



# RIDGEFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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*Susie Da Silva, Ed.D.*  
*Superintendent of Schools*

March 11, 2022

Dear RPS Community,

I so fondly remember teaching kindergarten and being so excited to have the children create their lions and lambs as we spent time learning about the weather and how March comes “In like a lion, out like a lamb.” Fast forward 25 years and I have lost my enthusiasm for the March weather, and the lions and the lambs. I am certain that I am not alone.

Monday evening, I will be recommending to the BOE that Friday, April 8, 2022, become a full day of instruction, rather than an early dismissal day for students. We recognize that families may have already made plans for the afternoon on this day- we will discuss this as well. Further, I will share a second dismissal schedule that provides greater flexibility when weather events arise that require a change in the daily schedule.

Across our schools, our students and staff are keeping busy in and out of the classroom. Stay caught up by following us on social media, our podcast, or RPS News. You don't want to miss updates on the RHS VPA Department's performance of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, the dance team, updates on the robotics team, or how we are doing across our athletic events...and of course so much more!

Warmly,

*Susie*

Susie Da Silva, Ed.D.

## **Friday BITS**

### **Announcing....**

Billy Gramajo joined RPS this week as our new Transportation Coordinator. Billy has hit the ground running and is spending time getting to know staff, our community, and how to continue to support families in ensuring our students have the best experience possible on our school buses.

### **Board of Education Meeting**

Our Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 14 beginning at 7:00 p.m. View the agenda [here](#). You can access the meeting for viewing only [here](#). You can register for

public comment [here](#). You now have two opportunities for public comment- at the start and end of the meeting.

### **A Budget Conversation**

Due to this week's weather event, "A Budget Conversation" has been rescheduled for March 23 at 10:30 a.m. at the Ridgefield Library.

### **Ridgefield Educators "Stuff the Bus"**

Join our teachers in stuffing the bus! School-based collections have been extended until Wednesday, March 16.

### **RPS NEWS FOUND [here](#)!**

### **RPS Kindergarten Registration**

Kindergarten registration is open! Families will have the opportunity to register using our brand new online system. Click [here](#) to take a look!

### **[Ridgefield Tiger Talk](#)**

Tiger Talk returns next week with a brand-new show. In the meantime, be sure to catch up on the 50+ past episodes. Recently we covered topics ranging from the creation of the Ridgefielder newspaper (episode 57) and a very informative RPS 2022-23 budget explanation episode (episode 54). Thanks for listening!

### **Information on Summer Bridge Extension**

Dr. Da Silva will announce the plans for RPS Summer Bridge Extension at Monday night's Board of Education meeting. Parents can expect registration to take place in early April.

### **Curriculum**

On Thursday K-12 Administrators and the Curriculum Team provided a parent information session on the State Mandated Assessments that our students take in the spring. Click [here](#) to view the presentation.

### **K-12 Tutoring**

This week the middle schools offered virtual evening tutoring sessions. Click [here](#) to learn more about it. The rollout is also occurring at the elementary levels. Elementary schools will be reaching out to families to offer before or after-school tutoring sessions for small groups of students in areas of need. The high school is working on a similar model as the elementary schools in which select students will be offered additional support before or after school, based on need.

### **Health and Safety**

As a reminder for families, students, and staff with any symptom of COVID-19, you must stay home from school and contact your school nurse. When returning to school, please remember to provide either a note from your physician stating a diagnosis other than COVID-19, or a negative COVID-19 test result. For home test results, please take a photo of the test with name and date taken, then send it to your school nurse. Families and staff may obtain home test kits from their school nurse.

*Important Note:* we have plenty of test kits at each of our schools. You may pick them up at your school, or request that a kit be sent home in your child's backpack.

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***Instagram:*** rpssuper

**Quote of the Week**

Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud. – Maya Angelou