



RPS News

Ridgefield Public Schools Newsletter | Ridgefield, CT | March 4, 2022

Let's Talk! Information Sessions for Parents and the Community

Throughout the budgeting process, Ridgefield Public Schools has aimed to be transparent and communicative. In February, the Board of Education approved the Superintendent's Proposed Budget. Now, that budget goes to the Board of Finance for consideration. To further open the lines of communication, RPS will hold open information sessions for families and the community. Please see the [RPS News Budget Issue](#) to see important upcoming budget dates and other supporting materials. On March 8, Assistant Superintendents Cory Gillette and Liz Hannaway will be hosting a conversation at the Ridgefield Library at 10:30 a.m. in the Main Program Room. Information on the PTA Budget Zoom Session on March 8 (Middle and High School) can be found [here](#).



Get Art? Committee Openings for Visual and Performing Arts

The [Winter Ridgefield Public School Curriculum Newsletter](#) outlined two new ways that parents can support arts education at RPS and get involved. RPS is looking for parent volunteers to join the Innovation Sub Committee on Visual and Performing Arts. This is a short-term commitment that will require time outside of meetings researching other districts known for high-quality art programs and VPA Professional Learning Organizations. Also, RPS seeks parents to volunteer as part of our Visual Arts Celebration Committee. The role of the volunteers will be to assist the art teachers and the District in displaying student art both in the District and in the town so that our students can be celebrated publicly for their art. Please find the form [here](#) to volunteer for these committees. For information on the RHS Spring Musical and an upcoming art opening featuring RPS staff and students (including the painting above right) please read *RPS News* pages 2 and 3!



Calendar

March 8

Budget Information Sessions
Ridgefield Library, 10:30 am
Via Zoom, 7:30 pm

March 10

Early Dismissal for Students
Professional Development

March 14 and 28

BOE Meetings
[Link to Live/Recorded](#)

[RPS Calendar](#)

Kindergarten Registration for School Year 2022-23 Opens March 7
Important Information, [Here!](#)

Young Inventor Wins \$2500



As Invention Convention competitions continued across the District this week, a former IC stand-out, Lily Zezuela wins \$2500 for her Turtle Tent invention. Lily, currently a sixth-grader at East Ridge Middle, invented the Turtle Tent for the 2021 Farmingville

Elementary Invention Convention. Because of her outstanding performance at the State level, she qualified for The Harman's Inventors Challenge. Out of 500 elite inventors, Lily earned second place, which came with a \$2500 prize. Please see Lily's passionate and articulate presentation of her turtle-friendly invention, [here](#).

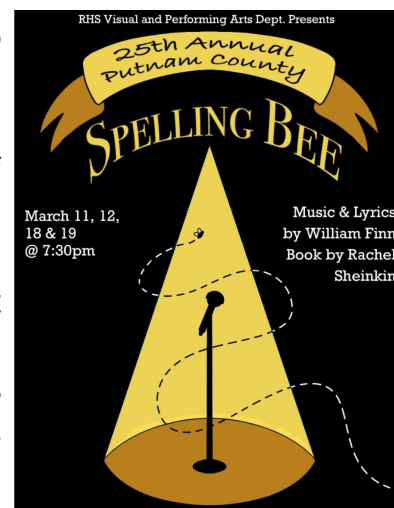
RHS Music Matters



RHS musicians represent! Junior Matthew Uy, principal second violinist in the Symphonic Orchestra and Music Department Press Secretary, wrote [this engaging account](#) about students that represented RHS at Western Regionals. Congratulations! Please enjoy performances from the Winter Concert [here](#).

RHS Musical Opens Next Week

Get your [tickets](#) for the Ridgefield High School spring musical, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* by William Finn and Rachel Sheinkin! In this riotous musical, an eclectic group of six tweens vie for the spelling championship of a lifetime. While candidly disclosing hilarious and touching stories from their home lives, the characters spell their way through a series of words, hoping never to hear the soul-crushing, pout inducing, life un-affirming "ding" of the bell that signals a spelling mistake. March 11, 12, 18, and 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the RHS Auditorium. All tickets are \$10. RHS teachers are free with school ID. (Poster credit: RHS senior Emmett Joyce)



New Director of Finance



Superintendent Susie Da Silva announced that Jill Browne will be the new Director of Finance starting on June 1. Please read the full announcement [here](#). Welcome, Jill! Dr. Da Silva praised the outgoing Business Manager, Dawn Norton. Best of luck and thank you, Dawn!

Teacher and Student Art Show



Creative Conversations opens this Sunday, March 6 at the Meeting House (605 Ridgebury Road) with an Artists Reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Creative Conversations is an exhibition curated by RHS Art Teachers: Jane Grassi, Dana Phelan, and Michael Rivera. The exhibition features over 100

works of art by RHS students and other students in the area and their teachers. The ambitious exhibition asks what do teachers and students have to say to each other through their work. From painting to jewelry, print-making to photography, this wide-reaching show will be up until March 26. View [this press release](#) for more information.

Four-Peat for Boys Basketball



Ridgefield High School Boys Basketball brought down rival Wilton Warriors, 46-40, to win the school's fourth consecutive FCIAC Championship! This is the first time a school has won four straight FCIAC titles. Sophomore Dylan Veillette was the tournament MVP.

RHS Dance Team Wins Big!



Congratulations to the talented RHS Dance Team—CIAC Champions! Please read about their successful season in the [Hamlet Hub](#).

Skiers With Skills



The RHS Girls Ski Team finished an impressive second at the State Open. Julia B., Jillian P., and Hadley D. all finished in the top 10, while Hayden D., Alexandra S., and Emily F. rounded out our top 6 scorers to secure a 2nd place finish. The fastest skiers in the state competed in giant slalom and slalom to earn a prestigious spot on Team Connecticut. Three tigers (photo above)—Julia B., Jillian P., and Hayden D.—qualified to represent Connecticut at the Eastern Regional High School Championships in New Hampshire this month! Go Tigers!

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.

