



RHODE ISLAND  
**NURSES INSTITUTE  
MIDDLE COLLEGE**  
CHARTER SCHOOL



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**RINI Principal's Update - February 5, 2021**

**RINI UPCOMING CALENDAR DATES:**

**February 8:** Lunch Time Series: A Celebration of Excellence

**February 15-19:** Winter recess. NO SCHOOL

## **MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL CULTURE AND COMMUNITY**

Resiliency is a term that resonates and defines us as a school community. In my conversation with students this week, I asked them a pointed question, “what has this year taught you about yourself?” A student proudly announced, “we are resilient.”

The spirit and power of resiliency is not a taught skill, it is earned from life’s experiences. In the face of adversity, is when it makes its most profound debut. For many of our students who are navigating a place of uncertainty, it is a muscle that has been strengthened by life’s challenges and successes.

As we met with students throughout the year; we have learned more about their fears and hopes. We continued the discussion of what we can do as a community to be a source of support. The theme for our students has been the fear; fear of not achieving, fear of not passing classes and not earning enough credits to graduate.

We listened.

Our students remain hopeful. Many lamented how they want to make their parents proud, spoil you, like you spoil them, build you a home (yes, you are getting a home!) and simply, achieve academic success.

We listened again.

We are focused on strengthening our academic supports, by scheduling tutorial sessions for our students. We urge students to utilize these resources, not only to catch up with assignments but to enhance their skills in various content areas. We also encourage families to partner with teachers and students as they make strides in their education and take advantage of the academic resources. We value and support our students’ well-being and their educational success.

Resiliency is our hope for our school community. Students, families, and staff, let us continue to work and believe in the spirit of hope.

**Ms. Tsiane**

**SurveyWorks is Now Live!**

The survey window runs from **Tuesday, January 19 - Wednesday, March 31**. Parents/Guardians, this is an opportunity to provide feedback on how the school is doing. To complete the family survey click here: [RINI SurveyWorks \(English\)](#) [RINI SurveyWorks \(Spanish\)](#).

We thank you and appreciate your participation.

**Distance Learning continues for most students through March.** In-person instruction will begin with a gradual increase to the extent possible. **Students who are eligible for in-person instruction will be notified individually.** ACCESS testing for multilingual learners is required to be administered in person and will be administered over several days in February and March.

**Semester 2 begins February 2.**

**Do you know Students Who Are Interested in Joining our Growing School Community for 2021?**

Families can apply on behalf of their student (s) to [Enroll RI](#) for the RINI School Lottery.

Applications are due by Thursday, March 18, 2021 @ 5PM

**FAMILY MEETINGS:**

**What are you having for lunch? Join us for our Lunchtime Monday Meeting Series for school wide updates.**

Collaboration with our families is key student success in academics and attendance. This is the year to get involved. Join the PTO, contact Ms. Tsiane at [mtsiane@rinimc.org](mailto:mtsiane@rinimc.org). We are looking for parents from all grade levels! Next meeting is **February 8; A Celebration of Excellence**.

**STUDENT CLUBS:**

**It is a novel about justice, power, greed; it is The Great Gatsby.** Join Ms. Boger's weekly Wednesday book club to explore the world of Jay Gatsby. All students, parents and teachers are welcome! Contact Ms. Boger at [jboger@rinimc.org](mailto:jboger@rinimc.org) if you have any questions.

**ACADEMICS:**

**Juniors** are on the fast track to college. This week they are finishing up college essays and working towards their final drafts.

**Seniors** will be meeting 1:1 with Mrs. Gaspar and I for graduation meetings during their scheduled PBGR classes. This meeting is to ensure that students are aware of what they need to complete in order to graduate in June and as a check in meeting for PBGR.

### **Take advantage of the Spring 2021 Programming at the Providence Public Library!**

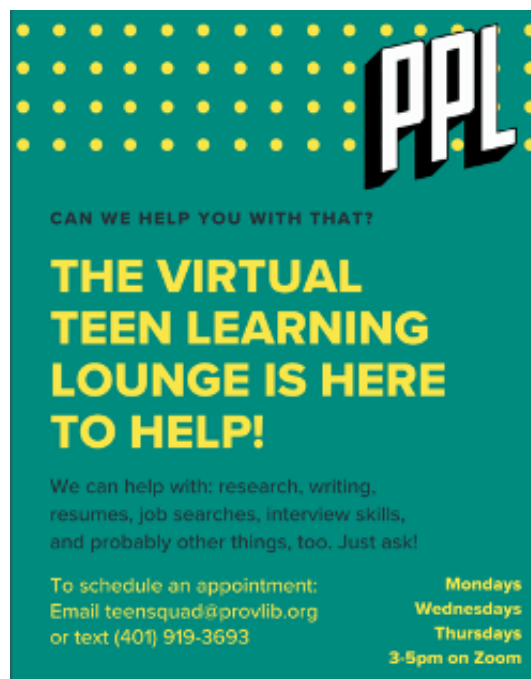
**THE VIRTUAL TEEN LEARNING LOUNGE IS HERE TO HELP!** Staff can help with: research, writing, resumes, job searches, interview skills, and probably other things, too. Just ask!

**Who:** Teens in grades 9 - 12.

**When:** Tuesday and Thursday, 3 - 5 pm, January 26 - May 11, 2021

**Where:** Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 3-5pm on Zoom

**How:** To schedule an appointment: Email [teensquad@provlib.org](mailto:teensquad@provlib.org) or text (401) 919-3693



**TEEN SQUAD Rhode Coders 2.0:** Learn the Code Behind the Game Have you ever wondered how games like Angry Birds and Bejeweled were created? The staff will help you dig into the code, learn JavaScript, and ultimately learn how to build your own computer game.

**Who:** Teens in grades 9 - 12. No experience needed but if you have some, we'll welcome you too.

**When:** Tuesday and Thursday, 3 - 5 pm, January 26 - May 11, 2021

**Where:** Providence Public Library - 150 Empire Street, Providence, RI 02903\*

\*All classes will be held virtually over Zoom.

**How: REGISTER AT: [RIDE.GOSIGNMEUP.COM](https://ride.gosignmeup.com)**

**TEEN SQUAD Data Navigators 2.0 : Data Navigators** In today's world, data rules. It's used to navigate pandemics, forecast hurricanes, predict presidential elections, evaluate basketball players, and more. In this course you'll learn how to organize and manipulate data to find trends and make predictions

**Who:** Teens in grades 9 - 12. No experience needed but if you have some, we'll welcome you too.

**When:** Monday and Wednesday, 3 - 5 pm, January 25 - May 12, 2021

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**Earn a Work Stipend & High School Credit Learn Workforce Development Skills for both TEEN SQUAD Programming:** Through The Spring 2021 program, participants in grades 9 - 12 have the opportunity to earn .5 of a high school credit through the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE)'s Advanced Coursework Network initiative. Participants will also receive a stipend of \$350 for their completion of the program and will receive workforce development training throughout.

**Get in Touch Contact [teensquad@provlb.org](mailto:teensquad@provlb.org) for more details on how to**

get started.

## COLLEGE AND CAREER UPDATES:

### 2021 PrepareRI Innovation Challenge: Paid Virtual Summer Internships for Public High

#### School Juniors in RI

### What is the PrepareRI Internship Program?

- 2021 internships will be 100% virtual
- Applications accepted Jan. 13 – Feb. 15, 2021
- Open to high school juniors attending a public high school in RI
- Interns will be required to attend a virtual orientation bootcamp
- Interns will be paid during their time in the program

For more information [PrepareRI High School Virtual Internship Program](#)

- Scholarship Opportunity for Seniors



Rhode Island Foundation  
@RIFoundation



Rhode Island high school seniors can now apply for our Carter Roger Williams Scholarship.

Submit an application by February 12 for up to \$20,000/year of college.

Help us get the word out A small blue and red share icon.

Click on this [Link](#) to learn more.

**It is not too late to file for FAFSA!**

Day and night appointments are available. Book your appointment at [The College Planning Center](#) or call 401-736-3170 [Prepare for FAFSA](#)

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

**Practice self care this month.** This is a time for gratitude. Spoil yourself and use these resource to Practice Gratitude and simply [Take Care of Your Health](#)



**Brown Emergency Medicine has launched [TeleCARE](#), a new video telemedicine acute care service.** During an online tele-healthcare visit, board-certified emergency physicians provide a level of care beyond what's available in a typical urgent care setting. Patients of all ages with acute illness or injury can schedule 30-minute appointments through the secure online service at their convenience from anywhere in Rhode Island. Appointments are available from noon to midnight every day. TeleCARE physicians can order labs, imaging, e-prescribe, and send an electronic copy of the visit to a patient's regular providers. The service accepts insurance for professional charges and does not collect fees before visits. Interpreter services are available. Learn more about the service [here](#).

## FROM THE NURSES OFFICE

### **COVID Testing At RINI Middle College:**

We began COVID testing for students and staff this week. We are using the

BinaxNOW rapid test. Our goal is to test everyone who is in the building once a week. This is NOT the deep brain swab. All students will be instructed on how to perform their own swabs. Click the links below to see RINI's Testing Plan and the Student Consent Forms. If you have any questions about our COVID Testing Plan please contact Nurse Audette at [daudette@rinimc.org](mailto:daudette@rinimc.org)

[RINI COVID-19 Testing Plan - English](#)

[Plan de prueba COVID-19](#)

[BinaxNow Testing Student Consent Form - English](#)

[Formulario de consentimiento para la prueba BinaxNow - Estudiantes](#)

### **Continue With the Three W's**

Wear a mask.

Wash your hands.

Watch your distance.

### **WORKFORCE INFORMATION**

**Calling all CNA's!** Cherry Hill Nursing Center is hiring CNAs. Excellent sign on bonus \$1500 for students and parents who are CNA's. For more information or to apply log onto: [Cherry Hill Careers](#)

The Department of Health is looking for workers to be trained and do contact tracing. This is vitally important work and they need bilingual staff. If you or anyone you know is interested please contact the web address below. [RI Case Investigator](#)

Please contact [awozniak@rinimc.org](mailto:awozniak@rinimc.org) if you are interested in participating in community volunteer opportunities through the ZOOM platform to area residents in nursing facilities. Additional information can be found at: [RINI Workforce Development Office](#)



## **Lifespan Community Health Ambassadors now offering Virtual Lectures**

What: Diabetes Prevention Classes:

Lunchtime Class

CLASSES START: Friday, January 29, 2021

ENROLL UNTIL: Friday, February 19, 2021

DAY & TIME: Every Friday, 12 to 1 pm

By attending each class, you will receive free program materials. Must be 18 years of age to participate.

For more information or to register:

Email Ana Almeida-DoRosario or call 401-444-8069.

### **COMMUNITY UPDATES:**

#### **The Path to Healthy Eating: Free food distribution**

Eat healthy this year. Starting from **Friday 2/5 and every Friday through March 10am - 12pm at the Pell elementary school in Newport** free food will be distributed. It is open to all Rhode Islander. You just have to show up!

The RI Food Bank is distributing at this site. Boxes include produce, meat and milk.

**The WeR1 Fund is providing \$400 gift cards for Rhode Islanders:** who are not eligible for most federal relief programs due to their immigration status.

The funds allow for purchase of groceries, gas, and other basic necessities.

Those in need of assistance should visit [Dorcas International](#) to apply.

Applications can also be found in [Spanish](#), [Portuguese](#), and [Haitian Creole](#).

**Need Family Support During the Pandemic? Virtual Zoom Professional Development** sessions offered by [The Bradley Learning Exchange](#) are

available to parents to help navigate the COVID-19 environment. The free 40-60 minute sessions include topics such as; Working with Kids During the Challenging Pandemic, Self-Care for Parents, Support your Child to Engage in Distance Learning and Talking with Kids About Difficult Topics.

To schedule a professional development session please contact Alyssa at [aalba@lifespan.org](mailto:aalba@lifespan.org)

### **GRAB AND GO MEALS:**

**PROVIDENCE:** Breakfast and lunch meals are now available to families with children ages 18 and under on Tuesdays and Fridays. Times for pick up are 2:30pm to 4:30 pm.

Here are the sites that are serving meals [Providence Grab and Go Sites](#)

**RHODE ISLAND FOOD SITES:** If your family lives in a location other than Providence, please click below for a list of food sites that serve your community:

### [RI FOOD SITES](#)

### **RINI Partners with The Inner You Counseling Center:**

Supportive services are available for RINI students and families.

Please reach out to the school social worker Ms. Pellegrino at:

[spellegrino@rinimc.org](mailto:spellegrino@rinimc.org) to access these supports, either online or in-person.

### **\*New\* Teletherapy (Phone or Video)**

We are here to support your mental health during this very stressful time of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are accepting new patients through Teletherapy via video or phone.

We accept all insurances and offer a sliding scale for those who do not have insurance or can't afford services. For more information or to book an appointment please call [401-773-7116](tel:401-773-7116) or click the button below.

[BOOK AN APPOINTMENT](#)



**Family Care:** RINI Middle College is committed to our students and families throughout the school year. Please reach out to our school social Ms. Pellegrino, [spellegrino@rinimc.org](mailto:spellegrino@rinimc.org), if you need support, guidance and resources at this time.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### February is Black History Month

Providence Community Library (PCL) is celebrating #BHM 2021 with author talks, programs and displays during February.

Kicking off the month, The Providence Public Library has **FUNDA FEST** performance by black storytellers for library audiences of all ages, featuring April Armstrong on February 9. [Get free tickets to the virtual shows here.](#)

Author Tochi Onyebuchi joins PCL on Wednesday, February 10th at 6PM to discuss **RIOT BABY**, a companion read for the 2021 Reading Across Rhode Island selection. Onyebuchi won the 2020 New England Book Award for Fiction for this book, as well as a 2021 Alex Award, given annually to ten works written for adults which also have special appeal to young adults, ages 12 through 18. The event will be co-hosted virtually by South Providence Library and Rhode Island Center for the Book and the conversation moderated by Jonathan Pitts-Wiley, the Artistic Director of Mixed Magic Theatre. [Get free tickets today through Eventbrite](#) for this special author event and to receive the Zoom link.

PCL is proud to join Providence City Council as co-host of the [Black History Month Panel- Michael S. Van Leesten: Bridge Builder](#) on Thursday, February 15. Council Deputy Majority Leader Mary Kay Harris, Council President Sabina Matos and panelists Ray Rickman, Jordan Van Leesten, Mary Harrison and Frank Santos will participate in a virtual panel discussion on the life and legacy of the civil rights activist.

Por favor haga click en este enlace para leer la traducción en español



**RINIMC**  
is different! \_\_\_\_\_

*We Are Educating the Nurses of Tomorrow, Today.*

For more information, visit our  
website: [rinimc.org](http://rinimc.org)



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**Our mailing address is:**

**Nurses Institute Middle College**

150 Washington Street

4th Floor

Providence, RI

Phone: (401) 680-4900

Fax: (401) 533-9928

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