



RPS NEWS

April 5, 2019 | Issue No. 05

VP Looks for the Good

Embraces Culture of Kindness and Gratitude

Veterans Park initiated a two-week kindness program with an ambitious multi-event program—"Look for the Good"—which touches every aspect of school life. [Read more about the "Look for the Good" Project.](#)

Principal Ellen Tuckner's mantra is "Work hard. Be kind." simple instructions that run through the program and school.

Expressing gratitude plays a big part in "Look for the Good." Students and staff added notes to a "Gratitude Wall." They shared kindness cards as seen in [this adorable video.](#)

The photo on the right shows a floor sticker that reads, "You're on the Spot." Students and staff stood on the sticker and shared what they were grateful for. [Watch the video here.](#)

Every child received a "You Matter" t-shirt color-sorted by grade — shown in yellow in the picture at the top right. All staff wore their tie-dyed "You Matter" shirts to a school-wide spirit event.

Practicing gratitude and kindness creates a climate at VP where all the students and staff know how much they matter!



CALENDAR

April 8**

BOE Meeting

April 10

[Project Resilience](#)

[Talk](#) 7:00 pm at Library

Parenting the Next Generation
Presented by...

Mind. Body. Food. Hope.
A Frank Discussion of Body Image, Eating Disorders, and Healthy Diet

Wednesday, April 10
7:00 pm - Ridgefield Library

Join us as these experts discuss important issues of health and diet:
Rena Brookman, MS, RD, R
Dianne Chrobotowski, MS, LPC
Marcia Schneider, MD

Topics include: • eating disorders and body dysmorphia
• building a healthy relationship with food in your home
• identifying a concern and seeking treatment
• the road to recovery - there is HOPE!

This program is made possible by the Girl Scout Gold Award project of Abby Morris.

PLEASE REGISTER TO ATTEND at www.ridgefieldlibrary.org OR CALL 860-253-2121

Presented by Ridgefield Public Schools in partnership with Ridgefield Public Library. Support provided by Ridgefield Public Schools, Ridgefield Public Library, and Ridgefield Public Schools Foundation. Thank you to all who made this program possible.

April 11

After the Bell

April 12

PD (Teachers)

Early Dismissal

(Students)

April 15-19

Spring Break

April 22**

BOE Meeting

**Please check [BOE Meeting Calendar](#) for changes.

Visit ridgefield.org/Calendar for full calendar.

CONGRATULATIONS

Scotland Student Wins Essay Contest

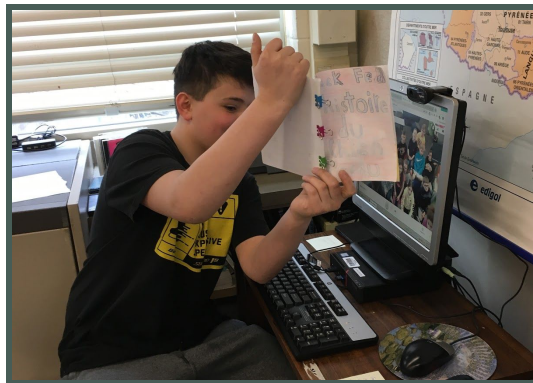


Our SES fourth-grade classes went on a field trip to the Ridgefield Playhouse to watch the SunDog Theater present the play *Ellis Island*. At that time, one of our students, Lia M., a fourth-grader in Amy Pambianchi's class won \$50 in an essay writing contest sponsored by Union Savings Bank. [Read Lia's essay about her own immigration to the United States in 2014 here.](#)

Photo (left to right): Lia on stage with Michele Bonvicini, Director of Community Relations at Union Savings Bank; Jill Maguire, Union Savings Bank Senior Branch Manager in Ridgefield; and Christine O'Leary from the Ridgefield Playhouse.

ERMS French Shares Stories with FES

East Ridge 8th-grade French students wrote children's stories in French. They read their children's *l'histoires* to Farmingville fifth-grade students via Google Hangouts as shown in the picture to the right. As an active audience for this project, FES fifth-graders gave the ERMS authors feedback on their work. At the same time, our soon-to-be 6th-graders from FES had the opportunity to virtually participate in an ERMS Language Arts class and get a 'head start' on a new world language.



ART GALLERY



[View More VP Georgia Okeefe Inspired Art](#)

MUSIC NEWS

SRMS Students selected for Western Regional Music Festival include:

Jazz Band

Carson D. - Trumpet

Brian K. - Trombone

Akarsh T. - Alto Saxophone

Concert Band

Jeremy H. - Clarinet

Diana K. - Flute

Sam M. - Clarinet

Gregory K. - Trumpet

Congratulations to them and to their Music Teacher, Andrew Clavi. Keep practicing everyone!

[ERMS Festival Selections as Noted in Last Week's RPS News](#)

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.

