



RIDGEFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Susie Da Silva, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

October 22, 2021

Dear Family and Faculty,

The week (and weekends) have been busy with the Central Office move. If you are looking for us, we will be located at 90 East Ridge Road beginning on November 1.

On a much more exciting note, our boys and girls XC teams won the FCIAC titles. This is the first time that combined boys and girls teams have won since 2013....and guess what? It was also done by us! Go TIGERS!

Warmly,

Susie

Susie Da Silva, Ed. D.

Friday BITS

Board of Education Meeting

Our Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 25. Both the Curriculum and Special Services department will be presenting, and we continue to offer opportunities for live public comment. You can access the Board of Education meeting to watch only, or to make your public comment using the links below.

To watch the Board of Education meeting, use the Youtube link below.

YouTube Link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFK7CGQjWPQQQ05N2_2zROA

OR

If you would like to participate in Public Comment, use the link below to register.

Registration:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_05nIXjD8QP6kAy3eLkzB6w

Once registered, you will receive an email to join the BOE meeting as an audience member. When it is your time to speak you will be promoted to address the Board for three minutes.

**Be sure to have a working microphone/WebCam on your computer or device.*

**You may register as early as today. However, be sure to access the link from your email on the day of the meeting.*

PreK- Gr 6 COVID Screening Program

Voluntary PCR screening for unvaccinated PreK- 6th grade students will begin Monday for those who have opted in. To opt in to testing in the future, parents are asked to please sign the consent in PowerSchool by the Wednesday before the week of testing. Testing will be conducted weekly based on the schedule below. Students who have been opted in will not be compelled to be tested. Students will be allowed to opt themselves out at the time of testing. Currently 477 students are participating in the program.

Monday 10/25

- East Ridge Middle School: 12:30pm
- Veterans Park Elementary School: 9:15am
- Branchville Elementary School: 9:00 am
- Farmingville Elementary School: 12pm

Tuesday 10/26

- Scotts Ridge Middle School: 12:00 pm
- Barlow Mountain Elementary School: 12:00 pm
- Ridgebury Elementary School: 9:00 am
- Scotland Elementary School: 8:50 am

Health and Safety

The CT DPH released an updated version of [Addendum 7](#) this week pertaining to arts and performance programs. Our schools are excited about these changes!

Vaccine booster shots have been approved by the FDA for individuals who work in education and received the Pfizer, Moderna, or J&J vaccine. To find a vaccine provider click this link: www.vaccines.gov.

Ridgefield Tiger Talk: In this week's episode we get to talk to Eileen Stewart, the head coordinator of the Student Life Office (or SLO) at Ridgefield High School. We talk about all the amazing things that this department handles to help cultivate the student experience outside of the classroom. Clubs, sports, events, and many other

activities are handled by this office but it's the students who make the magic happen. Thanks for listening!

Curriculum and Instruction

Here is your fall [Curriculum Newsletter](#). The newsletter is quarterly and will update families on the work of the department across the grade levels. In addition, it will advertise upcoming workshops for families and provide information on how to participate in the workshop. There is a new YouTube Channel for the Curriculum Department. That channel will house all of the workshops from the school year so that parents will have easy viewing access.

Recommendations from the School Library Journal

Sarah Hannah Gómez recommends single-subject memoirs and biographies, Gomez states in the School Library Journal, *"Today's offerings prove that works about real people and events are as immersive and gripping as the best novels."*

- *Shout* by Laurie Halse Anderson, grade 8 and up
- *Apple: Skin to the Core* by Eric Gansworth, grade 7 and up
- *Passport* by Sophia Glock, grade 9 and up
- *Hurricane: My Story of Resistance* by Salvador Gómez-Colón, grade 6 and up
- *A Face for Picasso* by Ariel Henley, grade 8 and up
- *All Boys Aren't Blue: A Memoir-Manifesto* by George Johnson, grade 8 and up
- *High School* by Sara Quin and Tegan Quin, grade 9 and up
- *From a Whisper to a Rallying Cry: The Killing of Vincent Chin and the Trial That Galvanized the Asian-American Movement* by Paula Yoo, grade 8 and up

Collective Biographies

- *Girlhood: Teens Around the World in Their Own Voices* by Masuma Ahuja, grade 7 and up
- *African Icons: Ten People Who Built a Continent* by Tracey Baptiste, grade 4-8
- *Notable Native People: 50 Indigenous Leaders, Dreamers, and Changemakers from Past and Present* by Adrienne Keene, illustrated by Ciara Sana, grade 8 and up

Extrapolated Histories

- *Wake: The Hidden History of Women-Led Slave Revolts* by Rebecca Hall, illustrated by Hugo Martínez, grade 8 and up
- *And We Rise: The Civil Rights Movement in Poems* by Erica Martin, grade 7 and up

RPS News found [here!](#)

Follow us here:

***Twitter:* @RPS_DaSilva**

***Instagram:* rpssuper**

Quote of the Week

“Eagerly explore new ideas. Say yes as much as possible” *Leadership Freak*