



RHODE ISLAND
NURSES INSTITUTE
MIDDLE COLLEGE
CHARTER SCHOOL

The Pulse of RINI

RINI Community News | Friday, December 13th, 2024

Dates to Remember

- Winter Break: December 23rd - January 1st. We return on Jan 2nd
- Semester 1 Final Exams: January 14th - January 17th
- Martin Luther King, jr., Day: January 20th, No School

Upcoming Events

- Spirit Week - December 16th - December 20th
- NHS Blood Drive - December 19th

After School Clubs

- Student Council: Thursdays @ 3PM, Room 212
- SAFEBAE: Thursdays @ 3PM, Room 303
- Crochet Club: Mondays @ 3-4PM, 3rd Floor Suite

Open Seats: Do you know a 9th or 10th grader interested in a nursing education? Encourage them to apply to RINI via [EnrollRI](#) today!

At-a-Glance

Chromebooks ONLY, Please: Students are only allowed to use their Chromebooks in school when they are online – NO EXCEPTIONS. The RINI network has specific safety measures in place to protect your students from online intrusions. This important safety net does not extend to other laptops that students may bring to school. As a result, students MAY NOT use their personal laptops and tablets in school to access online work. Students can take notes on tablets but will still need their school issued computer. Please remind your students to pack their school-approved Chromebooks and chargers each morning.

IEPs & 504s: If your student has an IEP, please contact Ms. Marin Kafal (mkafal@rinimc.org) for any IEP related questions. If your student has a 504, please contact Principal Ferland (tferland@rinimc.org).

Bus Passes: Students who need to replace their bus passes should contact Ms. Santiago (ysantiago@rinimc.org).

SAT Prep: SAT Prep for juniors on Wednesdays begins in January. This SAT Prep course is MANDATORY and will run from 12:30-2:30 until April.

School Improvement Team: Principal Ferland is looking for parents to join our School Improvement Team. For more information, please reach out via email.

PowerSchool: RINI uses PowerSchool as our Student Information System. To know about schedules and grades, please make sure you can access it. Questions can be directed to our school counselors, Ms. Franzoni (jfranzoni@rinimc.org) and Ms. Coetzee (ncoezee@rinimc.org).

RINI Middle College Student Information Form: Please complete the updated student information form. This can be found [here](#). Updated forms should be printed and brought to the main office.

RINI Student Handbook: The updated 24-25 RINI Middle College Student Handbook is [available here](#). Students and families should review the school policies to make sure that they are up to date with policies, procedures, and any changes for this school year. Again, the handbook can be found here: [ENGLISH](#).



“Joy is the simplest form of gratitude.”

KARL BARTH

Principal Updates

Unbelievably, we’re already in the middle of December—time flies after the Thanksgiving break. I want to start by thanking all of the families who came in during our Family Night on December 4th: we had an incredible turn out, and I’m so glad that we have such a strong community to support our students’ success. As we approach the winter recess, I want to give a quick reminder that attendance still matters, and the next few weeks are crucial. When we get back from the holidays, we only have eight class days before final exams—so let’s finish out 2024 strong, and go into the New Year on a fresh slate.

It has gotten cold outside, so we want to also remind students about our dress code and uniform policies. As was sent out by our support team lead, Ms. Ortega, our uniform policy has been updated, and beginning in January, we will be adamant about the scrub top and scrub bottom uniform. This updated policy is at the end of the newsletter. Additionally, please remember that while it is cold outside, we have heat in our classrooms. Additionally, badges and fobs are part of the RINI uniform, and students need to have them every day; this is a safety concern, as the badges provide student identification, and the fobs ensure that only our students are able to access our building and classrooms. With our upcoming Spirit Week, we ask that students note the rules for each day’s theme, as students who are not following those guidelines will be asked to change and could be sent home for dress code violations.

While it is noted on the first page of our newsletter, we do currently have a few open spots for our 9th and 10th grade cohorts. If you know anyone who is interested in a nursing education, please encourage them to apply. We also are looking for community members to join our School Improvement Team.

The holidays can be a challenging and hectic time for all of us. We have an especially long break this year, where we are out of school for almost two full weeks. I hope that families are able to take the time to relax and enjoy the break, to rejuvenate themselves, and to reset and refresh. Taking care of ourselves is important: sometimes, we need to take a minute to ourselves, especially with the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. This is the time to be able to do what you need to do to take a break. I hope that all members of our community have a safe, happy, and joyful winter break, and I wish a happy holidays to those who are celebrating this month.



In partnership,

Principal Ferland



Links to Community Health Resources

- Find a vaccination clinic
- CDC Coping with Stress Tips
- MyPlate Holiday Tips
- RI Community Health Centers
- RI Community Food Bank



SUPPORT UPDATES

Policy Reminders

Cellphones

Cellphones should be in backpacks or in the wall hangers in each classroom during class. Students who leave their phones in the wall hangers can retrieve their phones at the end of each period and will need to place them back in the wall pouches at the start of their next class. The electronic device must remain in the classroom holder for the entire period.

Attendance Matters!

RINI opens its doors to students at 7:30AM for breakfast, and Period 1 classes start promptly at 8AM. The Rhode Island Department of Education has launched the Attendance MattersRI Campaign to encourage schools and families to work together on improving school attendance. Research shows that chronic absenteeism (missing 10% or more of the school year) can lead to lower academic achievement, disengagement, course failures, and an increased risk of dropping out.

Dress Code

Our dress code policy has been updated; details are at the end of this newsletter. As a reminder, students are NOT allowed to wear hoodies as part of their uniform. We recommend that students bring a cardigan or wear a scrub jacket. There are also coat hooks in classrooms for students to hang coats on.

Do You Know Your School Counselor?

Grade 9

Franzoni: A-Ma
Coetzee: Mc-Z

Grade 10

Franzoni: A-Le
Coetzee: Li-Z

Grade 11

Franzoni: A-Le
Coetzee: Li-Z

Grade 12

Franzoni: A-MA
Coetzee: Me-Z



COMMUNITY

Community Resources and Scholarship Opportunities

COVID-19 Tests

Every US household can now [order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests](#). Learn more about COVID-19 testing and free testing options at covid.ri.gov/test.

Keep the Heat On

Keep the Heat On provides financial assistance to households that have either exhausted or are ineligible for all other state, federal or private heating assistance. To learn more, go to: [Keep the Heat On - Providence, RI \(heatri.com\)](https://heatri.com).

Have You Completed Your FAFSA?

All seniors are required to complete their FAFSA, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Completing the FAFSA ensures that students are able to receive financial assistance, such as student loans and scholarships, to help pay for their college education. For help with FAFSA, please contact Ms. Bininger (tbininger@rinimc.org).

STUDENT SHOUTOUTS

Every other week, RINI faculty highlight a student who exemplifies our Pillars of Nursing: Scholarship, Character, Compassion and Empathy, and Professionalism. This week, we're recognizing Natalie Bawazir. Well done, Natalie!

Student Spotlight: Natalie Bawazir

Nominated by Ms. Sylvia

“For this week’s Student Spotlight, I’m excited to nominate Natalie Bawazir. Natalie consistently comes to class with a positive attitude and a genuine eagerness to learn. She works diligently and demonstrates a remarkable ability to advocate for herself when she encounters challenges—something that is not always easy to do, but she excels at it!

Natalie truly embodies RINI’s pillars of nursing, more specifically the pillars of Character and Scholarship. She treats others with kindness and respect, and is always willing to ask questions and seek help when needed, showing both humility and a commitment to her personal growth.”



FACULTY SHOUTOUTS

Every month, RINI celebrates a Teacher with a Heart. This month, we're celebrating Ms. Braxton.



Teacher with a Heart: Kathleen Braxton

Nominated by Ms. Minardi

Ms Braxton. takes pride in creating an inclusive and supportive learning environment where students feel valued and motivated to strive for excellence. She leads with compassion, celebrating student successes, and standing by them during their struggles.

Congratulations!

STUDENT SHOUTOUTS

This week, Mrs. Boyajian's classes did their rat dissections. Students had the opportunity to have hands on experience in this lab. Oume even discovered parasitic worms in the liver of her rat. Cool things are happening in our RINI classes!



RINI Community: What are you doing in or out of school? Send your events, labs, and happenings with a short description and some photos to jboger@rinimc.org to see it in the newsletter!

Monday, December 16th

Culture Day: Come dressed in clothes representative of your culture!

Tuesday, December 17th

Twin Day/Opposite Day: Match with another student in school, or become complete opposites of each other.

Wednesday, December 18th

Pajamas Day: Students can wear their pajamas to school! They can be winter or holiday themed.

Thursday, December 19th

Emo Day: Come dressed in clothes representative of emo culture

Friday, December 20th

Wellness Day: Students can come in comfortable clothes (sweatpants, joggers & hoodie)

Fall 2024 Final Exam Schedule

Tuesday, January 14th

Period 1: 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Period 2: 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Wednesday, January 15th

Period 3: 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Period 4: 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Thursday, January 16th

Period 5: 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Make-up Exams: 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Friday, January 17th

Makeup Exams by Appointment Only

Parents and Guardians

You can take advantage of our Text Messaging Service

Our school utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.*

You can participate in this free service* just by sending a text message of "Y" or "Yes" to our school's short code number, 67587.

You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with "Stop".


SchoolMessenger is compliant with the [Student Privacy Pledge™](#) so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone.



**Opt-In from
your mobile
now!**



**Just send "Y"
or "Yes" to
67587.**

 *Information on SMS text messaging and Short Codes: SMS stands for Short Message Service and is commonly referred to as a "text message". Most cell phones support this type of text messaging. Our notification provider, SchoolMessenger, uses a true SMS protocol developed by the telecommunications industry specifically for mass text messaging, referred to as "short code" texting. This method is fast, secure and highly reliable because it is strictly regulated by the wireless carriers and only allows access to approved providers.*

If you've ever sent a text vote for a TV show to a number like 46999, you have used short code texting.

*Terms and Conditions: Message frequency varies. Standard message and data rates may apply. Reply HELP for help. Text STOP to cancel. Mobile carriers are not liable for delayed or undelivered messages. See schoolmessenger.com/tm for more info.



IMPORTANT UNIFORM UPDATES

Purpose of Uniform (Scrubs):

The uniform policy at this healthcare-focused organization requires students to wear scrubs to simulate a professional environment and ensure a seamless transition into nursing school. This policy prepares students for the standards and expectations of a healthcare career, emphasizing professionalism, hygiene, and safety.

We have observed several students wearing compression zip-ups or cardigans without a scrub top underneath. While this time is serving as a grace period for zip-ups, please be reminded that it is expected a scrub top is worn underneath the zip-up/cardigan every day.

Students who are out of dress code will receive dress code violations. Multiple violations will require a family meeting.

Current:	Upcoming Changes Effective: January 2, 2025
<p>School Wide Expectation: Students are expected to arrive to school in complete uniform:</p> <p>REQUIRED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrub tops • Scrub bottoms • Appropriate shoes (crocs, sneakers, flats) • Visible Badge <p>OPTIONAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long sleeve shirt underneath scrub top • Solid colored cardigans <p>*Permitted through grace period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zips ups MUST have Scrub Top underneath. <p>Non-Negotiables</p> <p>Hoodies are not permitted and are non-negotiable. Students will be required to remove hoodies upon entering RINI and are not allowed to wear them during transitions or lunch periods.</p> <p>*We highly encourage all students to wear long-sleeve shirts under their scrubs, and bring a warm cardigan or nursing lab jacket to school each day.</p>	<p>School Wide Expectation: Students are expected to arrive to school in complete uniform:</p> <p>REQUIRED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrub tops • Scrub bottoms • Appropriate shoes (crocs, sneakers, flats) • Visible Badge <p>OPTIONAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursing Lab Coats • Long sleeve shirt underneath scrub top • Solid colored cardigans <p>Changes *Zips ups will no longer be allowed</p> <p>Grace period for zip-ups will end on January 2, 2025. Students will transition to Nursing Lab Coats in place of zip-ups.</p> <p>Non-Negotiables</p> <p>Hoodies are not permitted and are non-negotiable. Students will be required to remove hoodies upon entering RINI and are not allowed to wear them during transitions or lunch periods.</p> <p>*We highly encourage all students to wear long-sleeve shirts under their scrubs, and bring a warm cardigan or nursing lab jacket to school each day.</p>
<p>RINI Class A Blues</p>	<p>Students are required to wear RINI Blues when leaving the school for field trips, attending clinicals or internships, and whenever instructed by school staff.</p>

RINI Middle College

2024 - 2025 School Calendar

August 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
						(9)

September 2024						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					
						(19)

October 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		(20)

November 2024						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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						(14)

December 2024						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
						(14)

January 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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						(21)

February 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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						(16)

March 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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30	31					(20)

April 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30			
						(17)

May 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31
						(21)

June 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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29	30					
						(14)

July 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST	DECEMBER	APRIL
21 - 23 - New Teacher orientation	23 - 31 - Holiday Recess (No School)	14 - 18 - Spring Recess (no school)
26 - 29 - Teacher orientation		
	JANUARY	
SEPTEMBER	1 - New Year's Day (no school)	MAY
2 - Labor Day (no school)	13 - End of Semester 1	1 - Sr. Decision Day
3 - First Day of School	14 - 17 - Exams	21 - Senior Presentation Day Early dismissal at 12:00
10 - State Primary Day	20 - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day (no school)	26 - Memorial Day (no school)
	21 - Semester 2 begins	
OCTOBER		June
3-4 Rosh Hashanah (no school)	FEBRUARY	2-3-4 Senior Exams
14 - Indigenous People's Day (no school)	17 - Winter Recess (no school)	7 - Jr/Sr Prom (tentative)
		11 - Cap and gown distribution
NOVEMBER	MARCH	12 - Senior Awards Night (tentative)
5 - Election Day (no school)	31 - Eid al-Fitr (no school)	16 - Graduation (tentative)
11 - Veteran's Day (no school)		18 - 20 - 23 - Underclassmen Exams
27 - 28 - 29 - Thanksgiving Recess		19 - Juneteenth (no school)
		24 - exam make up/last day of school