



RIDGEFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

August 28, 2020

Dear Faculty and Families,

We are thrilled to have students return to campus today- we realize we don't have all of our students, that said, the moment they arrived, our day became brighter. Students can expect the same level of energy next week as the "first day of school" is duplicated. A big thank you to all of those who helped prepare for the big day(s) and for everyone's patience.

We will do our part to ensure as many layers of mitigating measures are in place so that we all may look forward to a return to school in full capacity.

Warmly,

Susie

Susie Da Silva, Ed.D.

They've Arrived!

Board of Education Meeting

We held a Board of Education meeting this past Monday, you can find the video [here](#). During this meeting we provided a brief update on our Reopening Plan.

Facilities and Grounds

Due to COVID-19, all school facilities and grounds are off limits to the public during each individual school's hours. Thank you for your understanding.

Topics of Diversity, Equity and Racism

Common Sense Media has a number of resources for educators and parents, you can find them [here](#).

CIAC Update

We continue to receive conflicting information from the Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC). When we are able to communicate a final plan, we will do so. In the meantime, Athletic Director, Dane Street will be sending out updates. Here is the [link](#) to the latest update.

Grades 9-12

Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and Yale University are offering a free livestream event on well-being and mental health for students in grades 9-12 and their families: "Happiness Homeroom: Science-Backed Strategies for Well-Being," you can find the registration link [here](#).

PowerSchool

Please be sure that all personal and emergency contact information is updated in Powerschool. This is our primary mode of communication, and we do not want anything to be missed.

The Reality of Distance Learning

The live streaming experience will begin for most students next Tuesday. Expectations are the same for digital days as they are for physical days. Please be sure students are ready to go 'online' for the start of school, with your camera on! Also- as we navigate with technology, please be patient for the hiccups and pivots! It is also important to remember that students will need to bring their device from home to school.

Website

Our RPS Reopening Website is up and ready- you can find it [here](#).

Bus Schedule

Bus schedules are currently in PowerSchool. The routes in PowerSchool are updated each night to capture any changes. Questions about busing should be directed to: Rick Lupinacci at rlupinacci@ridgefieldps.net or phone: 203-894-5550 ext 1126

Visitors in our Schools

More information will follow soon as we navigate the varied events by school and outline health and safety protocols.

Quote of the Week

"Life without school is much more boring than I thought it would be." Una, 14 years old.