

RIDGEWOOD PARENTS: DID YOU KNOW?

- The 2023-2024 Ridgewood Board of Education budget process is happening NOW.
- The NJ Department of Education requires sufficient evidence of face-to-face, live instruction of World Language in grades K-5 with a certified language teacher.
- RPS is **NOT** providing face-to-face, live World Language instruction in grades K-5, or any meaningful World Language instruction in K-5.
- Early second language acquisition has cognitive benefits, and contributes to diversity, equity and inclusion goals.
- Decades of research show that World Language study in K-5 significantly increases math and English test scores. 90 minutes per week is the NJ DOE gold standard.
- World Language is defined by the NJ DOE as "a language other than English."
- Spanish is the language chosen in many high-achieving Bergen County districts due to higher number of certified Spanish language teachers in tri-state area, and importance of Spanish in our community and world-wide.
- **All** peer and neighboring districts surveyed by the LWV, including Montclair, Tenafly, Princeton, provide face-to-face Spanish instruction in grades 1-5, and most are K-5.
- **The Board of Education meets this Monday, January 23rd at 6 p.m.**
- **Consider attending or calling in to ask Dr. Fitts and the Board to include at least three K-5 World Language hires in the 2023-2024 budget AND TO EXPRESS YOUR SUPPORT FOR A LATER SCHOOL START TIME OF 8:30 AM FOR ADOLESCENT STUDENTS AS WELL:**
 - **49 Cottage Place, 3d Floor OR Zoom from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, Android device Meeting ID: 870 1302 7741 Password: 012307450; Use the "raise hand" button to make a comment.**
 - **Phone at: 646-558-8656; Meeting ID 870 1302 7741 Password: 012307450; Press *9 to make a comment. *Press *6 to unmute your microphone (the unmute button on your phone will not work)***