



# RPS NEWS

Ridgefield Public Schools Newsletter | Ridgefield, CT | September 25, 2020

## No School Monday; Full Reopening for Youngest Students; Cohort A in Person on Tuesday and Wednesday; Cohort B in Person on Thursday and Friday

RPS announced changes to its reopening plan at a special Board of Education meeting this week. Because the changes are coming up quickly, we want to recap next week's schedule and other news of the plan.

On Monday, September 28, RPS schools are closed for Yom Kippur, the Jewish day of Atonement.

Tuesday, September 29 marks the first day that RPS kindergarteners, first and second graders in both cohorts will attend in person. Elementary students in third, fourth, and fifth grades in Cohort A will go in person on Tuesday and Wednesday and remote on Thursday and Friday; grades 3-5 in Cohort B will be remote on Tuesday and Wednesday and in person on Thursday and Friday. The elementary school buildings plan to be open full-time in person for all RPS elementary students on October 5.

RPS Middle Schools and Ridgefield High School will continue on the hybrid schedule through the first quarter to continue social distancing and mitigate the risk of community spread. It might bear repeating that this Tuesday (9/29) and Wednesday (9/30) at ERMS, SRMS, and RHS, Cohort A will be in school. On Thursday (10/1) and Friday (10/2), Cohort B will be in person. Some middle and high school students with IEPs and 504s will be full-time, in person.

RPS asks families who opt for Temporary Remote Learning to commit to the full quarter for Middle School and RHS and for the trimester for elementary students. This allows administrators, teachers, students, and parents to best prepare. To change a student's status, please email each student's school office or principal.

Yom Tov!



### Calendar

**September 28**

No School; Yom Kippur

**September 29**

BOE Meeting

[BOE website for information](#)

**October 12**

No School; Columbus Day

[Full RPS Calendar](#)

In next week's issue: Dogs of RPS

## ERMS Gets a Glowforge



East Ridge Middle LLC Teacher, Tanya Anderson, shared the fierce wooden tiger (photo above) created with the newly acquired Glowforge, a 3D laser printer with many applications. Anderson writes, “Interestingly enough four years ago, my first year teaching at East Ridge, two of my sixth graders introduced me to the Glowforge. They wrote a passionate letter, but unfortunately, we were not able to get the funding. I have been trying every year on their behalf, and it finally came to fruition.”

One of those sixth-graders is Nate C., who is now a sophomore at RHS. Nate writes, “The Glowforge is such an amazing tool to have. ERMS is incredibly lucky to have the chance to create and design with one. I am so proud that I played a small part in getting it. The Glowforge will surely change the ERMS Makerspace for the good and will be utilized to create wonderful things. Congratulations to Mrs. Anderson and everyone at ERMS!”

Anderson adds that this year ERMS students and staff will have the opportunity to decorate a butterfly created by the Glowforge, which the librarians will assemble into an all-school project.

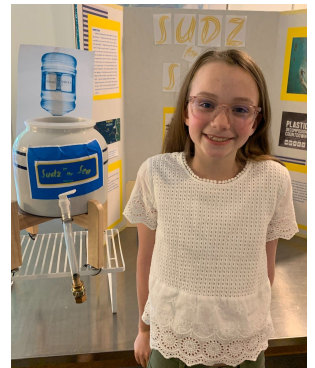
## Vote Owen Now!



RHS senior Owen G. is up for USA Football’s 2020 Heart of a Giant award. Please read his story and cast your on-line ballot at [USA Football's website](#).

## Inventor Amongst Us

Georgia A.’s invention Sudz for the Sea took home gold this summer during the National Invention Convention. Currently a sixth-grader at SRMS, Georgia saw a need to reduce plastics in our oceans and found a way to make a difference.



Watch Georgia describe her invention in this [video](#). Read the [Ridgefield Press article](#) for the complete story. Way to go, Georgia!

## Reopening Podcast

In the latest [Tiger Talk podcast](#), Dr. Wes DeSantis sits down with co-chairs of the RPS reopening committee, Karen Dewing, Director of Personnel, and Dr. Elizabeth Hannaway, Assistant Superintendent of Special Services to discuss the planning decisions and ongoing challenges of keeping RPS schools open.

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.

