



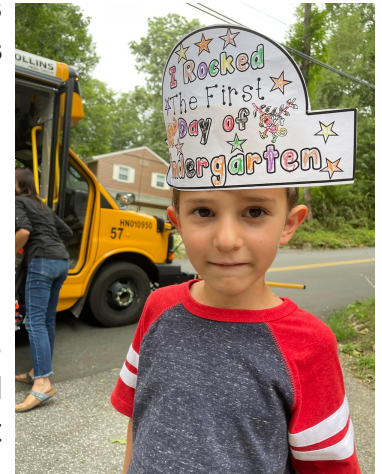
# RPS News

Ridgefield Public Schools Newsletter | Ridgefield, CT | May 20, 2022

## Kindergarten to High School Graduation, RPS Prepares Students

As School Year 2021-22 simultaneously accelerates to the end and winds down, RPS continues to prepare for next year. Kindergarten registration is underway with many orientations happening this month. Please find full kindergarten registration information [here](#) and encourage neighbors, family, and friends to register so RPS can fully prepare and rising kindergarten families can access all the orientation activities, including bus orientation in August.

Students' transition from elementary to middle school has begun with Branchville, Farmingville, and Veterans Park Elementary fifth graders visiting East Ridge Middle and Barlow Mountain, Ridgebury, and Scotland Elementary touring Scotts Ridge. Middle school math placement recommendations are posted to PowerSchool. More information about math



placement can be found [here](#).



There is still room for rising ninth graders in Jump Start!, the summer Ridgefield High School readiness class led by RHS social studies teacher Jennifer DiJulio. Register for Jump Start [here](#). Summer Bridge Intensives for High School

students can also be a good way for rising ninth graders and all RHS students to access enrichment in a fun, free low-stress environment. More information and registration [here](#).

Please see page 4 of this week's *RPS News* to see photos of RHS Senior Interns during this annual rite of passage. Finally, RPS looks forward to celebrating graduation. The Alternative High School graduation is scheduled for June 10 and RHS commencement ceremony is on June 17 on the Western Connecticut State University campus.



## Calendar

**May 23, June 13 and 27**  
BOE Meetings  
In Person and Streaming  
90 East Ridge Road  
[Link to Live/Recorded](#)

**May 30**  
No School/Memorial Day

**June 17**  
RHS Graduation

**June 24**  
Tentative Last Day of School  
Early Dismissal for Students

[RPS Calendar](#)



## Ridgebury Fourth Graders Collaborated on School Mural

Voila! Last week, Ridgebury Elementary School art teacher Rachael Penney unveiled the stunning school mural (photo far right). RES fourth graders worked with Penney to create the graphic. To prepare for the mural's creation, fourth-graders designed a drawing of their name in the same style (photo below left). Then, they came in groups to paint, pattern, and varnish the mural.



## Profile of Courage Essay Winner



RHS Junior Francesca Rossi earned Honorable Mention in the [JFK Library Profile of Courage Essay Contest](#). Francesca's essay, "Albert H. Roberts: Providing A Voice" addresses the role of Tennessee Governor Albert H. Roberts in the ratification of the 19th Amendment that gave women the right to vote. Please read her award-winning essay [here](#).



## "New" RHS Assistant Principal

Ridgefield Public Schools announced this week that Christine Hopkinson, current Interim Assistant Principal at Ridgefield High School, will assume the role permanently starting on July 1, 2022. RHS Principal Dr. Jacob Greenwood remarked that, "Hopkinson hit the ground running and has not slowed down yet." Please read the full press release [here](#).



## Banner Week for RHS World Language Students

The RHS World Language Department much to celebrate last week. [117 RHS students](#) earned the Seal of Biliteracy—which means students demonstrated written and spoken proficiency in one language in addition to English. Students in the photos right earned the Seal in French, Italian, Latin, Mandarin, and Spanish. Two students demonstrated proficiency in three languages in addition to English—Moera Kamimura (German, Japanese, and Spanish) and Sally Neugarten (French, Hebrew, and Spanish); one student, Molly Christel achieved this distinction in two languages (German and Mandarin).

In addition, 20 RHS students entered the CT COLT World Language Poetry Contest. 23 schools participated with 250 students in 13 languages. RHS brought home 12 medals! See the RHS students and languages represented [here](#). Impressive news in any language!



## Halo Award Nominations



The Ridgefield High School theater department earned individual and cast honors in this year's Halo Award nominations, including Best Musical for "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" (photo above). The full list of nominations can be found [here](#). The award ceremony is on May 30. Congratulations to all the nominees and good luck, Tigers!

## Walk for Water Is Great Success



Scotland Elementary School students are all smiles in this photo with SES Principal Jill Katcocin during the Walk for Water Fundraiser last Saturday. SES families raised over \$17,000 to support a community in Sudan through a series of creative and inspiring fundraisers.



## BMES Color Run



Barlow Mountain Elementary School fifth graders hosted the first-ever Color Run for the school community. Over 200 participants took to the field to blast through four vibrantly-colored powder stations as music encouraged them on! Smiles and colors painted the spirits of all who attended.

## Little Doctors Blood Drive



Scotland Elementary's Little Doctors Blood Drive drew donors to the Ridgefield Boys and Girls Club to address the dire need for blood in our nation's blood banks. SES students welcomed donors, provided snacks, and helped collect 101 pints of blood for the [New York Blood Center](#).

## RHS Interns Are On the Job; Working, Learning, and Contributing

This year marks the 21st year of the Ridgefield High School Senior Internship Program. Running from May 9 to June 10, seniors work approximately 30 hours per week at over 250 unique locations. Internships range from schools and farms to local businesses, gyms, hospitals, investment banks, and an airport:) This culminating experience helps students apply the skills they have learned throughout their education in a real-world work environment. RHS interns frequently earn praise for being smart, hard-working, and creative go-getters who make an impact in the community. Listen to this week's [Tiger Talk Podcast](#) to hear more; see photos on Instagram @rhsseniorinternship



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.

