



RPS NEWS

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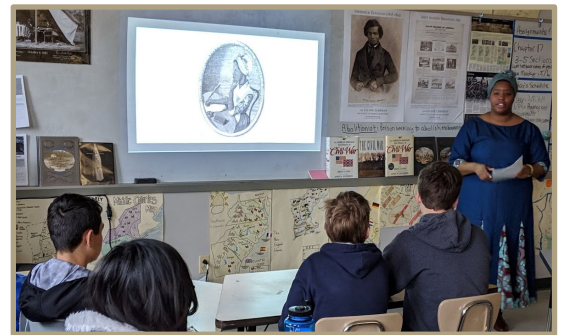
RPS and the Keeler Tavern Tackle “Hard” History



Many parents know that RPS fourth-graders take a field trip to the Keeler Tavern Museum and History Center (KTMHC) for a day of period games, history, food, and costumes as shown in the photo to the left. But they might not know that RPS’s relationship with the KTMHC goes well beyond that perennial favorite.

In fact, Keeler offers programs for every grade, defining itself as a resource and extension of our classrooms.

The photo to the right shows Keeler educator Cheyney McKnight presenting to Scotts Ridge eighth-graders about African-American poet Phillis Wheatley. This program exemplifies how KTMHC partners with RPS to grapple with civic engagement in a democracy. Whether students are studying slavery, suffrage, the Battle of Ridgefield, or the battle for civil rights, Keeler and Ridgefield Public Schools tackle the “hard” parts of history—race, gender, privilege, and opportunity.



SRMS Teacher Wins Award for Excellence



Scotts Ridge Grade 8 Social Studies Teacher Thomas Broderick earned the Anna Keeler Award for Excellence in Teaching based on his collaboration with the Keeler Tavern and History Center on the Phillis Wheatley program shown in the photo above. KTMHC presented the award to Broderick at its September gala. [Keeler Tavern website](http://KeelerTavern.com).

Calendar

October 14
No School
Columbus Day

October 15
BOE Meeting*

October 16
Community Author Event
[“How to Raise a Reader” flyer](#)
ERMS Auditorium 6:30 pm

October 28
BOE Meeting*

November 11
No School
Veterans Day

November 12
BOE Meeting*

Visit ridgefield.org/Calendar for full calendar.

November 5
No School for Students
Professional Development Day

*Board Conference Room
Town Annex 7:00 pm

Smarties? War and Peace?



East Ridge students looking for a book might try the school library's one of a kind vending machine. Maintained and created for students by students, the machine dispenses peer book recommendations in the form of a QR code. Using an iPad or phone, students scan this code to [watch an ERMS student's recommendation](#). Librarian Tanya Anderson advises collecting these recommendations. Sometimes, students might even get a treat like a smartie or tootsie roll with the recommendation.



RPS Curriculum Goes On-line

Ridgefield Public School's back to school open houses concluded last month but parents looking for information about their children's courses of study can visit the district's new website to see the curriculum taught in every grade. What math courses are offered in middle school? What is covered in Grade 1 integrated studies? What science classes are available at the high school? What are the state standards in social studies? Answers to all these questions and much more can be found at [RPS Curriculum for K-12](#).

Veterans Park Walking Bus

On a recent Friday, the Veterans Park PTA sponsored the Walking Bus, a long-standing VP tradition where students and families take advantage of their proximity to VP by walking. The weather cooperated and students biked, walked, and skateboarded (as shown in photo top right) under sunny September



skies. Teachers and staff donned their "VPES Work Hard: Be Kind" t-shirts to greet walkers in a day of spirit and good cheer.

Save the Date for RHS Play

Rehearsals have begun for the RHS fall play, *The Odd Couple (Female Version)*. Unger and Madison are at it again! Florence Unger and Olive Madison, that is, in Neil Simon's hilarious contemporary comic play, made popular on both television and in film, but with a gender-swapped cast that puts a different (and delightful) spin on this classic comedy. Mark your calendar for one or more of the following performances, November 14, 15, 16, 22, and 23. Advance tickets go on sale, November 1 at www.rhsperformingarts.info

