

# ***The Riccardi Review***

Susan McKinney, Principal  
Jamie Hewitt & Maureen Mayone, PTA Co-Presidents

**December 2021**



Dear Riccardi Elementary School Families,

Once again, December is upon us. We are excited to be in the hustle and bustle of preparing for the busy holiday season and setting personal goals for the new year!

Now that we are at the end of the first marking period and students have received their first report cards, this is a great time to reflect and celebrate areas of success, and to set academic goals for continued growth. I encourage all parents to maintain on-going, effective communication with teachers. If at any time you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher by voice mail or e-mail. Please refer to the Riccardi website, [www.saugerties.k12.ny.us](http://www.saugerties.k12.ny.us), then click the drop-down menu for "Select a School" and select "Riccardi Elementary School." You can also find an email directory printed in your copy of the Riccardi Parent/Guardian Handbook.

**Thank you again to Mrs. Pettit**, our Student Government advisor, for organizing and presenting special student letters and drawings to the **American Legion** in observance of Veterans' Day this past month. These service people were very happy and appreciative to be recognized. Thank you to our 2021-2022 Student Government officers for attending this special event and delivering their own speeches to the American Legion members!

For a special reminder, there is **no PTA meeting in December**. **Thank you** to our **Riccardi PTA & BLT** for coordinating and presenting our **Fall Festival**! Students picked their own pumpkins and received apple cider doughnuts while listening to festive music and observing scarecrows which were designed and constructed by each class. It was wonderful to see students try to figure out which scarecrows matched a special riddle written by each class! We were lucky enough to have beautiful weather and sunshine for our Fall Festival and even took special birds eye photos to spell out "KINDNESS" in honor of **World Kindness Day**, November 13<sup>th</sup>.



**Winter Recess is Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup> through Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup>. Schools will re-open on Monday, January 3, 2022.**

I extend my most sincere wishes to you and your family for a holiday season filled with peace, kindness, health, happiness and all things great in 2022!

***HAPPY HOLIDAYS  
and  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!***



**Take a Look!**



**December  
Calendar**



**PTA Notes**



**Student Gov't  
News**



**Coach's  
Corner**



**Notes About  
Music**

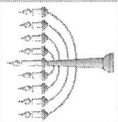
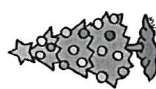

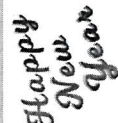


**Notes About  
Band**



**December  
Menus**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 F	3 A PTA's Virtual Assembly	4 B
5	6 Book Fair begins *No afterschool activities/late buses	7 C	8 D	9 E Family Book Fair Night 5:30 - 7:30 pm	10 F	11 A
** Riccardi PTA/Scholastic Book Fair ** (12/6/21—12/ 10/21) **						
12	13 B	14 C BOE Meeting 6:30pm @ Cahill	15 C	16 D	17 E	18 F
19	20 A	21 A	22 B	23 C *No afterschool activities/late buses - Progress Reports go home (3-6) - Ornament Activity (PK-6)	24 D	25 
26 	27	28	29	30 Winter Recess	31	1 Happy New Year 
<b>January Preview:</b> 1/4/22 - PTA Meeting 3:30 pm 1/11/22 - Riccardi hosting BOE Meeting 1/17/22 - CLOSED Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 1/28/22 - End of 2nd Quarter						

Reminder: letter days are subject to change with possible use of snow days. As of 11/30/21, we have not used any snow days out of the 6 available for the district to use. Please refer to the district calendar for more details regarding snow days.

Please check the district website, radio or local TV stations for closure notices. You will also receive calls/texts with closure/delay messages if you were added to the district message "blasts" list. To add your number, text 67587.





## December PTA

### News

Reach us at: [riccardipta@gmail.com](mailto:riccardipta@gmail.com)

Also be sure to "Like us on Facebook" for updates &

news



<https://www.facebook.com/RiccardiPTA>

**There is NO December meeting.**

**Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday,  
January 4<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30 PM**

From the Presidents –

Thank you to everyone who made our fall festival a success!  
The kids really enjoyed looking at the scarecrows and getting a  
pumpkin and apple cider donut!

This winter we have some really great activities coming up. We  
have the scholastic book fair coming to our school which brings  
affordable great quality books right to your children. We also  
have a virtual assembly with The Energize Guyz sponsored by  
Central Hudson on December 3rd!


Your membership will need to be renewed this year. If you have  
not done so already please contact us for more information.

Here is to a great fall, Maureen Mayone and Jamie Hewitt



Presidents: Maureen Mayone and Jamie Hewitt

Treasurer: Sara Fyffe Recording Secretary: TBD

Corresponding Secretary: Heather Dodd |  [mrychilldrenvoice.com](http://mrychilldrenvoice.com)



**Box Tops is digital-Our Facebook page has more info!**



• Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled for Dec 6th-10th!  
Keep an eye out for more info coming home AND

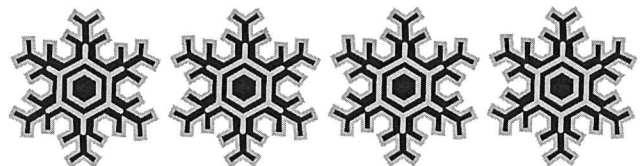
**\*\*Make sure to send in your wish lists!\*\***

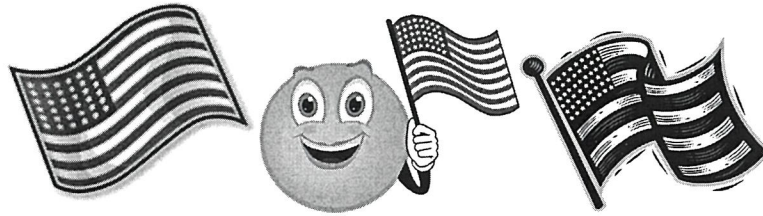
• We will be having a special school wide day to celebrate  
winter break!

• We have a virtual assembly with Energize Guyz on  
Friday, December 3rd!

• Our Turkey Trot fundraiser was a success and we will  
be donating \$1,965.00 to a local charity. The students will  
be taking a vote on where the money will go!

**Did you know PTA Membership Drive Dues help us  
provide great things for our students & school? Just  
joining helps!**





# **RICCARDI STUDENT GOVERNMENT NEWS**

Dear Parents and Staff,

We have had a very busy month this November. Usually we host our annual Veterans Day Breakfast in November but we were unable to because of Covid. We hope to have our Veterans back in our building next year.

We still wanted to do something special for our local veterans since we couldn't have them come to the school. With the help of the kids at Riccardi we were able to give them a special gift of hand drawn pictures, paintings, poems and cards made with lots of love by the students.

The government officers then attended the monthly meeting in November at the Saugerties American Legion and presented the gifts to the members. Along with the gifts made by the students Dunkin Donuts graciously donated donuts, coffee and hot chocolate to the members of the American Legion at their meeting that evening.

We have a Riccardi School Spirit Day in the works for December. We are looking forward to everyone's participation.

We wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season!

The Riccardi Student Government



## **COACH'S CORNER**

**December 2021**

The last month of the calendar year is upon us - and it will surely be a crazy, hectic month. We will go from raking leaves to shoveling snow, not to mention all the excitement of the holidays. And as the world goes, so things go in the Riccardi gymnasium. Which is a long way of saying, things are going to be crazy and hectic here too - fun, moving, enthusiasm and excitement galore!

Specifically, the younger classes will doing some dances and dribbling - even at the same time. We will also work on Holiday Stations. These will include snowball throwing, ski jumps, sleigh riding, lighting the menorah, and catching snowflakes. We are all about imagination in PE - and as Einstein said, "Imagination is more important than knowledge." He was also very good with a snowball.

Sixth grade and fifth grade have begun Intramurals on alternate Wednesdays. Students have a chance to stay after school for some extra PE/Play as long as they are caught up on their studies - Einstein would want it that way. In addition, sixth graders have the chance to play volleyball after school on Thursdays.

In PE, the older students will be working on some Cooperation-themed activities - tis the season after all to make an extra effort to help everyone out. We will also get our basketball unit underway with an emphasis on ball handling, passing, lay-ups, shooting and passing in game-like situations. Keep an eye out for Riccardi, Kevin Durant - we have players to help you bring a title to Brooklyn.

We will also send home our annual Twelve Days of Fitness Challenge to help keep everyone moving and motivated over the Holidays.

And of course we would be remiss if we did not say we wish you and yours the Happiest of Holidays!

# Notes about Vocal/General Music



## Grade 6 Wrote Blues Lyrics in Music Class.

*Here are some examples of their work:*

I forgot my water bottle and I'm in need of hydration,  
I forgot my water bottle and I'm in need of hydration,  
I will ask my teacher if I can use a cup for hydration.  
Leo G.

The Dunkin' line is too long,  
The Dunkin' line is too long,  
I will just go to Starbucks dot com.  
Grace B.

I got grounded from my phone,  
I got grounded from my phone,  
I guess I will play on my xylophone.  
Paxton W.



## Tips for Good Vocal Health in Children

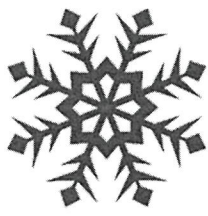
Voice disorders affect about four to six children out of 100. Voice disorders refer to a range of problems that affect the quality of sound. You might notice that your child's voice sounds hoarse, breathy, nasal, or too high or low. Voice disorders in children often occur due to abuse of the vocal cords. Try to help your child keep his or her voice in shape with the following tips from the experts:

- Encourage your child to keep hydrated by drinking at least 2 glasses of water per day.
- Ask your child to take a sip of water instead of clearing his or her throat. Clearing your throat can be irritating to the vocal cords.
- Discourage yelling, screaming, excessive shouting, talking over people or background noise (e.g. the TV) and speaking in a screechy and harsh manner.

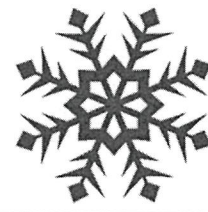
In our General Music classes...Some classes will be exploring the story and music from "The Nutcracker" ballet.



Questions? Concerns? Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns: [ibusia@saugerties.k12.ny.us](mailto:ibusia@saugerties.k12.ny.us)



# Notes about Band



## **Band Lessons with Mrs. Hansen are on C and D Days**

C days: All 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and some 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

D days: Some 5<sup>th</sup> Grade and all 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

## **Instrument Repairs and Supplies**

In the event that a repair to your child's instrument is needed, please make arrangements directly with the music store where you rented the instrument. Instruments can be picked up and dropped off at the school. Also, if you are in need of supplies (reeds, valve oil, etc), please contact the stores for delivery. Contact information for the music stores can be found on my school webpage.

## *December Lesson Days*

(will change if there is a snow day)

### **C day:**

December 6, 14, 22

### **D day:**

December 7, 15, 23

## **\*Winter Reminder\***

- If we miss a lesson day due to a full day school closing, we will have that lesson on the day we return to school. We do not skip letter days. The missed letter day happens when we return.
- There will be lessons on days with delayed openings. Bring instruments on these days.
- Please check my webpage for the most up to date information on delay days or after a snow day. Updates will also be emailed. Let me know if you'd like to be added to the email list.

## **Questions? Concerns?**

Feel free to contact me  
[shansen@saugerties.k12.ny.us](mailto:shansen@saugerties.k12.ny.us)

## **All Students will need a Lesson Book!**

- The lesson book for all instruments *except drums* is Essential Elements, Book 1 (for your specific instrument).
- The lesson book for drum students is Breeze Easy Book 1 for Drums.

## **Practice**

All students have music to practice at home. Specific practice materials will vary from group to group but will include one or more of the following:

- Scales
- Examples in the lesson book
- Music handed out in lessons

Please contact me with any questions about what your student should be practicing.

**Thank you for your  
participation and interest in the  
instrumental music program!**



# LUNCH

## DECEMBER 2021 Elementary Lunch Menu

MY SCHOOL BUCKS  
PAY FOR MEALS ONLINE  
MySchoolBucks.com

### Monday

Alternate Entrées Daily –  
Peanut Butter & Jelly,  
Fresh Salad with Crispy  
Chicken, Turkey Sandwich &  
Veggie Burger

### Tuesday

**6**  
Bosco Sticks  
With Marinara Sauce  
Green Beans  
Cucumbers & Ranch

**7**  
Big Daddy's  
Pizza  
Caesar Salad  
V-Blend Juice

### Wednesday

**1**  
Grilled Cheese  
Sandwich  
Baked Beans  
Cucumber Coins &  
Ranch

**8**  
Chicken Nuggets  
Potato Wedges  
Broccoli  
Dinner Roll

### Thursday

**2**  
Nachos  
Salsa  
Corn  
Garden Salad

**9**  
Tacos  
Salsa  
Refried Beans  
Corn

### Friday

**3**  
Hot Dog  
Macaroni & Cheese  
Broccoli  
Baby Carrots  
& Hummus

**10**  
Mozzarella Sticks  
With Marinara Sauce  
Carrots  
Garden Salad

**13**  
Nachos  
Salsa  
Corn  
Garden Salad

**14**  
Tony's  
Pizza  
Green Beans  
Caesar Salad

**15**  
Chicken Tenders  
Baked Beans  
Broccoli  
Dinner Roll

**16**  
Baked Ham  
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy  
Applesauce  
Carrots  
Cornbread

**17**  
French Toast Sticks  
Canadian Bacon  
Scooby Grahams  
Cucumbers & Ranch  
V-Blend Juice

**20**  
Macaroni &  
Cheese  
Broccoli  
Garden Salad  
Dinner Roll

**21**  
Tacos  
Salsa  
Refried Beans  
Corn

**22**  
Turkey Cubes  
& Gravy  
Over Seasoned Rice  
Carrots  
Cucumber Coins & Ranch

**23**  
Big Daddy's  
Pizza  
Caesar Salad  
V-Blend Juice

**24**  
Schools Closed  
Winter Recess

**27**  
Schools Closed  
Winter Recess

**28**  
Schools Closed  
Winter Recess

**29**  
Schools Closed  
Winter Recess

**30**  
Schools Closed  
Winter Recess

**31**  
Schools Closed  
Winter Recess

**FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH FOR ALL STUDENTS!!**

THIS MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

!!!!ALERT!!!!

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO FILL OUT A NEW APPLICATION FOR FREE & REDUCED MEALS. A NEW APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED EVERY YEAR. THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS THAT ARE RETURNED AND APPROVED CAN AFFECT HOW MUCH FUNDING OUR SCHOOL GETS TO HELP STUDENTS MEET ACADEMIC BENCHMARKS, INCLUDING MATERIALS LIKE BOOKS AND COMPUTERS. ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL 247-6651 Ext 1770.



**GOOD MORNING!!**

**START YOUR DAY WITH BREAKFAST  
AT SCHOOL**

**ALL MEALS AT SCHOOL ARE FREE FOR ALL STUDENTS**

**CHOOSE YOUR FAVORITES TO MAKE A COMPLETE MEAL.**

**CHOOSE: FROM AN ASSORTMENT OF COLD CEREALS  
OR  
BREAKFAST BARS**

**CHOOSE: FRESH FRUIT, FRUIT CUP OR JUICE**

**CHOOSE: 1% WHITE OR CHOCOLATE SKIM MILK**

