



# RPS NEWS

Ridgefield Public Schools Newsletter | Ridgefield, CT | December 4, 2020

## Our Hearts Are Full

Thanksgiving friendship cards for Ballard Green residents by Scotland Elementary kindergarteners, World Kindness Day at Branchville Elementary, a walk to end Alzheimer’s disease by RHS boys and girls basketball—these are just a few of the recent acts of kindness in our district with more planned this week and throughout the holiday season.



## We Dare You! PTA Council Assembly for Elementary Students

There was nothing scary about the recent Dare to Draw virtual assembly for Grades K-5. On the asynchronous day before Thanksgiving, Emmy award-winning art educator Mark Lister taught students and their families to draw turbo spaceships, seahorses, and other fanciful beasts. Please see the event [flyer](#) for full details and see the second page of RPS News for more photos of students with their drawings. Thank you to the PTA Council for their sponsorship of this enriching program.



## Calendar

**December 14**

BOE Meeting

[BOE website for information](#)

**December 23**

Early Dismissal

**December 24-January 1**

Winter Recess

[Full RPS Calendar](#)

## BES Teacher Recognized



Branchville Elementary third grade teacher Laurie Bellagamba received the 2020 [BIC Award](#). The BIC Cristal Pen Awards recognize and celebrate exceptional educators who are making an impact on their students and communities by inspiring and preparing the next generation to thrive. Ms. Bellagamba, nominated by a former student, was one of only ten educators in North America to receive this international honor.

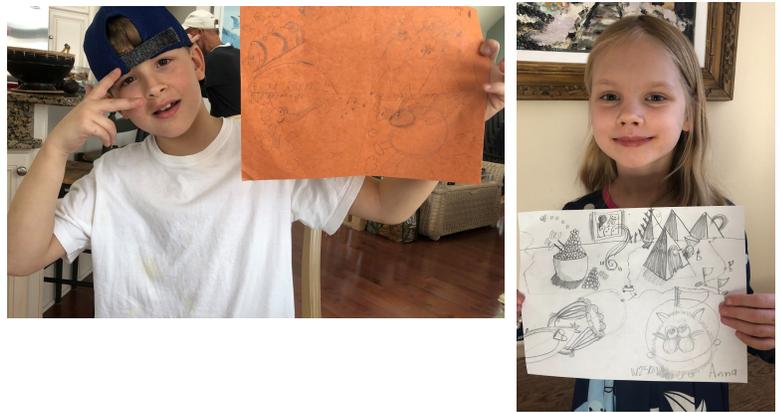
## Changes at BOE

Jonathan Steckler is the new Board of Education Chair; Kenneth Kjoberg is the Vice-Chair; and Rachel Ruggeri will continue as secretary. A heart-felt thank you to outgoing Board Chair Margaret Stamatis for her dedication, intelligence, and commitment to RPS. Ms. Stamatis will stay on the Board. We appreciate you!

## All-State Swimmers

Congratulations to RHS students Hannah S. and Rylie G. for making the 2020 GameTimeCT All-State Swimming Teams.

## Photos from Dare to Draw!



## Employment Opportunities

Ridgefield Public Schools is hiring. More than ever, substitute teachers are playing a vital role for RPS students. Please visit [the RPS website](#) to find district openings.

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.

