



Dear CIP Community,

The Commissioner released the following news release this past Wednesday which provides a summary of the major elements of the statewide calendar and updates to a plan of reopening schools in the fall.

Guidance documents should be released by June 19th and plans submitted by July 17th. I will be in constant communication along the way!

PROVIDENCE – Governor Gina M. Raimondo and Education Commissioner Angélica Infante Green today announced several key steps to fulfill the state’s commitment to safely reopen public K-12 schools this fall. The Governor’s goal is for all districts to work to return to in-person learning on August 31.

The primary element is a [statewide calendar](#) for all public school districts to use during the 2020-2021 academic year. The calendar is a dynamic planning tool, which RIDE will update and share throughout the school year in response to the unfolding public health situation. It will provide consistency to families and students, while also enabling educators and school systems to collaborate on activities like shared professional development.

“We are planning for a safe, in-person return to school this fall,” said Governor Gina M. Raimondo. “The first step comes today, with our new statewide school calendar. This gives us a solid foundation to ensure our students are back in their classrooms as soon as possible, while providing the flexibility we need to quickly respond to changing circumstances. We are moving forward on all fronts to make sure school opens on time.”

“The entire Rhode Island education community stepped up to make distance learning happen on short notice this year, and for that we should be extremely proud,” said Education Commissioner Angélica Infante-Green. “We are working to develop a range of options to help schools open, make sure students learn, and safeguard their health and safety. By putting all our school systems on a common calendar, we will be able to provide the high levels of support and coordination we need no matter what the future brings.”

RIDE is working with the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) to develop a continuum of school-reopening scenarios, which balance prioritizing the health and safety of school communities with providing in-person instruction as soon as possible. RIDE will be providing guidance to districts, charters and state-run schools next week to help them develop their own individual back-to-school plans. Those plans will be submitted to RIDE for review and implementation support.

Highlights of the statewide 2020-21 school year calendar include:

- All Rhode Island public schools will begin on August 31, 2020.
- All Rhode Island students and teachers will have a Winter vacation from February 15 through 19, 2021.
- All Rhode Island students and teachers will have a Spring vacation from April 19 through 23, 2021.
- The following days will be statewide professional development days: September 21, October 19, November 16, December 14, January 25, March 15, April 12, and May 17. Those days will be distance learning days for students.
- Snow days will still be determined at the district level, and school will be held via distance learning.
- Graduations can be held by high schools any time after their 170th day of instruction, which is expected to be June 2.
- The statewide school year for students will end on the 180th day of instruction, which is expected to be June 16, 2021. School systems may choose to add instructional days to their calendar beyond the 180-day required statewide calendar.

You got this...We got this...Together!  As always, stay healthy and safe.

Mrs. Clark
Principal of Captain Isaac Paine School

Michael Barnes, Ph. D.
Superintendent