



Ranger Roars

VOL. 22 ISSUE # 6

February 2023

Walter E. Ranger School
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SurveyWorks!
Rhode Island Education Survey Suite

RIDE has contracted with [Panorama Education](#), a feedback company that specializes in administering K-12 school surveys and providing meaningful data and reports. Panorama’s online surveys are used across the country in large and small school districts and have been developed using best practices in survey design and methodology. Thank you to all the educators, parents and students who provided input in the past on which survey topics to include; your feedback truly helped to inform this years survey content. Like past iterations of SurveyWorks, all survey responses are anonymous and confidential. The teacher/student/ support professional surveys will open February 6th and will remain open until February 10th. Parent surveys opened January 18th and will remain open until March 21st. Your participation will provide school teams, parents, and the community with a 360-view of critical areas for school success.

Teachers, support professionals and parents can access their respective survey as listed below.

Please note that educators and parents must use their specific school access code given to them by their site coordinators. Please copy and paste the code into your URL.

School	Code
Ranger Teachers Support Professionals	bit.ly/rideteacher bit.ly/ridesupport
Ranger Family	bit.ly/ridefamily

Educators who work in more than one school are encouraged to take the survey for the school in which they spend the majority of their time. If educators split their time equally across schools, they are encouraged to take the survey for all the schools in which they work.

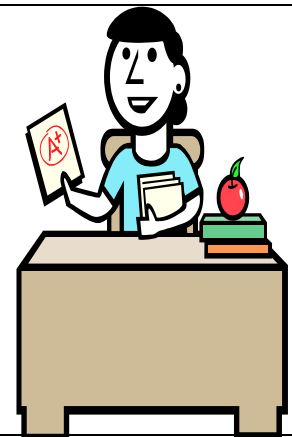
Parent—Teacher Conferences (Virtual)

February 15th from 3:50 to 5:30

February 16th from 5:00 to 8:00

Please contact the office if you haven’t scheduled a conference on line and need any help doing so.

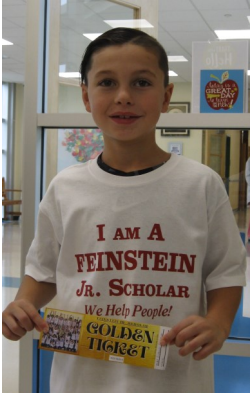
February 20th —No School —President’s Day
February 21st—February 24th—February Break —No School



Feinstein Community Fund Receives \$6500

Our Feinstein Community Fund has benefited numerous members of our community by providing Stop and Shop gift certificates at Thanksgiving and Christmas, as well as situations where parents needing help contacted us. Also, we will use it to send students to summer camps for recreation and arts, sponsoring a child for dance lessons, purchasing glasses and winter apparel for students. We received \$6500 from the Feinstein Foundation because of our fantastic food drive and "Good Deeds" tree that was in the foyer.

This recognition is a reflection on the wonderful teachers, students, parents, and school community members whose good will and generosity has enabled us to provide for those in need. Thanks go out to all involved for all you do in contributing to our ability to help others.



Registration Fees for Youth Leagues

Parents who would like their children to participate but are unable to provide the fees are encouraged to contact the school. As always, participation is strictly confidential.

Golden Ticket Winner

We have a Feinstein Jr. Scholar Golden Ticket Winner at Ranger School and it's none other than Gavin Grimm in Ms. Leary's Grade 3 class. The Feinstein Foundation will be awarding Ranger School with a \$5,000 grant and Gavin will also receive a \$500 grant that he can donate to Ranger or any other non-profit organization of his choosing.



No Electronics or Toys in School

This time of year our students tend to bring in some of their games, toys, etc. Unfortunately, problems often arise pertaining to the items. With this in mind, please be aware that **Ranger School students are not allowed to bring any type of electronic devices, games, or toys to school.** School personnel do not have the time to monitor this and the school will not be responsible for anything that is stolen, broken, lost, etc.

All students have access to our library and are strongly encouraged to utilize their time reading, not playing with toys. Computer programs, hands on activities, and additional reading materials are available during indoor recess. Ample playground equipment is also provided by classroom teachers and the PTO. Your consideration and cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Please Note: Students are allowed to use electronic devices while traveling on buses and at some day cares. These students should leave their personal items in their backpacks during the school day.

Lost and Found in Foyer

Parents are urged to have their child stop by the Lost and Found area in the main Foyer, if they are missing any items. There are numerous items in the box.

Hello from the Ranger PTO

Winter may be in full swing, but things are heating up at Ranger School with the triumphant return of The Sweetheart Dance on Friday, February 3rd from 6-8pm in the gym/cafeteria. This family friendly event will feature music, dancing, a photo booth, a selfie station, light refreshments, a craft station and more! We've also heard reports that our beloved school mascot, Walt, is looking forward to cutting a rug with the students. The Sweetheart Dance, like all of our PTO sponsored events, is made possible by the hard work and dedication put forth by our parent volunteers and fundraising efforts throughout the year. We thank you for helping to make Ranger School such a tigeriffic place to be!

Friday 2/3-The Sweetheart Dance 6-8pm at Ranger School.

Thursday 2/9-PTO Meeting 6pm at The Tiverton Library

Tuesday 2/14-Valentine's Spirit Day-Wear red, pink, white or hearts

Friday 2/17-Tiger Pride Friday



From the School Counselor's Desk Parenting help from our friends at Bradley Hospital

Preparing for the Parent–Teacher Conference

Research has proven that when parents and teachers work together, everyone benefits. Students tend to earn higher grades, perform better on tests, attend school more regularly, have better behavior, and show more positive attitudes toward themselves and toward school. Yet, collaboration between parents and teachers is not always a smooth process.

In establishing an effective home-school partnership, sometimes parents must first deal with their own discomfort with schools or teachers. For example, if parents experienced their own difficulty while in school they may have to overcome negative feelings. Or if parents are new to the community, come from another culture, or do not speak fluent English, they may feel overwhelmed by the prospect of attending a conference with their child's teacher.

Parents should try not to worry or be afraid of a conference with a child's teacher. Even if you have talked frequently with school personnel about your child's failing grades or misbehavior, a conference may be an opportunity to start a cooperative partnership with teachers.

At least once per year and frequently each semester you will receive a notice of a parent–teacher conference. Perhaps you have requested the conference yourself.

There are steps you can take to assure that the conference is productive and positive:

Assemble relevant materials. Gather appropriate materials to help prepare for the conference. This can include records from previous schools and school years, such as report cards, test scores, immunization and other health records, and past and current correspondence between home and school.

Review these materials. Make sure you have gathered all the material you need. If anything important is missing, such as a report from your family physician, try to locate it and add to your file. As a tip, once you have started a collection of your child's records, it is easy to add new material each year. At conference time, if you or the teacher has specific concerns, you can then find whatever might be important to share with the teacher.

Talk with your child before the conference. Children should understand why the conference is taking place (is it due to a problem or is it a routine meeting held for all parents) and be assured that parents are seeking ways to help and learn about what their children are doing in school. Find out if your child has any specific concerns about schoolwork or relationships with classmates.

Acquire the handbook for students. If your district, school, or classroom has a handbook for students, be sure to obtain a copy well ahead of the conference and review it. In particular look for listings of expectations for behavior and attendance so that you might anticipate what questions the teacher may ask of you. Also, try to assemble a list of questions you may want to ask the teacher if you are unsure of material in the handbook.

Be familiar with your child's homework assignments. If your child has homework, get familiar with the assignments and how your child has been performing. Is the work getting done? Does your child seem to understand the assignments? Does the work seem too easy or too difficult?

Prepare a list of questions you want to ask your child's teacher. Is my child meeting expectations for learning and behavior? How has my child performed on daily class assignments, on tests, on homework assignments? Does my child follow school rules or does my child exhibit any behavior problems? Are there materials or resources that you would recommend? How does my child get along with other students?

Referral to special education. If you or the teacher has concerns about referral to special education, find out about your rights ahead of time. State and community agencies and advocate organizations can provide this information, and all schools should also have a printed copy of parents' rights under state and federal law.

Be ready to collaborate. Generally, teachers will give parents bad news because they want to help the child do better — not to place blame on the parent or child. But sometimes the message does not come across that way, and parents naturally become defensive and protective, maybe even angry. Assume the teacher has your child's best interests in mind, and respond calmly and tactfully. Offer to meet further to discuss the problem and to work out a solution.

During the Conference

Listen carefully. It is perfectly acceptable to take notes. This is particularly helpful if one parent or other involved relative cannot attend. It can also help you remember details so that you can ask questions later.

Offer your perspective. Many times teachers will ask you about your child's activities at home and your views of your child's strengths and areas where help might be needed. Even if the teacher does not ask, speak up and provide your observations and any concerns.

You want to hear good news about your child. If the teacher does not offer any positive comments, ask directly, "What does my child do well?" And remember that teachers often hear only negative comments, too. Be sure to try to offer a compliment, a thank you to let the teacher know you appreciate what they are trying to do to help your child.

Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you do not understand something or feel your concerns are not being addressed, then ask the teacher. Teachers and other educators easily slip into jargon and forget that many parents are not familiar with the terms they use every day. Not understanding can quickly lead to misunderstanding.

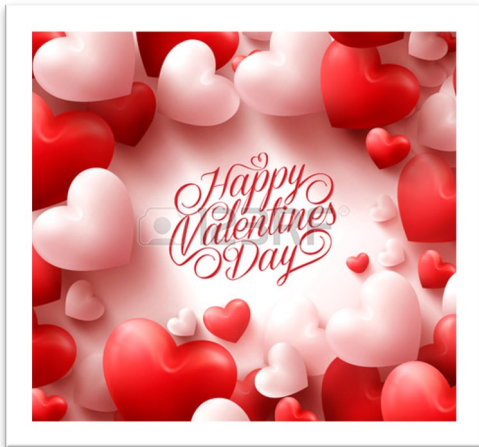
February Calendar of Events

- 1st NBSO – Grade 4 @ 9:50 (Larson) 10:30 (Blanchette)
Data Meetings
- 2nd Evaluation Team Meeting @ 1:00
Ad Council – Mr. Cabral @ 3:00
- 3rd PTO Sweetheart Dance
- 6th - 10th **Survey Works – Students, Teachers and Parents**
- 7th Faculty Meeting @ 3:45
[School Committee Meeting @ 7:00](#)
- 9th [PTO Meeting @ 6:30 – Town Library](#)
- 14th Teacher Advisory Council @ 2:45
- 15th **Parent-Teacher Conferences - 3:50 to 5:30**
- 16th **Parent-Teacher Conferences - 5:00 to 8:00**
Evaluation Team Meeting @ 1:00
Ad Council – Mr. Cabral @ 3:00



20th – 24th **President's Day & February Break – No School**

28th **School Committee Meeting @ 7:00**



Ronald McDonald House Pop Tab Information

Ranger recycles pop tabs and receive approximately 70¢/pound. The price depends on the value of aluminum which changes frequently. The Ronald McDonald House uses the funds they receive from the recycled pop tabs to fund their houses. They pay their electric bills, heating bills and grocery bills just to name some of their costs.

Mrs. Neville leads this project and is sharing this with our students. Each tab adds up and together can make a big difference.

Have a great day!