Ridgewood High School District 234 named Apple Distinguished School

Norridge, Illinois — **October 6, 2021** — Ridgewood High School is pleased to announce that it has been recognized as an Apple Distinguished School for 2021-2024. At D234, technology, specifically the iPad, has played an irreplaceable role in allowing us to offer online and hybrid learning options to meet the needs of our students while allowing students to create products that demonstrate their learning.

Apple Distinguished Schools are centers of innovation, leadership, and educational excellence. They use Apple technology to connect students to the world, fuel creativity, deepen collaboration, and make learning personal.

"Earning the Apple Distinguished School Award allows Ridgewood High school to continue providing a learning environment which ensures all students receive a multi-faceted education grounded in innovation, aspiration, and imagination," said RHS principal, Gina Castellano. "Our use of Apple technology inspires creativity, collaboration and critical thinking and gets students and teachers excited about learning.

The selection of Ridgewood High School as an Apple Distinguished School highlights our success in creating an innovative and compelling learning environment that engages students and provides tangible evidence of academic achievement.

There are exciting new opportunities for students coming to Ridgewood High School in the next few years. A number of our initiatives have been leading us to our official launch of our two career pathways, Business and Technology as well as Arts and Sciences. Each pathway will have 3-4 clusters followed by cohorts that will focus on specific careers. To reach this lofty goal, we will continue to maximize technology to support online job shadows, MOOC's, micro- credentials, and even certificates or degrees. Additionally, Ridgewood High School will continue to build community partnerships. Students will continue to integrate technology with Apple products to engage in career pathway work and exploration as we fulfill our vision.

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Ridgewood High School District 234 is a public secondary school that was formed in 1960. Located in Norridge, IL, Ridgewood combines students from Harwood Heights and Norridge, IL. District 234 is composed of approximately 870 students from grades 9-12. The school mascot is the Rebels because the creators of the school "rebelled" against the norms of education; which is a tradition that has continued today.

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