

Ridge Ruxton School

6916 N. Charles St
Towson, MD 21204

<http://ridgeruxtones.bcps.org>: (410) 887-3594



Upcoming Events

10/16 – Larks assembly 10:00
10/17 – Flu shot clinic
10/19 – Schools closed for students. MSEA convention/PD
10/23-10/24 School Pictures
10/31 – Costume Parade and Autumn assembly
11/9 - Homecoming Dance
7:00-9:00 pm

Principal's Message:

The 2018/19 school year is off to a terrific start! In just a few weeks we have accomplished so much. Our schedules have changed a bit, new class groupings, bus evacuation drills, Pinwheels for Peace, birthday social celebrations, curriculum exploration and so much more! Transition and change is not always easy, but the students have truly adjusted well to the new school year.

We use the School Messenger system to share timely school information. If you are not receiving calls or emails, please update your contact information AND indicate you would like to receive the messages. I will always try to keep them brief and not to overwhelm with too many, but it is a very efficient way to communicate essential information. Any questions, let us know.

Each month we want to celebrate and share our gratitude for the amazing Ridge Ruxton staff. This year we will celebrate Third Thursday! Thank you to the Ridge Ruxton PTA for supporting this! In September, they asked elementary parents to send in a salty snack and wow did they come through! Other groups may be asked to help in future months. This is greatly appreciated and of course, always voluntary. Thank you!

Warmly,
Mrs. Missy Beltran

Savers Donation Drive:

Keep your unwanted items out of the landfill! Please see flyer below and bring in any used and unwanted clothing, shoes, bedding, accessories, CDs, DVDs, kitchen items, toys/games or sporting goods. Your donations help the environment and our school. Savers Fundrive helps "Keep it green when you clean".

We will collect your items through November 9, 2018

Safety & Security

BCPS has implemented a new safety protocol called ALICE, an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. Our admin team and staff have received training and are continuing to review and evaluate the best ways to respond to keep our students and staff safe should there ever be an unsafe person on our campus. ALICE teaches our staff that they may make independent decisions based upon the information they have. One class may do an enhanced lockdown while another evacuates based upon where they are in the school building and where a potential threat is. This is an uncomfortable, yet necessary, topic and I am grateful for the thoughtful and reflective work of our staff that keeps students at the center of decision making. If you have questions, please let us know.

Notes from the Nurse



Good attendance is an essential component of school success.

However, sometimes illness gets in the way. Parents should keep their child home if visible signs and symptoms of a communicable disease are present, including:

- Fever of 100.0 F or greater (student should be fever-free for 24 hours without medication before returning to school)
- Vomiting/Diarrhea (more than one episode or associated with fever)
- Conjunctivitis or pink eye (must be using antibiotic drops prescribed by a doctor for 24 hours before returning to school and not have active eye drainage.
- Students should be symptom-free for 24 hours before returning to school.

Hand washing with soap and water for 15-30 seconds and drying with disposable towels is the single most important technique for preventing the spread of disease. If soap and water are not available, hand sanitizer can be used.

Flu Shot Clinic

The flu shot clinic will take place at Ridge Ruxton on October 17, 2018. Please keep your eye out for upcoming information.

Please see the school nurse if you have any questions or concerns.

School Social Worker – Jay Dover

My name is Jay Dover, School Social Worker at Ridge Ruxton School. Jaclyn Van Luit, our previous social worker, has transferred to another school this year. You may know me as the Behavior Intervention Specialist at Ridge Ruxton for the last two years, but I have been a licensed Social Worker since 2003. As the School Social Worker, I provide direct behavioral services to students and work with special educators to help program for their students' needs. I also help families access resources such as specialized medical care and respite and work with our school counselor in order to provide clothing and food to families in need. I am excited for the 2018-19 school year and look forward to meeting many of you. 410/887-3594 or by email jdover@bcps.org

School Counselor – Lori Bures

Happy Fall everyone! I hope that all of our families had an enjoyable summer. I am very excited to see everyone again, and I am looking forward to meeting our new families as well. It is hard to believe, but fall is upon us and before we know it we will be preparing for the holidays and the new year! Part of my job is to help families navigate this parenting world – particularly the world of parenting a child with special needs. No matter your child's age, there are many things you need to know so that you may be your child's best advocate. If you need help navigating the new world of public school, searching for resources, or even beginning to think about transitioning to the adult world – I am here to help! Also, from time to time, I will put flyers in the newsletter, backpack mail, or in a message via email about opportunities for families. These may be webinars, lectures, or opportunities for respite. I urge you to take advantage of these opportunities as they will help you to be better prepared for the road ahead. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, or just need to talk to someone. I love to meet the parents and siblings of our students. Please stop by to say hello whenever you are in the building. You may reach me via email (lbures@bcps.org) or by phone (410-887-3594). I look forward to speaking with you soon.

School to home communication is important! If you are not receiving the automated phone or email messages we occasionally send out, please complete below and return to your child's teacher. Make sure you are receiving all the information you need!

Yes! I want to receive messages from school via School Messenger by phone or email. Please update my information to include the contact information below.

Student name: _____

Parent contact email(s): _____

Parent contact phone(s): _____

Privacy Preference Report: If you would like to Opt Out of any of the following please contact the school for more information.

School Publications – System Publications – Communications – News Media - Photo/Video – Third Party News Media Organizations

Artist of the Month

Congratulations to Terrel H. from Ms. Branamen's class! Terrel is Ridge Ruxton School's Artist of the Month for September, 2018. He has been enthusiastically experimenting with new art tools and materials to create authentic compositions. Keep up the great work Terrel! Tricia Lane-Forster, Art teacher.



Musician of the Month

The musicians of the month are Britney O from Ms. Branamen's class and Chimgozirim E. from Ms. Hilliard's class. We love to hear their beautiful singing voice and how they both love music class!



Do you know someone with tons of energy, passion for children and a heart for our school? Then you may know someone who would love to work at Ridge Ruxton! We are always on the lookout for substitutes and Adult Assistants (AAs) to support our students. Call the school office to learn more!



Pinwheels for Peace

On Thursday, September 20th, Ridge Ruxton School celebrated International Day of Peace by participating in an international collaborative art installation called Pinwheels for Peace. Every student created a pinwheel in art class prior to the directed rec. assemblies on the 20th and all pinwheels were on display in front of the school. Fourth grade students from West Towson Elementary visited in the afternoon and shared their ideas of what peace means to them. There was music, movement, a story about peace, art making, and it was a peaceful day!

Homecoming!

The Ridge Ruxton staff and PTA announce our annual Homecoming Dance!

Join us Friday, November 9th from 7:00-9:00 pm.

Current high school students and Ridge Ruxton graduates are invited to celebrate our Luau themed Homecoming Dance!

\$10 donation is requested



PTA

Don't forget to join the Ridge Ruxton PTA! We would love to have 100% participation. Please refer to the flyer sent home or email Carol Hulett for more information! hulett.c.a@gmail.com



Learning Listening Tour

What: Baltimore County Public Schools Interim Superintendent Verletta White will host a Learning and Listening Tour throughout October. The five sessions provide an opportunity for Team BCPS students, families, staff, and community members to join White for informal conversation.

Time: 6 – 7 p.m. on each night

When and Where:

Tuesday, Oct. 2

Catonsville High School (southwest)
421 Bloomsbury Ave., 21228

Thursday, Oct. 18

West Towson Elementary School
(central)
6914 N. Charles St., 21204

Thursday, Oct. 11

Owings Mills High School (northwest)
124 Tollgate Rd., 21117

Tuesday, Oct. 30

Perry Hall High School (northeast)
4601 Ebenezer Rd., 21236

Tuesday, Oct. 16

Chesapeake High School (southeast)
1801 Turkey Point Rd., 21221

Contact: Office of the BCPS Chief of Staff, 443.809.8706

Background: BCPS Interim Superintendent Verletta White is leading a systemwide focus on literacy across the subject areas and school climate to prepare every student to graduate with not only a diploma, but a resume. The Learning and Listening Tour is an opportunity for stakeholders from across BCPS to join the superintendent for informal conversation.