



RIDGEFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

May 21, 2021

What a gorgeous weather week! Many faculty and families had the pleasure of listening to our RHS Bands perform at Ballard Park. We are so proud of our students, educators, families and their resiliency- the performance of our students evidenced that our school community has the ability to overcome so very much.

Senior Prom tonight...have a blast, and be safe!

Enjoy your weekend.

Warmly,

Susie

Susie Da Silva, Ed.D.

A Few Bits

School Status

Beginning next week, we will remove this “bit” topic from our Friday Update. Schools are open and we welcome all.

Curriculum Update

On Monday night, May 24, the Curriculum Department will update the Board of Education on the elementary Collaborative Action Team that is studying phonics programs with the goal of selecting a resource to be used by all primary teachers in the six schools.

FES Principal

On Monday evening, May 17, the Board of Education welcomed Nancy Caron to RPS and Farmingville Elementary School. You can learn more about Principal-Elect Caron [here](#).

ERMS Principal

Focus groups with families, students, and educators will begin in the coming weeks. We look forward to keeping you informed throughout the process.

RPS Summer Bridge Program

Elementary and Middle School Bridge Programs have both closed registration. We are anticipating that over 1,000 RPS students will get to experience the Bridge program this summer. If you have **not** received a confirmation email about your registration, or a notification of wait list, please email the corresponding directors. We are doing our best to match all students to a session.

Health And Safety

New cases of COVID-19 in Ridgefield, Fairfield County, and the state of CT have dropped dramatically in the last two months. The rate of new cases per day, per 100,000 residents, on a seven day rolling average has dropped from over 40 in Ridgefield down to just one.

On Wednesday, the CT Department of Public Health issued new mask guidance for the state. The document can be found at [this link](#). The guidance says that masks should continue to be worn inside school buildings. A [memo](#) dated yesterday from the CT State Department of Education further clarifies this guidance. CT is now allowing children who are engaged in active movement outdoors to remove their masks. RPS will follow suit and allow children who are engaged in active play outdoors to remove their masks.

Food Service

Wow, what a beautiful week of weather! The Food Service group hopes everyone was able to get outside and enjoy the nice sunny days this past week. Next week we are looking for a similar “business as usual” week. There will be meal pickup at our East Ridge Middle School on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. In addition, both Scotland and Barlow Mtn. Elementary Schools will be providing weekend meals.

In the News:

Our very own Dr. DeSantis and RPS were highlighted in EDTech Magazine, you can find the article [here](#).

RPS Highlights

Enjoy RPS News [here!](#)

Ridgefield Tiger Talk: This will be the last sports update for the school year! On today's show we welcome back Dane Street, the Athletic Director for RHS. We discuss all the current happenings for spring sports; how the athletics department is navigating the changing COVID guidelines; current status of summer sports training; and what's happening for the fall season along with some hints of some other side projects. Thanks for listening!

Don't forget to sign on to social media.

Twitter: @RPS_DaSilva

Instagram: rpssuper

Both are **ridiculously** light and funny- kids can tune in also!

Quote of the Week

“There is no limit on **better**. Talent is distributed unfairly, but there is no limit on how much we can improve what we start with.” Author Unknown.