



**Our Shared Purpose**  
Provide highly engaging, relevant  
and personalized learning for all  
members of the community.

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## A Day in the District

A Look at Branchville Elementary School's Commitment to Community and Kindness

The staff and leaders at Branchville Elementary School are committed to benefiting students by helping to educate parents. Together, Principal Keith Margolus, PTA co-Presidents Sara Connors and Sarah Pettitt, Math Specialist Prajakta Oppel, and Literary Specialist Alison Carmody, presented "Let's Play School" where parents were able to learn the math and literacy techniques their children were learning. [Watch the video here.](#)



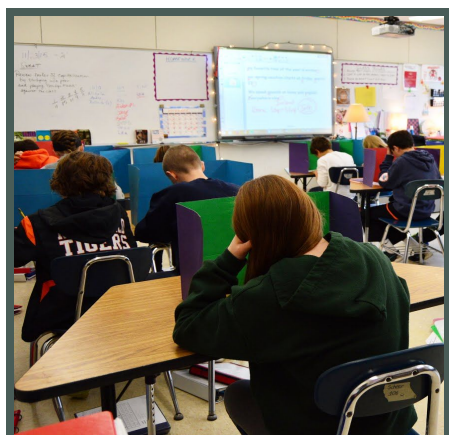
**Branchville Elementary School** is our “Day in the District” feature this month; however, there are always great things happening in all of our schools. Here are a few highlights we thought you would enjoy!



## **Barlow Mountain Elementary School**

### **School Spirit at Halloween**

Every year our youngest students dress up for the annual Halloween parade. Our school community supports them by gathering in the hallways and atrium and singing festive songs. Our kindergarten and grade one team has made a tradition of dressing up for the parade to demonstrate our school spirit with the students.



## **East Ridge Middle School**

### **Debate and Cross Country Students Shine**

Debate and cross country teams shine this month at East Ridge Middle School. The debate team participated in its opening scrimmage in Glastonbury, while the cross country team finished their season with a strong showing at the championship meet held at Tiger Hollow on October 30. [Read more.](#)

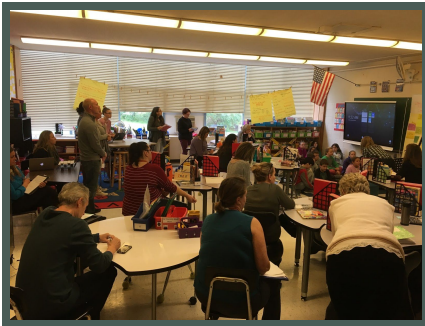


## Farmingville Elementary School

### Farmingville REALLY Reads!

On Thursday, November 8, Farmingville Elementary School's annual Fall book fair was elevated to beautiful heights as students and parents learned together in a truly child-centered Literacy Night. The school week also included visits from author Lauren Baratz Logsted and author/illustrator Kevin Waldron.

[Read more.](#)



## Ridgebury Elementary School

### Teachers and Leaders Gather at Ridgebury for Leadership Training

Ridgebury Elementary School hosted a [Teachers College Reading and Writing Project](#) (TCRWP) leadership group on October 22. According to their website, TCRWP's Teacher-Researcher Specialty Groups bring together teacher-leaders and potential teacher-leaders for specialized instruction. Teachers attended from schools across Fairfield, New Haven, Putnam, and Westchester counties. Specifically, the group focused on improving methods to teach struggling readers and students with special learning needs. Ridgebury Elementary School was selected as the location because our school is seen as an exemplary model of this work.



## Ridgefield High School

### Citizenship Thriving at Ridgefield High School

On Tuesday, October 23, Ridgefield High School welcomed four candidates running for public office to the annual Election Assembly. Congressman Jim Himes (D) and Connecticut State Senator Toni Boucher (R), as well as their respective challengers, Harry Arora (R) and Will Haskell (D), participated in a Candidates' Forum developed for the senior class by the high school's Government and Politics teachers. [Read more.](#)



## Scotland Elementary School

### First School-Wide Sing-A-Long of the Year

Scotland Elementary celebrated its first school-wide Halloween-themed Sing-A-Long. Children, parents, and even a great many grandparents, were in attendance. And what a good time they had! [Read more.](#)

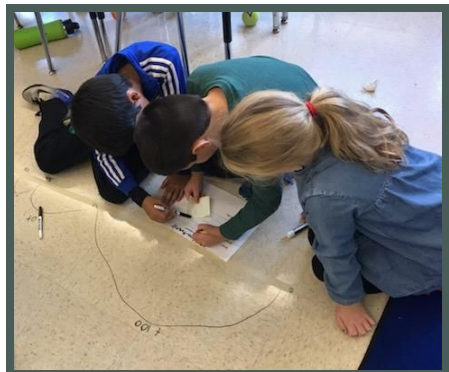




## Scotts Ridge Middle School

### “A Better High” - Motivational Speaker, Dr. Matt Bellace, Entertains and Educates Scotts Ridge Middle School Students

The Ridgefield Prevention Council and Scotts Ridge Middle School teamed up on October 23 to bring acclaimed national speaker Dr. Matt Bellace to the Scotts Ridge Auditorium to present to seventh and eighth-grade students. [Read more.](#)



## Veterans Park Elementary School

### Veterans Park Elementary School Provides Math Professional Development with Ms. Sue O'Connell

On November 5 and 14, Veterans Park Elementary School welcomed Ms. O'Connell, a nationally known mathematics author, speaker, and educational consultant. She led an exciting standards-based professional development day in math for all Veterans Park teachers and district math specialists. [Read more.](#)

# Leadership Spotlight



## A Q&A with Nicholas DeCesare

Elementary Supervisor for Veterans Park & Branchville Elementary Schools

Mr. Nicholas DeCesare is the Elementary Supervisor for Veterans Park and Branchville Elementary Schools. Learn about his role and get to know him better in this Q&A. [Read more.](#)

# RPS Virtual Art Gallery



## Día de los Muertos Sugar Skulls

Students of Ms. Grassi, Ridgefield High School

[Enter our November Art Gallery for more!](#)

## Calendar Highlights



**PARENTING THE  
#SELFIE GENERATION:  
RESILIENCE FOR LIFE**

presents...

## Parent Workshop - December 5

Project Resilience continues its ongoing series of parent workshops this month with [“The Worried Child: Recognizing Anxiety in Children and Helping Them Heal.”](#)

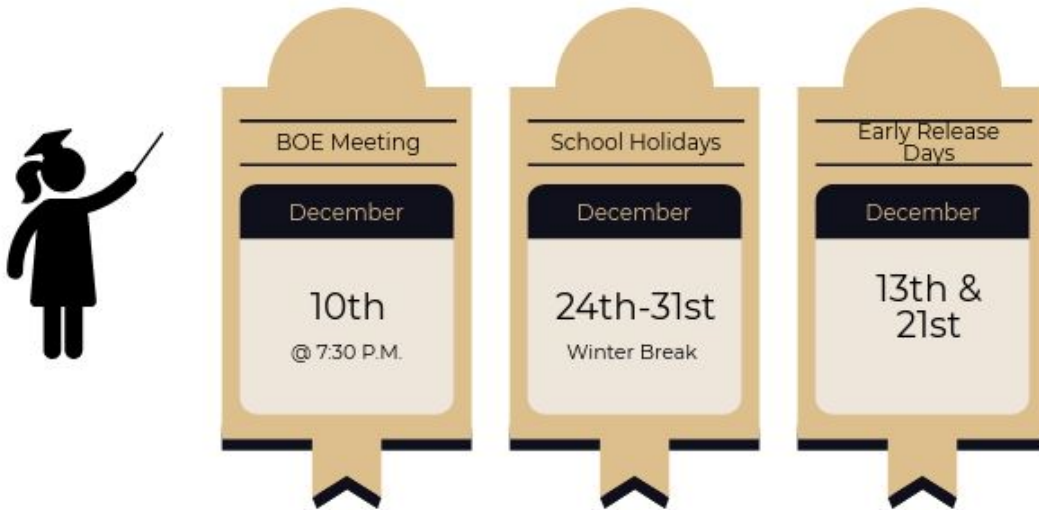
The featured speaker is [Dr. Paul Foxman, Ph.D.](#), a seasoned psychologist and author of the acclaimed books *The Worried Child* and *Dancing with Fear*. Dr. Foxman offers a recovery approach to helping children and adolescents reclaim their lives by replacing anxiety, worry, and panic with peace, optimism, and joy. Learn a wide range of self-help strategies to combat panic attacks, phobias, avoidant behavior, worry, unwanted obsessions, and other physical symptoms.

**Wednesday, December 5th @ 7:00 PM, Ridgefield Library**

Please register at [www.ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://www.ridgefieldlibrary.org) or call 203-438-2282.

[See event flyer for more information](#) and [the full schedule of Parent Workshops for 2018-2019](#)

## Key District-Wide Dates



You may keep up with **news from the Ridgefield Public Schools** via our [news page](#) on the district site or via social media. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Pinterest](#) or [Instagram](#) as we share happenings, reminders of important events, and more. [Contact us](#) if you have any **questions or feedback**.

