

## Maureen Forsythe

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**From:** Gina Castellano <gcastellano@ridgenet.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2023 8:00 AM  
**To:** Maureen Forsythe  
**Subject:** Updates from RHS



Dear Ridgewood Families,

March 20th marks the first day of spring! In the next few weeks, flowers will be sprouting and our walks throughout the neighborhood will require fewer layers. Spring is a time to refocus, gain a fresh mindset, and appreciate the little things. Happy Spring RHS!

Here is what is happening at Ridgewood High School in the next few weeks:

### Dates to Remember:

March 26th- April 2nd- SPRING BREAK  
March 31st- 5Essentials Survey closes  
April 3rd- Classes Resume  
April 7th- No School  
April 10th- No School  
April 12th -PSAT, SAT and Seal of Biliteracy Testing  
April 17th- Guest Speaker- David Garcia; all families invited!  
April 17th- Accuplacer Parent University  
April 21st -Senior Cap/Gown Pickup  
May 1st- Freshman Dental Forms Due

### Athletic Summer Camps

Here we go! All of the coaches at Ridgewood High School are excited to offer another outstanding summer filled with camps, clinics, and leagues. All of the camps will be held in our incredible facilities here at Ridgewood. Our camps offer many opportunities for all grade levels to learn, improve, compete, and have fun!! You can browse our camp offerings at [2023 Ridgewood Summer Camps, Clinics, & Leagues Brochure](#). Please note - we have transitioned to a new online registration and payment system. Details and instructions are included in the registration packet. Please contact Athletic Director, Rob St. John ([rstjohn@ridgenet.org](mailto:rstjohn@ridgenet.org)) with any questions. Additionally, the Head Coach emails are provided in the brochure should you have a specific question for them. We are looking forward to a great summer!!

### Accuplacer Testing Parent University

The accuplacer is a test that evaluates students' skills in reading, writing, and math to help college administrators place them in courses that match their skills. Students **registered for Honors PreCalculus or AP Language** for the 2023-24 school year are required to take this test in order to qualify for dual credit. With the amount of time and money students can save by receiving college credit in dual credit courses, parents/guardians and students registered for those courses next year should attend a brief informational session about the Accuplacer Test on Monday, April 17th..

**What:** Accuplacer Testing Information for guardians and students  
**Date:** Monday, April 17th

**Time:** 2:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M. in person at Ridgewood or 5:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. on Zoom

**Where:** In Person - Ridgewood HS Community Rom

**Zoom link to join:** <https://zoom.us/j/98069524127>

If you have any questions, please contact Eric Lasky: at 708-697-5545 or email [elasky@ridgenet.org](mailto:elasky@ridgenet.org)

### **Guest Speaker Invitation**

Ridgewood received a grant to bring in a guest speaker for our teachers, students, and parents/guardians. We would like to invite you to attend a morning session with our guest speaker, David Garcia, from 8:00 - 8:40 A.M. on Monday, April 17th. David's message will be on motivation through laughter, with a focus on how we can help today's youth navigate our complex world.

David Garcia's Biography:

David is the only 5-language-speaking-motivational-comedian on the planet! David empathizes with diverse students who face challenges because he was once considered an "at-risk student" himself before defying the odds and graduating with a bachelor's degree and then earning his Master's Degree. He has motivated children and mature adults in some of the greatest metropolitan cities of the world, including Los Angeles, New York, São Paulo, Paris, and London. To read more about David Garcia, here is the link to his website: <https://davidewardgarcia.com/>

We look forward to seeing you in the Ridgewood Auditorium on Monday, April 17th from 8:00-8:40 A.M. Please enter the school using door 4 (Auditorium Entrance) between 7:40-8:00 am.

### **PSAT, SAT, and Seal of Biliteracy Testing**

On Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, Ridgewood High School will administer the PSAT Suite to Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors. There is no school for Seniors and this nonattendance day will not count against your child's attendance record. However, if your Senior has a Not Met (NM) in any class from 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, they are required to report to the student cafeteria at 8AM. Or, if your student is taking the Seal of Biliteracy test, they will report to Room 234 at 8AM. Once testing is complete, your child is dismissed for the day. Lunch will be served and is optional. If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Tan at [jtan@ridgenet.org](mailto:jtan@ridgenet.org).

### **Senior Triton Visit**

Seniors that plan on attending Triton College for the 2023-24 school year have the opportunity to attend an informational day on Wednesday, April 12th from 9:00-1:00 to learn about their programming for next year. This is a non-senior attendance day. Students will need to provide their own transportation, and RHS staff will not be chaperoning this event. Students that are going to attend need to complete the [Google Form](#) by Friday, March 24th at 11:00 A.M. Students should see their counselor for more information.

### **Senior Cap/Gown Pickup**

Seniors can pick up their cap/gown on Friday, April 21st from 11:30AM to 1:45PM at the Gym Lobby (located across the old gym). Herff Jones will be here to hand them out. You can either (1) call 815-756-4743 to make a credit card payment over the phone or (2) bring cash payment on April 21st. Herff Jones does not accept personal checks. The price of the cap/gown depends on when you placed your order. If you have questions about the cost or whether you paid, you will need to contact Herff Jones (815-756-4743). If you cannot pick up on April 21st, please email Jennifer Tan at [jtan@ridgenet.org](mailto:jtan@ridgenet.org) to schedule a pickup time.

### **Quest Bridge Scholarship**

Attention Juniors! Quest Bridge Scholars **is looking for high school juniors who have shown outstanding academic ability despite financial challenges.** They take a holistic approach to reviewing applications, and they do not have absolute criteria or cut-offs for GPA, standardized test scores, income, or other factors. To learn more, please visit their website at <https://www.questbridge.org/high-school-students/college-prep-scholars/who-should-apply#eligible> Applications are due by March 22, 2023. Please see your counselor as soon as possible for more information.

### **Summer Driver's Education Sign-up**

Students interested in attending summer driver's education class need to attend a mandatory registration meeting during flextime on Thursday, April 13th and Monday, April 17th in the small gym. Students must attend both dates. Course information will be provided along with sign-ups, payment information, vision screening, and permit test. Please have students sign-up for the flextime titled "Driver

Education Sign-up". Please forward any questions to Mr. Schau at [sschau@ridgenet.org](mailto:sschau@ridgenet.org). If the student is absent or cannot attend the first sign-up there will be secondary sign-up on Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> and Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Competency Courses - Grading Reminders**

As a reminder, many of our courses use competency grading to show a student's level of proficiency in skills. This means that these courses show an average level of proficiency, shown by a numeric value, rather than a traditional letter grade, to show student's progress in learning. Teachers will enter letter grades at the end of each semester for a student's transcript. **During the semester, please click on the student's FG score in order to see your student's overall percentage in the course out of 100.** For more detailed information, please take a look at our [Competency Grading Overview](#).

### **Ridgewood High School Parents Club:**

Please consider joining the Ridgewood High School Parents Club!! The Mission of the RHS Parents' Club is to enhance the high school experience for the students. The RHS Parents' Club is a diverse group of committed adults who volunteer for this non-profit organization to support social activities and provide opportunities for our children to network and learn from each other. For more information check out the [Ridgewood Parents Club Website Link](#).

### **FAFSA Reminder**

Attention Seniors! *This is a friendly reminder that FAFSA completion is a graduation requirement.* If you have not completed the FAFSA, you must get that completed prior to being approved to graduate. If you need any assistance, please schedule an appointment with your counselor. If you need an evening appointment, please contact our ISAC representative, Elizabeth Barrera, at 630-689-7759 or <https://calendly.com/elizabeth-barrera>.

### **Scholarships**

Attention seniors! If you're looking for scholarships, please make sure to check out our scholarship bulletin: <https://www.d234.org/student-life/scholarship-and-job-bulletin/>

### **5Essentials Survey for Parents**

As part of its state-led school improvement efforts, the Illinois State Board of Education mandates that all schools administer the Illinois 5 Essentials survey. I am asking you to take approximately 5-10 minutes to respond to this survey before March 31, 2023.

To complete the parent survey, please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/survey/parent/login/>.

Your feedback is absolutely essential to our continual improvement process at Ridgewood High School. Your survey responses will highlight our strengths and the areas that need support. I'd like to thank you in advance for taking time out of your busy day to assist us with this very important initiative. Should you have questions, please contact Jennifer Tan at [jt看@ridgenet.org](mailto:jt看@ridgenet.org).

# RIDGEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

*Academic Summer Opportunities 2023*



## ATTENTION PARENTS/GUARDIANS/STUDENTS:

Ridgewood High School is pleased to announce our opportunities for the summer of 2023. These opportunities will only be offered in-person and include: summer school, driver education and 9th grade summer programs. Information about each opportunity can be found below.

### Driver Education

#### Driver Education - CLASSROOM

The dates for Driver Education are June 12-July 26, 2023; Monday-Thursday.  
No school June 19 and July 3-4, 2023. The fee for the program is \$60.

#### Driver Education – BEHIND THE WHEEL

The dates for Driver Education are June 12-July 26, 2023; Monday-Thursday. No school June 19 and July 3-4, 2023. The fee for the program is \$240.

### Incoming 9th Grade Programs

Incoming 9th grade students who wish to partake in RHS summer school in the areas of reading and/or math may do so free of charge. These courses could be for acceleration or remediation, whichever is necessary for the individual student.

The dates for this freshman program are:

- June 20-July 20, 2023: Monday-Thursday from 8:00-11:00 A.M.

# Summer School

Students that have not met course requirements and have earned Not Mets for the 2022-23 school year will be enrolled in Summer School to retake the course in order to stay on track for graduation. Summer School runs June 12-July 20 from 8:00-11:00 A.M. on Monday through Thursday. There is no Summer School on June 19, July 3, and July 4. By attending the dates and times of summer school provided by Ridgewood High School, students can make-up 1.0 credit over Summer School. If there is an extenuating circumstance where a student needs to make up more than 1.0 credit, it must be approved by Katie Davis, Division Head of Student Services and Career Pathways.

\*If students would like to make-up courses outside of Ridgewood High School, RHS counselors will provide them with resources such as Triton night classes, American School, Penn Foster, or another local high school.

The following courses are recommended for the 2023 Summer School **credit recovery** offerings:

- Math
- English
- Physical Education
- Health
- PLTW
- US History
- Career Exploration (1/2 credit)
- Computer Science (1/2 credit)



\*2022-23 seniors will have an exception to the courses listed above.

Fees for the 2022 Summer School Program:

- \$350 in district, \$400 out of district for 1.0 credit
- \$200 in district, \$250 out of district for 0.5 credits

To sign up for Summer School, please click this [link](#) or scan the QR code.

## STEM Camp

Students entering 5th through 9th grade are invited to participate in this STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) camp at Ridgewood High School. The camp will be June 20, 21 and 22, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

To sign up for STEM Camp, please click this link [STEM Camp](#) or scan the QR code.



### Year-Long Calendar

The link to the school-wide calendar can be found on the RHS website, under *About RHS / Yearly Calendar*: [CLICK HERE FOR YEAR-LONG CALENDAR](#).

Best,  
RHS Administration

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