RHODE ISLAND
NURSES INSTITUTE
MIDDLE COLLEGE
CHARTER SCHOOL

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The First Week…

Seeing students and teachers walk into the RINI building meant a return to some normalcy to our learning community. For most students and teachers, it's the first time in nearly a year and a half they've been able to learn and engage

with each other in their classrooms. We can all agree that the past year and a half presented many challenges. However, as we enter a new school year, there are takeaways that the pandemic and the events of this past year have taught us that we will continue. We will continue to learn from our past, be hopeful for the future, and strive to be the best that we can be. We will focus on self-care, mental wellness, and compassion for others. We are inspired by what we; students, teachers, and staff have learned during the pandemic and are stronger because of the resiliency that sustained us through it.

As your principal, I want to emphasize that I am available to students and parents for any assistance or guidance you may need throughout the school year. I want to hear from you. I want you to visit me in my office. Schedule a virtual meeting with me. Reach out to me either by phone or email. I value your involvement and feedback. Most importantly, I want to help each student succeed. I, along with the entire faculty and staff are here to support the students and families of RINI.

Parents often ask me how they can be more supportive to their student or even more involved in their child's school experience. Here are some "tried and true tips" that I would like to offer to you as your students head back to school.

1. Review your student's class schedule and ask how their school day was. What excites them? What worries them? Talk about it, help problem solve and offer support as the year progresses.
2. Take a moment to read the email messages from the school. It's worth it because that's where the school leaders can convey what has happened, what needs to happen or share celebrations that you don't want to miss.
3. Be involved in the school as a parent. Join the Parent-Teacher Organization. Please contact Ms. Tsiane at mtsiane@rinimc.org if you

would like to participate.

4. If your student is expressing uncertainty about a class or an assignment, help them connect with their teacher. Have them meet with their teacher during the support times in the morning or afternoon. If they are struggling, reach out immediately to us at RINI and schedule a time to meet either virtually or in person. Let's work together now before it becomes a major challenge.
5. Make sure your student is getting to school on time and is not missing school. It is vital to the success of your student to attend school daily and to be on time. Assist your student with creating a daily routine that ensures they arrive on time.
6. Celebrate your student's successes (small and large) throughout the year. Your encouragement and support mean so much, even when your student doesn't say so. Yes, the years go fast but the days are long, but you are a HUGE source of strength and encouragement for your student.

We welcome the new school year with optimism and excitement.
Tammy Ferland

RINI COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic

RINI is having a COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, from 1:00 - 4:00 pm on the 3rd Floor at RINI. The Pfizer vaccine will be given and is approved for ages 12 and up. Schedule your appointment here.

Please be advised that the Link is NOT compatible with Internet Explorer. Most registration problems can be solved by copying and pasting the link into a google search. Any other issues please call the PrepMod Help Desk at 888-503-0515.

TIPS FOR PARTICIPANTS:

- Insurance information is optional
- Registration will close at noon the day before the clinic (Ex: A Wednesday clinic will close on Tuesday at noon)
- Clients will be observed for 15 minutes after vaccination and 30 minutes for anyone who has had an anaphylactic reaction in the past.

The vaccine requires two doses. It is important to get the second dose because two doses are what was shown to be most effective during clinical trials. There will be another clinic on Friday, October 15 from 2:30 - 5:00 PM at Village Green Charter School 135 Weybosset St., Providence (the street behind RINI) for second doses of COVID-19 vaccine. You can make an appointment for the second dose at the first clinic.

I Need Help With….

•*My google email password:* Please see Ms. Diaz in the main office on the fourth floor, room 400.

•*I need assistance with my schedule*: Please see Mrs. Dwyer, Director of Teaching and Learning on the second floor, room 210C.

•*I need a bus pass*: If you filled out the Bus Pass Survey during the summer, you can pick up your bus pass in the main office on the fourth floor, room 400. If you did not fill out the survey during the summer, an email was sent out on 8/31 from Ms. Tsiane, Director of School Culture and Community requesting students to complete the survey in order to be issued a bus pass. For returning students, you will notice that the bus passes are different this year. Students are issued a RIPTA Wave smart card which is a permanent, rechargeable card used to pay your bus fare.

•*My Bus Pass says "0" balance*: Do not worry! Your bus pass is active and has a balance on it. The "0" amount is only showing because the cards are issued under RINI and are not individual accounts.

•*I need some additional help from my teacher*: Teachers are available to meet with students every morning and afternoon for any assistance that you need.

Teacher-student support times are: Monday-Friday: 7:30 AM-8:00 AM and 3:00 PM-3:30 PM

•*My Chromebook Doesn't Work*: If you are having issues with your Chromebook, please bring it to Ms. Diaz or Ms. Santiago in the main office on the 4th floor, room 400.

•*I lost my Chromebook*: Any student who has lost their Chromebook or charger needs to see Ms. Tsiane, Director of School Culture and Community on the second floor in room 210B. Students are responsible for the safekeeping of their laptops. Students/parents are responsible for a $250.00 replacement fee for a lost Chromebook and $20 replacement fee for a lost charger.

•*Can I use my own Chromebook*: The only Chromebooks that students can use are the RINI issued Chromebooks as these Chromebooks have various programs installed that are needed in the classroom.

•*I want to purchase a RINI sweatshirt*: You can either purchase a RINI sweatshirt or other clothing that we have in the display cabinet on the 4th floor and pay by cash - go to the Main Office and see Ms. Diaz or Ms. Santiago. You can also order a variety of RINI clothing on our website at RINI Gear

•*How do I find out about notices or important information*: Read your RINI email every day! Information will be disseminated to students and parents through emails and the weekly Principal's newsletter. It is very important to read all the information.

Holidays/No School Dates in September
There is no school on the following days:

- September 6th - September 8th (Labor Day and Rosh Hashanah)
- September 16th - Yom Kippur
- September 29th - Statewide PD Day

To view the entire school calendar

Meet the RINI Staff
Joanne Debrah. M.Ed

College and Career Guidance Counselor

My name is Joanne Debrah. I joined the RINI family in March of 2021. I earned my Bachelor's of Science in Human Services at Springfield College. After immersing myself in community work, I returned to school where I earned a Masters of Education in Counseling.

When you research the purpose of guidance counseling you will find the role was designed with the intentions of facilitating student achievement, improving student behavior and attendance, and helping students develop their social-emotional skills. Consequently, along the way, an authentic partnership starts to flourish. This dynamic creates a safe space where learners are empowered. The guidance counselor starts out facilitating the process but over time, the learner gains sight of their strengths, what they are passionate about and where they want to land. They take the lead in this partnership while the guidance counselor shifts to a thought partner.

Most people entering the world of education enjoy helping others and focus on building transformative relationships that change the trajectory of the learners in front of them. I stay because of the lasting impact my learners have had on me. It is a humbling experience that fosters my growth while allowing me to do what I love.

September: Celebrating Rosh Hashanah
The Meaning of Rosh Hashanah:
Rosh Hashanah (The Jewish New Year) for Hebrew Year 5782 begins at sundown on Monday, 6 September 2021 and ends at nightfall on Wednesday, 8 September 2021. Rosh Hashanah is one of Judaism's holiest days. Meaning "head of the year" or "first of the year," the festival begins on the first day of Tishrei, the seventh month of the Hebrew calendar, which falls during September or October. Rosh Hashanah commemorates the creation of the world and marks the beginning of the Days of Awe, a 10-day period of introspection and repentance that culminates in the Yom Kippur holiday, also

known as the Day of Atonement. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are the two “High Holy Days" in the Jewish religion.

Online Therapy: Addition Resources for Families

Online Therapy has a new resource that helps people better understand addiction and breaks down how to talk about addiction, assist a loved one with getting professional help, and offer support throughout the process, including through recovery.

You can view it here: https://www.onlinetherapy.com/addiction-counseling/family-resource/

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