finley  
([dfinley@rr300.org](mailto:dfinley@rr300.org))**

