



# RPS News

Ridgefield Public Schools Newsletter | Ridgefield, CT | January 14, 2022

## It's Budget Time!

Every year, Ridgefield residents exercise their democratic rights through the budget process that culminates in a town-wide budget referendum on the second Tuesday in May. At Monday's Board of Education meeting, Superintendent Dr. Susie Da Silva presented her [2022-23 budget proposal](#) to the Board of Education and the public, which started the conversation about



District priorities, responsibilities, and challenges. On January 22, each RPS cost center will present details and answer questions during a full-day budget workshop open to the public. This is the second year of this one-day workshop that gives the public and the BOE context of the budget as a whole. In her introduction to this year's budget, Da Silva cites the ongoing effects of COVID-19 on RPS. She showed comparisons between budgets in RPS and other Districts in our District Reference Group (DRG). RPS welcomes the input of families, staff, and the Ridgefield Community in this important civic process. Please see the calendar below for important budget dates (in red) and check the calendar for weather-related changes. Watch her presentation [here](#).

## Calendar

**January 17**  
No School/MLK Day

**January 20**  
Parent Workshop/Mathematics  
[Link to Live/Recorded](#)

**January 22\***  
Special BOE Meeting  
All-Day Budget Workshop  
[Link to Live/Recorded](#)

**January 24\***  
BOE Public Meeting  
[Link to Live/Recorded](#)

**February 7**  
Parent Workshop  
Executive Functions  
[Link to Flyer](#)

**February 14\***  
BOE Budget Vote Meeting  
[Link to Live/Recorded](#)

**February 17**  
Early Dismissal Students  
Professional Development

**February 18-25**  
No School February Break

**March 25\***  
BOF Budget Hearing

**May 10**  
Town Budget Referendum

**June 21\***  
Tentative Last Day of School

\*Please check [Website](#) for weather-related changes and other Town Budget Meetings

[RPS Calendar](#)

## RES Plays Carnegie Hall



Ridgebury Elementary third-graders Ari and Mia Rothschild were selected as winners of the Crescendo International Music Competition and will perform both a solo and duet at a recital at Carnegie Hall on January 22. The twins, who have only been playing piano for two years, have won numerous other piano competitions including the Prometheus International Music Contest in Italy.

## RHS Gift Card Drive



Every year, the Ridgefield High School Student Life Office hosts a Gift Card Drive for local families. This year, SLO raised over \$3500 in gift card contributions from students and staff, as well many clubs like Student Government and Future Business Leaders of America.

## SRMS Patriots Pen Essays

Six Scotts Ridge Middle School students took top awards in the annual Veterans of Foreign Wars Patriot Pen Essay Contest. This year's theme was "How Can I Be a Good American?" Emory H., shown right with SRMS Principal Tim Salem, will represent the school at the Connecticut State Competition and a chance to move on to Nationals. The other top-five SRMS winners were Audrey B., Max F., Hadley H., Sophie K., and Alexa R.. These students received \$25 gift cards and certificates of achievement.



## RHS Debate

Should the case of [Times vs. Sullivan](#) be overturned? Ask the RHS Debate Team who recently spent a full-day debating the subject at the Connecticut Debate Association (CDA) Online Tournament. Coach Adam Horvath reports, "in all, RHS students won twelve rounds of debate with two of our teams earning trophies; one of our members earned the top individual speaker trophy for their division!"

Congratulations to:

Andrew K. & Jeremy H. (3 Wins) - 3rd Place Team

Sophie B. & Matthew U. (2 Wins)

Cora F. & Aditi G. (2 Wins)

Henry L. & James C-D. (2 Wins)

Julia Knispel (3 Wins) - 2nd Place Team Trophy

Julia Knispel - 1st Place Speaker Trophy

Keep up with Ridgefield Public Schools News on our website [news page](#) and [calendar](#).

We would love to hear from you, [contact us](#) with questions and feedback.

