

Letter to Parents regarding High School Graduation

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter is to provide you with important information about the **Rhode Island Diploma System** and the available supports that will help you meet our high school graduation requirements.

You should have received your child's 11th grade NECAP scores. If not, contact your child's school counselor or advisor to get the test scores. In addition to test scores, ask for a record of your child's current progress toward meeting all of the graduation requirements. Ask to schedule a meeting to review your child's progress and what they need to do in order to graduate. Talk with your child about school.

Your child's school has many supports in place to help students meet the graduation requirements. State regulations require schools to communicate with you regarding your child's progress. The school must also share, with you and your child, the progress plan that describes the extra instruction or programs scheduled for your child.

Every student has the opportunity to take the NECAP test 2 more times in their senior year. Students may be eligible to take a different approved test to meet the NECAP requirement. A set of online math programs are available to all students for free. As part of this online program, students who may need extra help in math can receive free online tutoring. Contact your child's school to find out more about the Virtual Learning Math Modules program and to see if your child may benefit from this opportunity.

Our team at the RI Department of Education (RIDE) is meeting with teams of teachers and administrators from each high school to learn what they are doing to support students and to ensure that they are aware of the resources available. Schools are providing a variety of educational supports to help students meet graduation requirements, which may include:

- Course make-up programs for students who do not have enough courses to earn a diploma;
- Opportunities to redo their Senior Projects or Portfolio presentations;
- Programs to provide students with extra instruction if needed to improve their math or reading level.

These opportunities may be available during the school day, after school, on weekends, during the summer, and even online. Contact your child's school to find out what the school offers and what is available to help your child.

All of us must work together to ensure sure that every student meets all of the graduation requirements. We believe that, with a year of good instruction, all students can improve and earn a high school diploma.