

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WITH BACK-TO-SCHOOL ONLY WEEKS AWAY, RIDGEWOOD SAVINGS BANK OFFERS SIMPLE & EASY WAYS TO TEACH STUDENTS HOW TO SAVE AND MANAGE MONEY

Ridgewood's Suite of Back-to-School Products
Helps Foster Financial Literacy for Young People,
Providing Them with Valuable Tools and Resources to Succeed

(Ridgewood, New York...July 24, 2023) — With back-to-school season just weeks away, Ridgewood Savings Bank is getting a head start on the next semester with several student-related products designed to help educate both parents and young people with valuable financial literacy lessons while also accumulating savings and planning for college or vocational school. A hallmark of Ridgewood's community programming are the free seminars and workshops run in neighborhood branches and schools. In the first half of 2023, the bank has held over 160 events reaching more than 10,000 people.

"With the dollar only going so far in busy households nowadays, parents and students both are in need of essential money management skills," shared Leonard Stekol, Chairman, President and CEO of Ridgewood Savings Bank. "We understand that financial literacy plays a crucial role in empowering individuals of all ages to make informed decisions about their finances, whether it is opening a child's savings account today or planning for higher education needs tomorrow. With our financial literacy programs, free online Ridgewood Financial Academy, and free savings accounts, we are committed to providing the valuable tools necessary for students and parents to experience the best of smart and efficient banking to meet their many financial needs."

Recognized multiple times by Forbes' as a "Best-in-State Bank", Ridgewood's student-related banking products offer young customers flexible and easy-to-use options that include:

• Our Student Advantage Checking account is a free account that assists students ages 14 to 23* with \$0 in monthly fees, free checks, free debit card with rewards, a highly rate mobile app and access to 90,000 ATMs and ID Theft Protection.

- Ridgewood signature passbook <u>Youth Savings Account</u> is designed to help children save and learn to manage money. The Bank matches up to \$10 upon opening each account and there are no monthly fees to worry about nor a minimum balance required. Customers do need to be 17 or younger to qualify.
- With partner College Ave Student Loans®, Ridgewood helps take the stress out of paying for college. Whether it's searching for competitive rates, refinancing, or choosing smart options to pay, students and parents can search here to explore the many videos that help explain college financing.
- <u>Ridgewood's Financial Academy Achieve for K12 Program</u> provides teens free, quick, and easy online lessons on budgeting, smart savings, and investing, all providing invaluable knowledge.

Ridgewood Savings Bank accounts come with competitive interest rates and flexible withdrawal options to ensure students have easy access to their funds when needed. It is Ridgewood's belief that by proactively saving early on, you can better plan and provide the best opportunities for your children.

Learn more about Ridgewood Savings Bank.

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About Ridgewood Savings Bank

Founded in 1921, Ridgewood Savings Bank continues to serve the community as a strong and stable mutual savings bank with over \$6.8 billion in assets and 36 branches located throughout the New York metropolitan area. It has ranked as one of the top two banks on the prestigious Forbes America's 'Best-in-State Banks' list in New York State for three consecutive years. Since inception, Ridgewood Savings Bank has remained true to its community bank roots and mission to provide its customers the best possible service and banking experience. As it continues to refine and enhance its services and delivery channels, Ridgewood Savings Bank will continuously strive to be the bank that offers "Traditional Values with Modern Solutions."

Products, services, terms and conditions subject to change. Loans subject to credit approval.

*A parent or legal guardian will be required to be the secondary joint owner on the account for student ages 14 to 17.