



# RPS NEWS

Ridgefield Public Schools Newsletter | Ridgefield, CT | February 28, 2020 | Issue No. 12

## BMES Awareness Week Celebrated Differences



Barlow Mountain Elementary held its first "Awareness Week", in which students engaged in conversations about empathy, tolerance, and compassion. In addition to BMES's long-standing Differences Day, "Awareness Week" included the *Pencil Presentation* by The Prospector Theater (photo above right). Students enjoyed books and activities, which encouraged these important conversations and promoted kindness.

[Read BMES Elementary Supervisor Sarah Weirsmann's Account of Awareness Week](#)

## Shrek Jr. at East Ridge Middle School

East Ridge Middle School's musical *Shrek Jr.* opens on March 6 at 7 pm followed by a matinee on Saturday, March 7 at 2 pm. Join Shrek, Fiona, Donkey, and all your favorite fairytale misfits for this fun version of a modern classic. Tickets (\$10 general admission) at the door.



### Calendar

**March 9\***  
BOE Meeting

**March 23**  
BOE Meeting  
BOF Public Hearing\*\*

**April 13\***  
BOE Meeting

**March 12**  
Early Dismissal for Students  
Professional Day for Staff

**March 26**  
[Project Resilience Talk](#)

\*Board Conference Room  
Town Annex 7:00 pm  
\*\*ERMS 7:30 pm  
Please Check [RPS Calendar](#)  
for Snow Dates

**March 13-15, 20-21**  
[RHS Musical Legally Blonde](#)

**April 1**  
New Superintendent  
Dr. Da Silva's First Day

[Full RPS Calendar](#)

## Congratulations RHS Students!

Ridgefield High School students continue to distinguish themselves as students, athletes, and artists. Twelve RHS seniors (photo below), Stephen Chen, Emily Christel, Liam Flaherty, Katherine Landler, Joyce Li, Julia Lin, Nicholas Mantione, Questin McQuilkin, Henry Meyler, Helen Ni, Ryan Pratt, and Ryan Taylor are National Merit Finalists. Science Research students Laura Jeniski and Gracie Bell will present at Harvard's Young Researcher's Conference.



Girls Varsity Basketball (photo above) won an FCIAC Championship in a double-overtime thriller against a favored Staples team. Photo right shows viola player Coleman Hoffner, Winner of the Western Connecticut Youth Orchestra Concerto Competition 2020.



Congratulations to all these exemplary RPS students!

## Student Art



[Visit the RPS Art Gallery.](#)

## Heart Healthy VPES & FES

Veterans Park Elementary's Heart Challenge for Kids fundraiser was a huge success, raising over \$8600 for the American Heart Association! The culmination was a 4 against 4 basketball game, fifth graders versus the teachers (photo right).



Farmingville Elementary hosted Guinness World Record holder Peter Nestler (photo right) to "jump" start its Jump Rope for Heart activities. Nestler's inspirational talk, including his story of training for a one-legged mile-long jump, and his demonstrations of double dutch and single jumping on a unicycle kept all eyes on the stage. Nestler encouraged students never to give up on their dreams. Afterward, Mr. Nestler joined each grade for a special PE class focused on learning the basics of how to jump rope as well as a few new tricks.



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.

