

**RIDGE SCHOOL  
RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
325 WEST RIDGEWOOD AVENUE  
RIDGEWOOD, NJ 07450  
201-670-2740**

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November 24, 2015

Dear Parents,

For many years, each of the Ridgewood elementary schools has participated in Ridgewood's Social Service Association annual Holiday Gift Program. Over the past several years at Ridge School, this has been sponsored by the Student Council. Council members visit classrooms and encourage students to make financial contributions that will be used to purchase clothing for children identified by the Social Service Association.

If the program is truly to be "children helping children" the Student Council would like students to have an active role in generating the money to be donated. Perhaps children could perform a task or job around the house to "earn" the donation. Setting the table, emptying the trash baskets, loading the dishwasher, or cleaning the garage are a few of many possible chores that could "earn" money for this project.

Too frequently we think of self-esteem as something we can give to children. In reality, self-esteem is something that is built over time in a number of different ways. When children invest real effort in a project like this, they can feel they have accomplished something worthwhile.

Items will be picked up by the Social Service Association on December 14th for distribution.

At this time of year, many of us take time to pause, reflect, and give thanks for what we have. Please know that the students and staff recognize, appreciate, and celebrate the community that is Ridge School. May peace and prosperity be yours during 2016.

Sincerely,

Jean Schoenlank  
Principal

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P.S. We will, of course, continue to accept adult contributions in addition to student donations.