



RPS News

Ridgefield Public Schools Newsletter | Ridgefield, CT | April 9, 2021

New RPS Summer Programs for Grades Pre-K to 12: Save the Date!

Looking for a safe, fun, enriching, no-cost activity for your student this summer? Save the Date for the Ridgefield Public Schools new Summer Bridge Program. The District has started this program to provide a “bridge” back to the experiences that students missed this year. RPS will offer three in-person sessions to elementary and middle school students according to the following schedule.

5 days a week from 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Session 1: 6/17-6/30

Session 2: 7/5-7/16

Session 3: 7/19-7/30

These sessions will be device-free, fun, primarily outdoor opportunities to engage with peers and teachers face to face. The middle school program will also have a community service component.

Ridgefield High School will also offer fun 3 to 5-day mini-courses on cooking, robotics, art and design, engineering, a book club, and creativity challenges from June 17-30.

All these programs are designed to bring students back to the schools in a low-stress environment that will foster a love of learning and help ease the return to school in the fall. Please put these dates in your calendar and stay on the lookout for signup information.



Calendar

Happy Spring Break, Teachers, Staff, and Families!

April 12-16

No School/Spring Break

April 26

Early Dismissal/Asynch PM
[Other Asynchronous Days](#)

May 11

Town Budget Referendum

April 24

Annual Town Meeting
BOE and Town Budget

April 26

BOE Meeting
[Live Stream and Archive](#)

June 14

Early Dismissal/Last Day

RHS Student Publishes a Wonderful Book, Page 2

Step Bravely, RPS!

Ridgefield High School junior Justine C. has published a book, [Step Bravely: A teen girl's guide to gaining confidence in her actions, appearance, and life](#), which is now

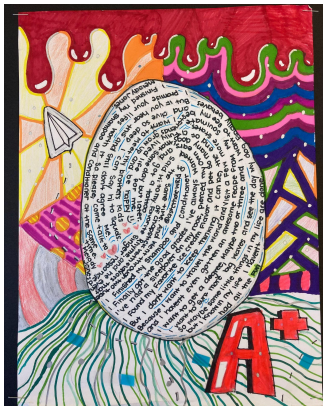


available on Barnes and Noble. The book, written with editing and support from RHS Reading Teacher Judy Silver, speaks directly to teens with a relatable approach, Justine's own drawings, as well as powerful exercises to build confidence, harness social media, and embrace wellness. The title, *Step Bravely*, reflects Justine's reminder to herself to be courageous in sharing her own struggles with confidence and body image. "I want to help people not feel so alone," she said. "It's my mission to help people see that they don't need to change themselves. They are amazing." Highly recommended!!!!

Art Gallery of "Thumbprints"

Please see this [gallery](#) of East Ridge eighth-graders remarkable mixed media projects. Students in Hillary Lewis's ERMS classes used their unique thumbprint, a piece of writing (e.g. a song, poem, book excerpt, etc.), and visuals to create their compositions.

Work by Melody J.



RHS Students Have Chemistry



Ridgefield High School students Kenneth C. (left) and Ian M. (right) were two of the region's top ten finalists in the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad Program. The American Chemical Society has sponsored the program since 1984 to inspire young people to achieve excellence in chemistry. With their success at the regional level, these students qualified to compete at a national level. Congratulations and go Tigers!

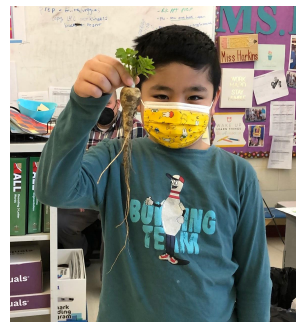
3D Pens at Ridgebury

Fifth graders at Ridgebury Elementary School explored three-dimensional shapes by building them with a 3D pen. A 3D pen works by extruding heated plastic that cools almost instantly into a solid, stable structure. Students had to use their STEAM skills (science, technology, engineering, art, math) to successfully build their shapes.



FES Garden Grows

Farmingville Elementary's PTA sponsored an enrichment program with Kaleidoscope Gardens. In the photo right, Artin L. holds a horseradish he picked from the FES garden.



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.

