



# RPS NEWS

Ridgefield Public Schools Newsletter | Ridgefield, CT | June 19, 2020 | Issue No. 24

## 2019-20 in the Books: What a Year!

The pandemic of 2020 made for an uncharted RPS school year. Without underestimating the toll COVID-19 took on everyone, this time was a reminder of our incredibly talented students, community of educators, and an opportunity to practice resiliency and patience. RPS got creative. Recognizing the end of school was no exception.

Whether it was Ridgebury Elementary's virtual talent show organized by fourth-grade teacher Amy Cody or Veterans Park Elementary PE teacher Mike Fraoli's virtual field day, chalking the Scotland fifth-graders' driveways, the drive-through Elementary School farewells, or drive-in Middle School moving-up celebrations, RPS figured out ways to thrive and celebrate safely in the new normal. The RPS Reopening Steering Committee sent out a survey about Distance Learning earlier this week. Please fill it out to let us know your experience. Next week, *RPS News* will celebrate RHS seniors. Thank you teachers, staff, PTAs, parents, and all volunteers for your support and hard work. Have a wonderful summer!



## Calendar

**June 22**

BOE Meeting (7 pm)

[BOE website for information](#)

[Full RPS Calendar](#)

**June is LGBTQ Pride Month**

LGBTQ students and parents can find support and information by emailing:

[supportgroup@ridgefieldctpride.com](mailto:supportgroup@ridgefieldctpride.com)



**RPS Summer Initiatives**

[Elementary Summer Learning](#)

[Summer Geometry](#)

[Freshman Readiness Course](#)

Summer Reading Recommendations on Page 2

## ERMS Food Drive



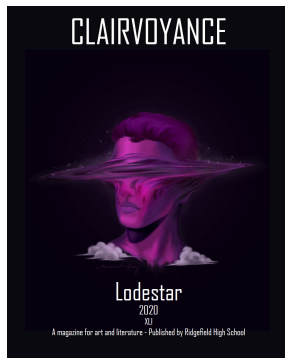
The East Ridge Middle student council sponsored a food and grocery gift card collection to serve ERMS families struggling during this challenging time. ERMS staff members Arlene Litt and Jacob Litt

spearheaded the event helped by Linda Treschitta, Candy Dziuba, and Maureen Tyra. Local orthodontist Dr. Langberg donated 75 boxes of Girl Scout cookies to the drive.

## RHS Literary Magazine

While COVID-19 made printing and distributing hard copies of this year's Ridgefield High School literary magazine *Lodestar* impossible, the intrepid student editors forged ahead, working from home to finalize a digital version. Instead of collecting sales money, the editors came up with the idea of suggesting donations to GetUsPPE.org, an organization that helps protect medical workers on the front lines. This magazine is another example of the remarkable talent of RHS students.

[Read Lodestar XLI, see the student editors, and make a donation](#)



## Wanted: X-Country Runners

Rising ninth-graders interested in joining the RHS cross country team this fall should email coaches now to learn about important summer preparation. Boys XC: [Bryan Kovalsky](#)  
Girls XC: [John Goetz](#)

## New RHS Principal

Ridgefield Public Schools announced the appointment of Dr. Jacob (Jake) Greenwood as the new principal of Ridgefield High School. RPS Superintendent



Dr. Susie Da Silva said that the District conducted a comprehensive search and that Dr. Greenwood's experience as a Fairfield County principal, DRG A assistant principal, and RHS teacher/administrator struck them as invaluable. [Read the full announcement.](#)

## Find Great Books Here

It's summer reading season, and there are plenty of ways to access great books! RPS librarians have



put together a user-friendly [website of recommendations](#). Click on each school librarian's link for book suggestions, access to eBooks, news about the Ridgefield Library's summer reading program, and more.

## Retiring Staff and Teachers

Two school principals are among the fifteen staff members retiring this year. [The attached list shows the RPS staff retiring as of June 8, 2020.](#) With a combined total of over 303 years of RPS employment, this group of retirees deserves recognition for all their hard work. Congratulations and thank you to principals Susan Gately (right) and Dr. Stacey Gross, and all the RPS retiring staff!



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.

