

# BLIND BROOK-RYE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**COLIN BYRNE, D.P.S.**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

December 19, 2022

## Message from the Superintendent

Dear Members of the Blind Brook Community,

As we head into the last school week of 2022, there are a few items that I want to share with you.

## Status of B.M.P. Ridge Street School Kitchen

I want to share an update with you on the status of the kitchen at the B.M.P. Ridge Street School. Last week an inspection was done by the Department of Health and I am happy to say that we passed the inspection and now have our food service certificate. The kitchen now has to be inspected by our certified fire safety inspector and then paperwork submitted to the State Education Department in order for us to occupy it. The plan was for that to happen on Monday, December 19th. However, there was a potential issue identified with the automatic shut off system for the kitchen's gas and electrical systems in the event of a fire. This has to be rectified before the inspector comes in to review the space. We are working with our construction professionals to take care of this as soon as possible, but will potentially delay getting full access to the kitchen for a few weeks following our return from break. I will share more information with the community once I have it.

## Kitchen Workers Needed

Our food service company, Whitsons, is currently working on getting the staffing that will be needed to operate the new kitchen at B.M.P. Ridge Street School. They have asked me to share [this flier](#) with the community on these vacancies. If you know of anyone who might be interested in working for Whitsons to provide food service, please share this flier with them.

## Official Date for B.M.P. Ridge Street School Grand Opening

To officially recognize the impending end of the construction project at the Bruno M. Ponterio Ridge Street School we are planning a Grand Opening ceremony for the building on Tuesday, January 24th. The ceremony will start at 7:00 p.m. at the new school lobby where there will be an official opening ceremony as well as some refreshments. Prior to the ceremony there will be tours of the new construction starting at 6:00 p.m. The ceremony will be followed by a Board of Education meeting at 7:30 p.m. More information on signing up for the building tours will be sent in the coming weeks. We will also be looking to set up a few additional days on which tours will be held. We look forward to officially opening the building after such a lengthy construction project!

## December Events

The Bruno M. Ponterio Ridge Street School Winter Band Concert will take place on Wednesday, December 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the new cafetorium. The Middle School Winter Band Concert will take place on January 10th at 6:30 p.m. and the High School is scheduled to take place at 8:00 p.m. on January 11th.

**Schools Closed on January 2nd**

Please note that all of the schools in the district will be closed on Monday, January 2nd in recognition of New Year's Day which falls on a Sunday this year. All offices will be closed on that day.

**Happy Hannukah!**

On behalf of everyone at the Blind Brook School District I want to wish a Happy Hannukah to everyone who began celebrating on Sunday!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Colin M. Byrne  
Superintendent of Schools