



# RPS NEWS

Ridgefield Public Schools Newsletter | Ridgefield, CT | November 27, 2019 | Issue No. 7

## RPS Serves Up a Happy Thanksgiving

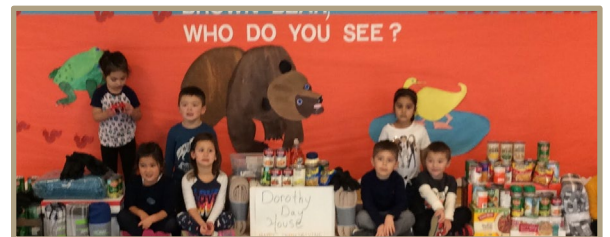


Over the past couple of weeks, the RPS community has committed many acts of kindness and service. Wednesday, November 27, is “VP Gives Thanks Day” when students at Veterans Park Elementary and their extended family come together to complete grade-wide service projects.

Some of the other RPS acts of kindness include Scotland Elementary creating and donating Thanksgiving dinner placemats to Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries Soup Kitchen (photo right). Farmingville Elementary ran a coat drive for Family and Children’s Aid and partnered with the FES PTA to gather food to help make Thanksgiving special for 44 families in need, delivering full meals to the Women’s Center of Greater Danbury (photo top left).



In fact, every day in the district seems to incorporate some element of giving back, especially during the holidays. Barlow Elementary pre-kindergarteners are shown in the photo on the right with their canned food collection for Dorothy Day House. East Ridge Middle is collecting coats, hats, and gloves for Dorothy Day Hospitality House. Scotts Ridge Middle School students (shown above right) gave back twice by performing on Main Street to raise funds for [Educating Canines Assisting with Disabilities](#). Ridgefield High School hosted a “Dodge a Cop” dodgeball tournament for Special Olympics.



This practice of service, from our youngest students through every elementary and middle school to Ridgefield High School, is a reflection of the generosity throughout the Ridgefield community. At every turn, RPS parents and students step in to help and give back. We are extremely grateful for the parents and students of our district. Happy Thanksgiving!

## Calendar

**November 28-29**

No School  
Thanksgiving

**December 5**

Project Resilience Workshop  
[Registration information](#)

**December 9**

BOE Meeting\*

**December 12**

Early Dismissal  
Professional Development

**December 23-January 2**

No School  
Winter Recess

\*Board Conference Room  
Town Annex 7:00 pm

[View Full RPS Calendar](#)

## Little Doctors at SES

Scotland Elementary fifth graders organized and ran the Little Doctors Blood Drive, where they collected 67 pints of blood donations from our community. Scotland was the first school in Connecticut to participate in this life-saving



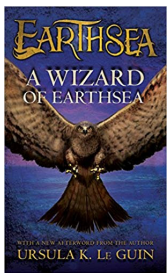
program six years ago. To date, SES fifth-grade students have collected more than 550 pints of blood.

## Fall Art



Nathan P., Gr. 1  
Barlow Mountain Elementary School

## Book Recommendation



Scotts Ridge Middle School Teacher of the Year, Tom Broderick recommends *Earthsea: A Wizard of Earthsea* by Ursula K. LeGuin. Broderick calls LeGuin “one of the founders of the Young Adult Fantasy genre.”

## New Board of Education

RPS looks forward to working with the newly elected Board of Education representatives to serve our district

(photo below: current BOE).

Congratulations to Elizabeth Floegel, Sean McEvoy, Rachel Ruggeri, Kenneth Sjorberg, and returning member Jonathan Steckler. Thank you for your service.



## Understanding Anxiety Talk

RPS partners with Project Resilience again next month to offer the parenting workshop, “Anxiety: Signs, Symptoms, and Strategies for Helping Teens and Children Cope.” On December 5, adolescent psychiatrist Elizabeth Ortiz-Schwartz, M.D. will discuss anxiety disorders and how parents and caregivers can help. Please [register](#) for this free event.

[More information.](#)

## Congratulations

Congratulations to the cast and crew of the wonderful fall play “The Odd Couple.” And to all the RHS college-bound athletes signing Letters of Intent (photo right) and the fall athletes for their outstanding seasons.



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.

