



# RIDGEFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

September 11, 2020

Dear Faculty and Families,

I hope that with this day, you find remembrance, and hope for a peaceful future.

It is hard to believe we have been in school for over two weeks. It has been an absolute pleasure having the children back in school. You will find a few updates below.

Warmly,

*Susie*

Susie Da Silva, Ed.D.

## **A Few Bits**

### **Reopening of School**

As the District prepares its next steps with its reopening plan, we will discuss the strengths and challenges of our current model and our progress on planning for students' full return to the buildings at the Board of Education meeting on Monday, September 14. You can expect more information, and likely another 'survey' (sorry!) next week.

### **RPS Highlights**

[Ridgefield Tiger Talk is back!](#) In our return show we are excited to have Aaron Crook as our guest. Aaron is the Coordinator of Nursing Services for Ridgefield Public Schools and is also currently serving as the COVID-19 Health and Safety Compliance Liaison. In this episode we talk about the reopening of schools here in Ridgefield, common questions people have, and what members of the community can do to help. Thanks for listening!

You can find RPS News [here](#).

Don't forget to follow *fun* and important news on social media at: **Twitter:**  
**@RPS\_DaSilva Instagram: rpssuper**

### **CIAC Update**

There isn't much new news to share. Earlier in the week, Governor Lamont stated that he hoped that the football season could take place with a delayed start this February or March. The District has not made any decisions about delayed start.

### **Resources on Topics of Diversity, Equity and Racism**

[Blast from the Past: Blink, by Malcom-Gladwell](#)

[20 Picture Books for 2020: Readings to Embrace Race, Provide Solace & Do Good](#)

[Where's The Color In Kids' Lit? Ask The Girl With 1,000 Books \(And Counting\)](#)

### **School Lunch Program**

The CSDE Child Nutrition Program has offered to extend the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) through December or until their Federal funds run out. We are in the process of filing our application with the State to continue this program for K-8 in school and for all distance learners including homeschooled children for meal pick up. The SSO program offers one free meal a day per student and allows for meals to be picked up to cover holiday and weekends. In addition to this exciting news, starting Wednesday September 16, 2020 in place of offering remote meal pickup during the day, we will be offering remote pick up of meals from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at East Ridge Middle School on Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays. More details on the SSO program to follow after the Districts application is approved.

### **Quote of the Week**

“Some amazing things happened to educators during this remarkable period. First, all teachers and administrators suddenly became novices.” Fayge Safran Novogroder and Nina Bruder in “Lessons Learned” in JNTP, August 18, 2020