



RHODE ISLAND
NURSES INSTITUTE
MIDDLE COLLEGE
CHARTER SCHOOL

The Pulse of RINI

RINI Community News | Friday, January 3rd, 2025

Dates to Remember

- Semester 1 Final Exams:
January 14th - January 17th
- Martin Luther King, Jr.,
Day: January 20th, No
School
- First Day of Semester 2:
January 21st

Upcoming Events

- Juniors: Mandatory
Meeting for URI Enrollment
and SAT Prep Information:
Wednesday, January 8th,
@ 12PM

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 (ncoetzee@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](#).



“Young people need models, not critics.”

JOHN WOODEN

Principal Updates

Welcome back to RINI! I hope everyone had a great break. We’re glad to be back in session, and are looking forward to a successful 2025.

With the new year, many people create goals for themselves, and we want to encourage our students to set goals for achieving academic and personal success. Final exams take place the week of January 13th, starting on Tuesday, January 14th. Students have Monday, January 20th, off from school in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr., and will return for the start of the Spring 2025 semester on January 21st. Let’s have a strong finish to the first semester: students should take the time to complete any assignments they have left, prepare for their final exams, and reflect on the progress they’ve made this semester to help set goals for the rest of the school year.

Keeping that in mind, I want to focus this newsletter on the importance of partnership in education. Students do their best when they have the support of everyone around them: their teachers, their peers, and, importantly, their families. RINI has a unique school model, and our students have high expectations for success placed on them—because we know that they are capable of achieving excellence. But we need our full community’s support to help our students do well. Students cannot learn if they are not in school, and we need families to help us in making sure not only that our students are here, but also that this is a community that students feel a part of. I’m asking that families get involved with our school improvement team. We need community feedback in order to keep improving, and we need community involvement to make sure that students feel supported. Our students graduate with college credit, with professional licenses in healthcare, and with plans to continue to be successful in their academic and professional lives in the future.

To help support our students, we ask that families regularly check their emails and text messages for correspondence from the school and teachers regarding important school information and for student updates, and that families monitor PowerSchool so that they are aware of how their students are doing in their courses—and to help support them when they’re not at school. If you are not able to access PowerSchool, please contact our school counselors, Ms. Franzoni and Ms. Coetzee. We have also asked that all families make sure their contact information in PowerSchool is up-to-date, as this means that teachers can add parents and guardians to Google Classroom, which allows teachers to provide quick updates on work progress and assignments.

RINI is a community, and we want all members of that community—parents, guardians, students, and teachers—to be involved. We need students in school, and we need families to be involved in their students’ education. If you have any questions, are interested in joining our school improvement team, or have any feedback, please contact me via email (tferland@rinimc.org) or phone (401.680.4900). I look forward to working with our whole community to help support student success in the new year and beyond.



In partnership,

Principal Ferland

CELEBRATING THE NEW YEAR

NEW YEAR, NEW GOALS

BENEFITS OF SETTING GOALS

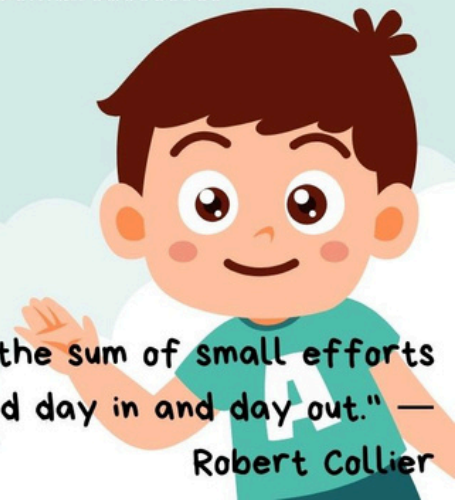
- Staying focused
- Feeling accomplished
- Building confidence

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- Take small steps
- Set time aside every day
- Keep track of completed tasks
- Celebrate the small successes

GOAL CHALLENGE GOALS TO CONSIDER

- Academic
 - Improve a specific grade,
 - Stay on top of assignments
- Personal
 - Practice mindfulness,
 - Spend less time on social media.
- Extracurricular
 - Join a new club
 - Improve in a sport



"Success is the sum of small efforts repeated day in and day out." —

Robert Collier

GOAL-TRACKING APPS

TIME MANAGEMENT APP

Links to Community Health Resources

- [Find a vaccination clinic](#)
- [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:
Fama Ndoye**

Nominated by Mr. Whitaker

Positive, kind, helpful..... these are words that come to mind when describing Fama Ndoye. Fama consistently brightens our day with her positive spirit, genuine kindness to all and her willingness to learn joyfully. As a student ambassador she volunteers her time in support of our school community. She works hard in the classroom and demonstrates an ability to overcome the daily challenges of learning. Fama Ndoye embodies RINI's pillars of nursing, more specifically the pillars of Character and Scholarship. She treats others with kindness and respect. She is always willing to help others in an encouraging manner. Thank you for all that you contribute to our school community.

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 (cros, 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 (cros, 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
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31
						(21)

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

October 2024						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
						(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						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	
						(16)

March 2025						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					(20)

April 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			
						(17)

May 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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