



10 YEARS
OF ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE



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Dear Parents and Students,

For the past two years, masks have played a vital role in protecting our students, teachers, and staff during the COVID pandemic. As of this past Monday, March 7, mask-wearing is no longer required in school. We do

continue to recommend mask-wearing for people who are not up to date with their COVID vaccinations, haven't completed the primary series, are at risk for severe disease, or are immunocompromised, however, students and staff may choose to wear a mask or not to wear a mask.

As we make this transition we want to ensure that members of our community are being supported and respected with their individual decisions. We encourage families to have a discussion with their child about the transition to a mask optional school community.

We continue to require safe practices such as:

- Washing hands frequently
- Covering your mouth, coughing, and sneezing into your elbow
- If you have symptoms or are ill, staying at home
- All students and staff should consider getting vaccinated and complete the series if it has been started
- All students and staff must continue to complete COVID screenings on Skyward each morning before school
- All visitors must complete a COVID screening upon arrival

Please note that this policy may change based on guidance from the CDC and RI Department of Health.

RINI Middle College remains committed to the safety and well-being of our students, staff, and families. We would like to thank our families for supporting our health initiatives and collaborating with us in keeping our school community healthy.

Respectfully,

Dr. McCue, Ph.D., RN

Chief Executive Officer

Senior Clinical Experiences

RINI seniors started their off-site clinical this month. The clinical experience is an important component of the RINI nursing education. Students participate in supervised learning sessions in real health care environments, which provide

them with the opportunity to put what they've learned in the classroom into practice.

We are fortunate to partner with a variety of stellar healthcare agencies whose staff are excited to be a part of our student's learning experience. Seniors are on-site for their clinical



at St. Elizabeth's Community and Tockwotton on the Waterfront Assisted Living, numerous other locations are signing up to host our students at their facilities.

Important Date:

Monday, March 14th: No in-person school but students will have a distance learning day with asynchronous work provided by their teachers. Statewide Professional Development Day



Daylight Savings Time

Don't forget to push your clocks ahead one hour at 2:00 am Sunday, March 13th.

Women's History Month: "Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope."

The 2022 Women's History theme, "Providing Healing, Promoting Hope," is both a tribute to the ceaseless work of caregivers and frontline workers during this ongoing pandemic and also a recognition of the thousands of ways that women of all cultures have provided both healing and hope throughout history.



Women's History Month is a dedicated month to reflect on the often-overlooked contributions of women to United States history. From [Abigail Adams](#) to [Susan B. Anthony](#), [Sojourner Truth](#) to [Rosa Parks](#), the [timeline of women's history milestones](#) stretches back to the founding of the United States.

In 1980, President [Jimmy Carter](#) issued the first presidential proclamation

declaring the week of March 8 as National [Women's History](#) Week. The U.S. Congress followed suit the next year, passing a resolution establishing a national celebration. Six years later, the National Women's History Project successfully petitioned Congress to expand the event to the entire month of March.

Honoring Influential Women in Healthcare: The Past and Present

Florence Nightingale

Florence Nightingale was a trailblazing figure in nursing who greatly affected 19th and 20th-century policies around proper medical care. She was known for her night rounds to aid the wounded, establishing her image as the “Lady with the Lamp”.



Her experiences as a nurse during the Crimean War laid the groundwork for her views about sanitation. She established St. Thomas Hospital and the Nightingale Training School for Nurses in 1860.

Nightingale was an early proponent of evidence-based care. She recognized the privilege of nurses to view, understand, and transform health care systems. The Nightingale Pledge taken by new nurses till this day, and the Florence Nightingale Medal, the highest international distinction a nurse can receive, were named in her honor. More than 200 years after her birth, “the lady with the lamp” continues to light our path forward and inspires nurses and all health care professionals to continually improve, never settling for the status quo.

Beverly Malone, Ph.D., RN, FAAN

Dr. Beverly Malone leads with passion and advocates for diversity in nursing and nursing education. She has worked in many positions, from a surgical staff nurse to dean of the School of Nursing at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. She serves as the president and CEO of the National League for Nursing.



Dr. Malone also served as the deputy assistant for health with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under President Bill Clinton. She continues to support congressional leaders in nurse advocacy. She seeks to decrease the nursing shortage within the United States.

Dr. Malone graduated with a bachelor's degree from the University of Cincinnati before getting a doctorate in clinical psychology. She has received numerous awards and honors, including the Gail L. Warden Leadership Excellence Award by the National Center for Healthcare Leadership. and being recognized among the Top 100 Most Influential People in Healthcare by Modern Healthcare. The American Academy of Nursing also recognized her as a "Living Legend" (it's highest honor) in 2020.

Meet the RINI Staff

Bonnie Shelton, M.Ed
College and Career Counselor
Grades 11 and 12

I am so proud to be part of the RINI community. The work that the educators, support staff, and students do, here, every day is inspiring. I have always known that I wanted to be working within the educational field. Following a fourteen-year career as a special education educator, I decided that my true passion lies within the area of high school counseling, and specifically within a vocational realm. RINI's mission certainly parallels my own. While I'm not hanging out with my two boys, in my hometown of Tiverton, R.I., I enjoy kayaking in the summer and skiing in the winter. I also enjoy baking, shopping consignment, and attempting to garden. I am looking forward to working closely with the amazing RINI students and staff.



Now Accepting Applications for Lifespan's 2022 Summer Youth Program

- Must be age 17 before April
- Attend two pre-summer training sessions.
- Able to work full time for 8 weeks in July and August.



- Must be able to submit Immunizations records by a required deadline (including COVID 19 vaccination).
- Have a willingness to learn.
- Have an interest in pursuing a career in healthcare.

Email Ms. Ferland at Tferland@rinimc.org for the link to apply

RINI Spring Book Club: Next Meeting

The next meeting for the RINI Spring Book Club will be on March 17th in room 211. We will be discussing the Read Across Rhode Island book choice *Firekeeper's Daughter*. We will also be picking the book for April. If you have any questions, contact Ms. Boger at jboger@rinimc.org

National Pi Day

Pi Day is on March 14, and any day that combines fun, education, and pie is a day worth celebrating! Pi, also known by the Greek letter “ π ,” is a constant value used in math that represents the ratio of a circumference of a circle to its diameter, which is just about 3.14....15...9265359... (and so on). Not only that, but the fourteenth of March is also Albert Einstein's birthday, so all together it's nothing short of a mathematician's delight.



The 2022 The Bob Oberg Youth Voice Poetry Contest

Rhode Island Poet Laureate, Tina Cane, and The Rhode Island Center for the Book, are excited to announce a poetry competition for young poets around the state! This new initiative is sponsored by Bob Oberg, a Rhode Island poet and author who dedicated his career to providing equitable educational opportunities for youth in Rhode Island. He is sponsoring this contest to “encourage youth to develop their voices and to



recognize them for their achievements.” Oberg said, “I appreciate Tina Cane using her position as Poet Laureate to champion youth, and I am honored to provide an incentive for young people to have their voices heard.”

The contest is open to Rhode Island students in grades 7-12, with a \$500 first prize, a \$250 second prize, a \$150 third prize, and two \$50 honorable mentions. The winners will be chosen by 2022 Youth Poetry Ambassador Lourdes Nicolella and Deputy Ambassador Adi Gamache. Applicants should submit one poem between March 1st and April 1st. Winners will be announced on April 15th.

Submit your poetry by email: Kate Lentz, Director, RI Center for the Book at kate@ribook.org

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