Taylor Ridge Elementary School

Updates and Information

Happy Friday, TRE Families and Friends.

This week we completed MAP testing and started Mission Control. Mission Control is our new K-2 response to intervention program, with a bit of a twist. All students in each grade level are receiving some form of educational intervention or enrichment during this hour-long block every day! It's definitely a learning process for all involved; however, we think that it will be great for all of our little rockets!

A rather large change is taking place in our building this year. Mrs. Terrill, who has been with the Rockridge School District for 26 years, has decided to take some time away from school to spend more time with her family. We wish her nothing but the best. It's incredibly difficult to encapsulate all of the things that Michelle has done for me in my short time here, let alone all of the things that she has done for students and staff over her 26-year career. If you see her around, please congratulate her on a job well done. We look forward to celebrating her years of service at a later date!

As a housekeeping item: if you typically email Mrs. Terrill about changes regarding arrival, dismissal, doctor's appointments, illness, etc., we ask that for the time being you please address messages to your child's classroom teacher as well as my email.

Calling the office is still a great, and encouraged, option for all changes to a student's normal routine.

Be on the lookout for information in the coming weeks about our Book Fair & Donuts with Grownups.

LUNCH MENU CHANGE:

MONDAY 9/14 - UNCRUSTABLE, BAKED CHIPS, CORN, APPLESAUCE

FRIDAY SEPT 18 - CHICKEN NUGGETS, TATER TOTS, FRUIT CUP, SHERBET CUP

As always, if you have any questions for us at TRE, feel free to contact the office at (309) 793-8070 or tgoben@rr300.org

-Mr. Goben

Important Dates for this Week / Near Future

School Improvement Early Dismissal - 11:30 - 9/25

Picture Day 10/2

Book Fair - 10/5 - 10/9

LUNCH MENU CHANGE:

MONDAY 9/14 - UNCRUSTABLE, BAKED CHIPS, CORN, APPLESAUCE

FRIDAY SEPT 18 - CHICKEN NUGGETS, TATER TOTS, FRUIT CUP, SHERBET CUP

Breakfast & Lunch Pricing

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. This is available to ALL families. If you would like to fill one out, please email me directly at tgoben@rr300.org and I will make sure to get one to you!

JOIN US FOR A

GO ROCKETS!

HOMECOMING Tailgate

EVERYONE IS INVITED!

BEFORE OUR HOMECOMING GAME!

STARTS AT **5:00 PM**

BY THE FOOTBALL FIELD
AT ROCKRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL



FREE POPCORN!



FREE WATER!



$1 POP!



BEEF STICK SALES!



BRING CANDY & CHIPS TO SHARE!



FREE STICKERS!

Come hang out, have fun, and get ready for the game!

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

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

IF YOU GET A CALL FROM US...

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



- AMANDA LEWIS, DISTRICT RN
- JESSICA STUBBS, ELEMENTARY RN
- KRISTEN TUCKER, ILLINIOS 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.

September Menus

September 2026 Breakfast Menu for All Buildings

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

MENUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
31 	1 Breakfast Sandwich Bacon, Egg & Cheese	2 Donut Yogurt	3 Mini Waffles Syrup	4 Poptart Yogurt
7 **No School Labor Day**	8 Mini Pancakes Syrup	9 Muffin String Cheese	10 Cheese Omelet Toast	11 Uncrustable Granola Bar
14 Biscuit & Sausage Gravy	15 Breakfast Burrito	16 French Toast Sticks Syrup	17 Scrambled Eggs Toast	18 Breakfast Sandwich Bacon, Egg & Cheese
21 Donut Yogurt	22 Mini Pancakes Syrup	23 Breakfast Bagel Pizza	24 Cheese Omelet Toast	25 Muffin String Cheese
28 Mini Waffles Syrup	29 Scrambled Eggs Toast	30 Breakfast Burrito	1	2

Skim, Chocolate and 1% White milk served everyday

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 *Breakfast for Lunch* 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

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

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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 5 - 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

2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR
ROCKRIDGE COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT 300

August 12 ..... No School Teacher Institute
August 13 ..... No School Teacher Institute
August 14 ..... .Classes Begin – 1:30 dismissal
September 7……..……...No School – Labor Day
September 11……...Quarter 1 Mid-Term
September 25……..School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
October 9..... End of First Grading Period
October 9.....School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
October 12.....No School – Columbus Day
October 16.....Quarter 1 Report Cards Sent Home
October 29 ……Parent-Teacher Conferences-3:00–8:00 p.m.
October 29 .....1:30 dismissal
October 30 ……Parent-Teacher Conferences-8:00–1:00 p.m.
October 30..... No School – P/T Conferences
November 2.....No School – in lieu of P/T Conferences
November 13..... Quarter 2 Mid-Term
November 25-27……..No School – Thanksgiving Break
December 11 .....School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
December 22……End of Second Grading Period – 1:30 dismissal
December 23-January 5…….. No School – Holiday Break
January 6…… No School Teacher Institute
January 7 ..... School Resumes
January 11 .....Quarter 2 Report Cards Sent Home
January 15 .....School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
January 18 ..... No School – M.L. King's Birthday
February 5 ..... Quarter 3 Mid-Term
February 12 .....School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
February 15 .....No School – President's Day
March 12……End of Third Grading Period
March 19 .....School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
March 19 .....Quarter 3 Report Cards Sent Home
March 22-March 29 ..…… No School – Spring Break/Easter Break
April 9 .....School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
April 9 ..... Quarter 4 Mid-Term
April 23 .....School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
May 16……High School Graduation – 2:00
May 20.....End of Fourth Grading Period (tentative) – 1:30 dismissal
May 21……...No School Teacher Institute (tentative)
May 24, 25, 26, 27, 28.....Emergency Days (tentative)
May 27.....Quarter 4 Report Cards Sent Home (tentative)

Quarterly Attendance Report Periods are as follows:

DATES	NUMBER OF STUDENT DAYS SCHOOL IS IN SESSION
August 14 – October 9	40
October 13 – December 22	46
January 7 – March 12	45
March 15 – May 20	43

BOE Approved 6.8.2026

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