

**Commissioner's Weekly Field Memo
Friday, September 18, 2015**

Notes from Commissioner Wagner

1. *Save the Date Reminder*: All are invited to celebration of educator excellence at **September 26** [WaterFire](#)
2. RIDE issues new guidance regarding [educator evaluations](#)
3. Teachers, schools encouraged to participate in [Hour of Code](#) during week of **December 7**
4. XQ [Super School Project](#) offers funds for students to “design the next American high school”
5. New report highlights importance of relationships in [keeping students in school](#)
6. Newport student wins R.I. [State Insect](#) Drawing Competition
7. Art Education Association names [Art Educators of the Year](#)

From the R.I. Department of Education (RIDE)

Legal:

8. LEAs reminded to submit to RIDE name, contact information of [Title IX coordinators](#)
9. RIDE issues Commissioner's [decisions](#) on home schooling, schooling out of residency zone

Data Collection:

10. LEAs asked to submit data on [dual, concurrent enrollments](#)
11. *Reminder:* LEAs asked to keep [School Profile](#) data up to date
12. *Reminder:* [Renaissance](#) data-sharing agreement must be renewed at start of new school year
13. *Reminder:* Pearson announces changes in testing technology for [PARCC](#)
14. *Reminder:* LEAs asked to submit 2015-16 [TCS](#) data as soon as possible
15. *Reminder:* Several [data collections](#) are open or due by the end of the month

Assessments:

16. May 2015 [NECAP Science](#) results release schedule announced

English Learners:

17. RIDE to apply for waiver to allow LEAs to maintain current status regarding English Learners during [PARCC transition](#)

Educator Certification:

18. LEAs asked to review and update [Personnel Assignment Submission](#) by **October 1 – Action Item**

Health & Safety:

19. *Reminder:* New law requires opioid antagonist [Naloxone \(Narcan\)](#) to be available in all secondary schools

From other state agencies

20. State Police sponsor [CyberPatriot competition](#) for middle-, high-school students

From the U.S. Department of Education

21. U.S. Department of Education launches [College Scorecard](#), site with data on postsecondary education
22. Guidance released on including children with disabilities in high-quality [early-learning programs](#)
23. Educators encouraged to sign up for updates on [Connected Educator Month](#)

From other organizations

24. Meeting scheduled for **September 30** on personalization, [interactive curriculum](#) materials
25. Providence College seeks proposals from educators by **October 16** for conference of [project-based learning](#)

26. AskRI.org schedules webinars next week on [homework help](#)
 27. Education Commission of the States seeks nominees for [education awards](#)
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Action Item Calendar

- Today** (September 18): [RITEAF](#) forms due
September 30: [Personnel data](#) collection due
September 30: [Special Ed](#) evaluations due
October 1: Personnel Assignment Submission updates due (see [below](#))
October 9: [PARCC](#) test-options survey response
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Notes from Commissioner Wagner

- 1. *Save the Date Reminder: All are invited to celebration of educator excellence at September 26 WaterFire***

This year RIDE will honor Rhode Island educators for their outstanding service and dedication to the education profession and to Rhode Island students at “WaterFire: A Salute to Rhode

Island Educators.” This event will be held on Saturday, **September 26**, from 5 - 9 p.m., in downtown Providence.

At 5 p.m., an awards ceremony will be held at Memorial Park (at the corner of South Main and College Streets). Please join us as we recognize the following educators:

- National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certified educators
- 2014 Rhode Island Milken Family Foundation Educator Award winner
- Presidential Award winners and finalists for mathematics and science teaching
- 2015 Rhode Island Certified School Nurse Teacher of the Year
- 2015 School Business Official of the Year
- 2015 Adult Education Teacher of the Year
- Rhode Island Superintendent of the Year
- Rhode Island Principals of the Year
- Rhode Island Support Professionals of the Year
- 2015-16 District Teachers of the Year
- 2016 Rhode Island Teacher of the Year

All are welcome to attend the celebration to support our Rhode Island educators. In addition to the awards ceremony, this family-oriented event will include a procession featuring the honored educators, culminating with a “Ring of Fire” at the basin in downtown Providence. A private reception for honored educators and their guests will follow.

Please share this message with your principals and with other educators.

If you have questions about this event, please contact Mary Keenan, at mary.keenan@ride.ri.gov.

2. RIDE issues new guidance regarding educator evaluations

As you know, legislation from June 2014 (H 7096 Sub B) created RIGL § 16-12-11, which codified language on the frequency with which LEAs can evaluate educators.

Overall, the legislation provided a pause in the implementation of teacher evaluations and an opportunity to organize our school communities onto a cycle that provides teachers with meaningful feedback that supports teaching and learning.

Upon passage of the legislation, RIDE issued guidance that encouraged you to develop a mechanism to distribute teachers rated Effective and Highly Effective in 2013-14 into groups in order to stagger the completion of evaluations, increasing our capacity to support teachers. Some of you developed approaches to address caseload concerns, and, for you, this memo simply confirms the planning that you have already accomplished.

However, many of you did not complete during the 2014-15 school year any evaluations for teachers who were rated Effective or Highly Effective during 2013-14 school year. If so, under previous guidance, you are preparing to evaluate in the current school year all teachers who had previously received an Effective rating. We have received feedback that this may create capacity challenges in your efforts to provide high-quality feedback to teachers.

In order to address these concerns from the field and one of the original intents of the legislation, we encourage you to develop a

mechanism to spread out the evaluation caseload if spreading the evaluation caseload over multiple years is appropriate to your needs as a school community. This new guidance is intended to support your efforts to most effectively manage the evaluation process.

Regardless of your decisions on implementation, all tenured teachers (with the exception of those in their first year teaching under a new teaching certificate) who earned final evaluation ratings of Effective in the 2013-14 school year must be fully evaluated again by the end of the 2016-17 school year. Similarly, all tenured teachers (again, excepting those in their first year teaching under a new teaching certificate) who received final evaluation ratings of Highly Effective in the 2013-14 school year must be fully evaluated again by the end of the 2017-18 school year. See the “Summary of New Guidance” table below.

We believe this guidance – provided to you at the beginning of the school year – is consistent with the intent of the legislation to provide a pause in the implementation of teacher evaluations and to provide an opportunity to initiate a sustainable practice that allows school communities to focus on instruction while providing teachers with meaningful feedback that supports teaching and learning.

If you have questions about how to develop a mechanism for staggering completion of evaluations or about this guidance, please feel free to contact lauren.matlach@ride.ri.gov, in our Office of Educator Quality and Certification.

How this applies to support professionals and building administrators:

Support professionals may enter the cyclical process based on their 2014-15 evaluation rating. Therefore, tenured support professionals who earned a rating of Effective in 2014-15 must be evaluated no later than 2016-17, and support professionals who earned a rating of Highly Effective in 2014-15 must be evaluated no later than 2017-18. All non-tenured support professionals, support professionals using a new certificate, and support professionals earning ratings of Ineffective or Developing must continue to be evaluated annually.

Building administrators are not included in H 7096 Sub B and must continue to receive annual evaluations.

Summary of New Guidance¹

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Teachers	Baseline			Evaluation deadline for teachers rated Effective in 2013-14	Evaluation deadline for teachers rated Highly Effective in 2013-14
Support Professionals		Baseline		Evaluation deadline for support professionals rated Effective in 2014-15	Evaluation deadline for support professional rated Highly Effective in 2014-15
Administrators	Annual Evaluation	Annual Evaluation	Annual Evaluation	Annual Evaluation	Annual Evaluation

¹ Please note that nothing in this guidance is intended to override any provision in the statute on educator evaluations (RIGL 16-12-11), including the provision that LEAs may conduct annual or more frequent evaluations of a tenured teacher under certain circumstances. These circumstances include (but are not limited to) any teacher’s requesting an annual evaluation, a provision for more frequent evaluations included in a negotiated collective bargaining agreement, and concerns that may arise about a teacher’s performance (which must be handled in accordance with local personnel policies and with the negotiated collective bargaining agreement).

3. Teachers, schools encouraged to participate in Hour of Code during week of December 7

Rhode Island schools have been active participants in the Hour of Code, and this year we would like to encourage even more of our schools and classrooms to participate. The Hour of Code is a one-hour introduction to computer science, “designed to demystify code and show that anyone can learn the basics.” Teachers and school leaders at every grade level can participate, and can schedule their “hour of code” anytime during the week of **December 7 through 13**. The nonprofit group Code.org sponsors Hour of Code. For more information and to register for Hour of Code, go to:

<https://hourofcode.com/us/en>

4. XQ Super School Project offer funds for students to “design the next American high school”

We also want to encourage you to take consider forming a team to enter the XQ Super School Project, a contest in which teams of students (age 13 or older) plus one adult team leader develop a plan to “design the next American high school.” As described on the XQ Super School Project website:

Teams will unite and take on this important work of our time: rethinking and building schools that deeply prepare our students for the rigorous challenges of college, jobs, and life.

The XQ Institute, a California-based nonprofit corporation, will select five winning projects and will provide \$10 million in funds (over five years) for *each* winning project.

Initial entries are due February 1, 2016. **November 15** is the deadline to share your concept and confirm eligibility. There is an XQ informational “road show” in Boston on **October 7**. You can find more information on the XQ Super School Project website, at:

<http://xqsuperschool.org/challenge>

In addition to the support provided by the XQ Institute, we at RIDE and other Rhode Island partners would love to work with and provide support to anyone interested in forming a team to participate in this design project. Regardless of who wins, the visioning process would be a powerful experience for your entire school community.

5. New report highlights importance of relationships in keeping students in school

A new report from Grad Nation and the America’s Promise Alliance, “Don’t Quit on Me: What Young People Who Left School Say About the Power of Relationships,” looks at some of the reason why students leave high school without a diploma – and what we can do to keep high-school students in school. The authors of the report surveyed nearly 3,000 young people and spoke with about 150 to reach their conclusions. The essence of their findings: Relationships matter, but a single caring adult

cannot be the sole support. For a look at the report and at the Grad Nation website, go to:

Full report:

http://gradnation.org/sites/default/files/FullReport%20DontQuit_2.pdf

Executive summary:

http://gradnation.org/sites/default/files/DQOM_Execsummary.pdf

Website:

<http://gradnation.org/report/dont-quit-me>

6. Newport student wins R.I. State Insect Drawing Competition

Congratulations to Emma Hoag, a student at the Claiborne Pell Elementary School, in Newport, who is the winner of the Rhode Island State Insect Drawing Competition for her drawing of an American burying beetle. Governor Raimondo announced the award on Tuesday. We are using Emma's drawing as the RIDE profile this week on our social-media sites:



By the way, if you have a photo image from one of your schools that you would like us to use as the RIDE profile image, please send a copy to our social-media coordinator, elliott.krieger@ride.ri.gov.

7. Art Education Association names Art Educators of the Year

Congratulations to the three 2016 Rhode Island Art Educators of the Year:

- Elementary level: Sharon LaFrenaye, of the Metcalf Elementary School (Exeter-West Greenwich)
- Middle level: Rachel Armentano, Rocky Hill Middle/Upper School
- High-school level, and 2016 Outstanding Rhode Island Art Educator of the Year: Kerry Murphy, Johnston Public Schools

The Rhode Island Art Education Association will honor the winners in an awards ceremony on October 16.

From RIDE

Legal:

8. LEAs reminded to submit to RIDE name, contact information of Title IX coordinators

To those of you who have responded to our two previous requests for the name and contact information of your Title IX Coordinators, thank you. To those who have yet to respond, please submit the requested information as soon as possible. We have received a number of requests for an SEA-maintained list of Title IX Coordinators and, given that most states compile and maintain such a list, it is important that Rhode Island do so as well. Your speedy cooperation is requested and appreciated. Please forward the requested information to Vilma DiOrio, at vilma.diorio@ride.ri.gov.

9. RIDE issues Commissioner's decisions on home schooling, schooling out of residency zone

Homeschooled student is entitled to attend on a part-time basis career-preparation program offered at career-and-technical center

<http://www2.ride.ri.gov/applications/RideDirectory/DOCS/2015/012-15%20Burnett%20v.%20South%20Kingstown%20School%20Committee%209-2015.pdf>

Student is not entitled to attend a school outside of his residency zone because of insufficient evidence to establish one of the policy exceptions for issuance

<http://www2.ride.ri.gov/applications/RideDirectory/DOCS/2015/013-15 %20B. %20Doe v. Cranston 091415.pdf>

Data Collection:

10. LEAs asked to submit data on dual, concurrent enrollments

The Dual and Concurrent Enrollment in Postsecondary Institutions collection is where LEAs report to through the Enrollment Census collection information regarding students who are concurrently or dually enrolled in your LEA as well as at a postsecondary institution.

It is important that the students who are dual or concurrently enrolled be entered into your enrollment data as soon as possible.

State reporting and tuition reimbursement are dependent on this information.

If you have any questions about the Dual/Concurrent data collection, please submit a helpdesk ticket, at:

<https://support.ride.ri.gov>.

11. *Reminder:* LEAs asked to keep School Profile data up to date

The School Profile module within eRIDE is used to collect detailed information on districts and schools. It is important that this information is kept up to date throughout the year, as the Master Directory and other systems are reliant on these data. If you have any questions about the School Profile data, please submit a helpdesk ticket, at:

<https://support.ride.ri.gov>.

12. *Reminder:* Renaissance data-sharing agreement must be renewed at start of new school year

Your data-extraction information is valid only for one year. Each year, the information you have extracted will be cleared on July 31. At the beginning of each school year (any time after August 1), you will need to accept the data-sharing agreement again and make your current data-sharing selections.

If you have signed the data-sharing agreement and do not see your data in the Instructional Support System within a week, please submit a helpdesk ticket, at:

<https://support.ride.ri.gov>.

13. *Reminder: Pearson announces changes in testing technology for PARCC*

Pearson has started to publish technical documentation for the next iteration of the PARCC assessment. Please review the latest [technology bulletins](#) to become familiar with technical changes since last year. Pearson will also be sending technology bulletins directly to the technology coordinators within your LEA. If your technology coordinator is not receiving these bulletins, please submit a support ticket to Pearson. For more detailed information regarding the technology, the [Pearson technology setup page](#) has information for each aspect of the testing technology.

There are two major changes that may affect districts, the first being that the Google Chrome Web browser is not supported. Chromebooks are unaffected by this. Good Chrome was the most-used browser in the state for PARCC testing last spring. The second major change is that Pearson has released a [PARCC TestNav desktop application](#). This application eliminates the dependency on Java and allows for a more secure testing environment. This also allows you to migrate from the Chrome browser to the desktop application for Windows, Mac OS X, and Linux.

14. *Reminder: LEAs asked to submit 2015-16 TCS data as soon as possible*

Please submit your 2015-16 Teacher, Course, Student (TCS) data as soon as possible. The TCS collection is a daily collection; therefore, we continually update the data and the data do not need to be perfect or complete on the initial upload. The TCS data

are important, as these data form the foundation for many data verifications and technology systems, including the Instructional Support System.

If you have any questions about the TCS data, please submit a help desk ticket, at:

<https://support.ride.ri.gov>.

15. *Reminder: Several data collections are open or due by the end of the month*

The following are some data-collection deadlines for September:

- September 1: [Graduate and Dropout Reporting via Enrollment Census](#) - Open
- September 1: [Monthly Reimbursements for Nutrition Programs](#) – Open
- September 1: [Summer Exits Through Enrollment Census](#) – Open
- September 30: [Personnel Data Collection \(PDC\)](#) – Due
- September 30: [Special Ed Evaluations](#) - Due

Information about upcoming data collections can be found on the [data collection calendar](#). Weekly collection [webinars](#) provide details regarding upcoming collections, along with a question-and-answer period.

Assessments:

16. May 2015 NECAP Science results release schedule announced

The results of the May 2015 administration of the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) Science tests for grades 4, 8, and 11 will be available to schools and districts next week. The planned release schedule is as follows:

Monday (September 21) at 10 a.m.: Schools and districts will be able to access a password-protected site to download all 2015 NECAP Science results reports, including School and District Results Reports, School and District Summary Reports, Item Analysis Reports, Released Items and Support Materials documents, and the Guide to Using the 2015 NECAP Science Reports. Letters with user-name and password information along with instructions for accessing the password-protected NECAP results online have already been mailed. If you did not receive your information, please call the NECAP Service Center, at (877) 632-7774.

Schools and districts will also have access to confidential student-level data files that contain demographics, scores, questionnaire results, and student performance on the released items.

Note: All summative results are embargoed until **September 29**, at 10 a.m., and *cannot* be shared with the public until this date and time.

September 29 at 10 a.m.: Non-confidential results will be accessible to the public (non-confidential results are those that do not contain any student-level information). Additionally, schools and districts will no longer be required to provide a password to access the non-confidential results. May 2015 NECAP Science results information (including our

annual NECAP Science results report) will be posted on the RIDE website, at:

<http://www.ride.ri.gov/InstructionAssessment/Assessment/NECAPScienceAssessment.aspx#171127-results>

This year, RIDE will not hold a news conference or issue a news release on the science results alone. Instead, RIDE will issue a news release once all 2014-15 assessment results (including NECAP science, PARCC, and the alternate assessment) are ready for public release.

LEAs may publicly discuss and release their own NECAP science results as of September 29 at 10 a.m.

If you have any questions about the release of NECAP Science results, please contact Dr. Kevon Tucker-Seeley, at kevon.tucker-seeley@ride.ri.gov or 222-8494.

English Learners:

17. RIDE to apply for waiver to allow LEAs to maintain current status regarding English Learners during PARCC transition

The U.S. Department of Education has informed states that transitioned to new reading/language arts and mathematics assessments during the previous school year of an opportunity to submit a request for a waiver. AMAO 3 holds LEAs accountable for the percentage of English Learners (ELs) making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) on state assessments. The waiver would allow LEAs receiving Title III funding to maintain their status and continue under any current sanctions if the reason for their

missing AMAO 3 is due to achievement in reading/language arts or mathematics as determined by the 2014-15 assessments. Applying for this waiver makes Title III consistent with the Title I waiver under ESEA, which also allows states to not use baseline assessment (PARCC) data to determine the status of schools during the transition year.

Because PARCC is a new assessment, we will apply for a waiver from the requirement that we use the 2014-15 PARCC scores in determining sanctions under Title III. If the waiver is granted, AMAO 3 will still be calculated using PARCC data and we will publicly report the information, but sanctions on schools will not be affected by the PARCC data for the 2014-15 school year. We will just carry forward the status of the schools from the previous year for one year and will not add new schools to the list of those under sanction.

Prior to submitting the waiver request (due on October 1), RIDE will hold a webinar to provide notice and information to the public and to receive public comment. We will hold the webinar on Friday, **September 25**, at 11 a.m. You can register to participate in this webinar, at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/82513219347208449>.

Educator Certification:

18. LEAs asked to review and update Personnel Assignment Submission by October 1 – *Action Item*

We would like remind LEAs that the Personnel Assignment Submission (PAS) portal for reporting certified-educator work

assignments for the reporting year 2015-16 has been open since August 7. LEAs that have not yet updated the PAS should review and update the work assignments for certified staff in the PAS portal, located in eRIDE, and update them by **October 1** so that initial federal reporting is as accurate as possible. Based on the latest review of the data in the PAS portal, more than half the LEAs have not started to update the certified-assignment information for the current school year. These data are important for state and federal reporting, and we appreciate your attention to reporting quality and timeliness. If you have any questions regarding the PAS, please submit a ticket to the RIDE helpdesk, at:

<http://support.ride.ri.gov>.

Health & Safety:

19. *Reminder: New law requires opioid antagonist Naloxone (Narcan) to be available in all secondary schools*

According to RIGL §16-21-35 ([2015-S 0154A](#), [2015-H 5047A](#)) *all public middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools are required to maintain opioid antagonists on school premises or at school-sponsored events or activities to treat an opioid overdose.* The new law also provides certified nurse teachers with immunity from liability arising from ordinary negligence.

The Department of Health has developed [School District Naloxone Model Policy Guidelines](#) to establish guidelines and procedures governing the utilization of Naloxone administered by staff, as well as, [Naloxone FAQs](#) to share.

The Department of Health, in collaboration with the Rhode Island Certified School Nurse Teacher Association, will be conducting an educational training for school nurse teachers on **October 22**.

For more Naloxone resources and training materials, see the following links:

- <http://www.health.ri.gov/healthrisks/drugoverdose/>
- <http://www.bhddh.ri.gov/misc/Narcan.php>
- <http://prescribetoprevent.org/patient-education/videos/>
- http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content//SMA14-4742/Overdose_Toolkit.pdf

From other state agencies

20. State Police sponsor CyberPatriot competition for middle-, high-school students

Please see this invitation from the State Police:

The Rhode Island State Police Computer Crimes Unit, also the lead of the Rhode Island Cyber Disruption Team, is pleased to support (for the second year in a row) the Air Force Association's CyberPatriot competition. CyberPatriot is a competition for middle- and high-school students who are interested in information-security related fields. Students form teams that can meet either during or after school (depending on the school's preference and schedule) to learn and practice basic networking principles. Starting in November, they compete once a month to try to identify and fix vulnerabilities in a pretend ("virtual") network.

As an avid supporter of this program, along with Congressman Langevin and Senator Whitehouse, we want to encourage schools with interested students to participate in this year's competition. There is a small registration fee, which we can help alleviate, as well as help match you up with a technical mentor who can work with the students if you cannot readily identify someone in or associated with the school. If you have the students, but need any other assistance, please let us know as there are lots of resources we can match you up with.

If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, you can visit the CyberPatriot website (<https://www.uscyberpatriot.org/>) or contact Meghan Martinez (meghan.martinez@risp.dps.ri.gov or 444-1718) for more information or assistance. The deadline to register team(s) is **October 9**. If you can help us identify the students, we can help with the rest!

From the U.S. Department of Education

21. U.S. Department of Education launches College Scorecard, site with data on postsecondary education

The White House and the U.S. Department of Education have developed a set of resources to provide prospective college students and their families with information on college costs and quality. You can learn about these resources and how to access them here:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/09/12/fact-sheet-empowering-students-choose-college-right-them>

22. Guidance released on including children with disabilities in high-quality early-learning programs

The U.S. Departments of Education and Health and Human Services have released guidance urging early-learning programs to include children with disabilities. You can read about this guidance and access a copy of the guidance here:

<http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-departments-education-and-health-and-human-services-release-guidance-including-children-disabilities-high-quality-early-childhood-programs>

23. Educators encouraged to sign up for updates on Connected Educator Month

Please see this message from the U.S. Department of Education Office of Communications and Outreach:

October is [Connected Educator Month](#), and the [initial calendar](#) lists dozens of events. Educators at all levels, as well as those who support them, are welcome to [sign-up](#) for regular updates on interactive webinars and other events, forums, showcases, and contests. They are also urged to develop, host, and run their own activities, publish content, and generally promote the month.

From other organizations

24. Meeting scheduled for September 30 on personalization, interactive curriculum materials

Please see this message from the Highlander Institute:

Looking for high-quality, low-cost resources to promote personalization? On Wednesday, **September 30**, the Highlander Institute will be hosting educators, administrators, and entrepreneurs across the state to explore and collaborate around free interactive curriculum materials. In addition to great food and camaraderie, representatives from the U.S. Department of Education Office of Edtech will be joining the event as the final stop of their [EdTech Developer's Guide Tour](#). For more information and registration, please visit [this link](#) and follow along on Twitter using #EdTechRI and #EdTechDev.

25. Providence College seeks proposals from educators by October 16 for conference of project-based learning

Please see this invitation from the Graduate Literacy Studies program at Providence College:

We are pleased to announce that the 4th annual Project-Based Learning (P-BL) Conference will be held at Providence College on March 1, 2016, from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. For the first time, we are inviting educators from across the state to submit a proposal that describes their unit in relation to the elements of P-BL.

As in past conferences, we are hoping to highlight P-BL at different grade levels. An important aspect of the conference is that it offers students an opportunity to share their learning with an audience of teachers and administrators. For each presentation, four students who are involved in a P-BL unit will present their project through a 25-minute multimedia presentation. The presentation will

be followed by a question-and-answer session directed mainly to the students. Teachers should be available to provide additional information about the project.

The deadline for submitting proposals is **October 16**. Proposals should be sent electronically as an attachment to Dr. Beverly A. Paesano at bpaesano@providence.edu. Please contact us at this email address or call the graduate literacy office at [401-865-1987](tel:401-865-1987), if you have questions and to receive a copy of the Request for Proposals form.

Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of how they address the basic elements of P-BL that are listed in the proposal form. All proposals will be reviewed by October 30. We will contact you within a week of our review.

We look forward to hearing about your work with P-BL. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions.

26. AskRI.org schedules webinars next week on homework help

Please see this message from AskRI.org, which the Providence Public Library manages:

AskRI.org has scheduled a webinar entitled "What Rhode Island Librarians and Educators Need to Know about Homework Help RI." This webinar occurs several times next week - on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Please register for the date and time that works best for you. To register, go to:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/3031660689854255873>

Do you know any students, parents, teachers or job seekers? Are you a Rhode Island librarian or teacher? If you answered yes to both of these questions, please join us for an informative webinar about Homework Help RI powered by Tutor.com. Learn what the service provides, how to answer your patrons' questions about it, and how to build awareness of it in your community. This is a must-see webinar for all library staff and teachers because everyone knows someone that will benefit from Homework Help RI and you'll definitely want to spread the news! This service is provided to Rhode Islanders through the Office of Library and Information Services. Note, this is not a sales presentation, as your patrons already have free access to this service through AskRI.org.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

27. Education Commission of the States seeks nominees for education awards

Please see this notice from Education Commission of the States:

Do you know someone who has made significant contributions to public education? Has your state enacted innovative education reforms or implemented programs that go beyond marginal or incremental changes to improve student outcomes on a large scale?

Help Education Commission of the States recognize this tremendous work by [nominating](#) an individual, state, or organization for one of our prestigious awards!

The *James Bryant Conant Award* recognizes an *individual* for outstanding contributions to American education. Established in 1977, the award is one of the most respected honors in the education community.

The honor is bestowed upon individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to improving education across the country in significant ways such as:

- Provided leadership on groundbreaking task forces or committees.
- Published works or conducted research that profoundly influenced thinking on public education in the United States or had a substantial impact on policy.
- Shepherded groundbreaking education reform through the legislative process.
- Demonstrated exemplary service as a public figure or elected official deeply involved in improving education for all.

The *Frank Newman Award for State Innovation* recognizes *states and territories* for enacting innovative education reforms or implementing innovative programs that go beyond marginal or incremental changes to improve student outcomes on a large scale.

This award is presented to a state for policies, programs, or initiatives that:

- Are replicable and hold valuable lessons for other states.
- Are bold and courageous, including new approaches designed for large-scale impact, or existing approaches with evidence of significant impact on student achievement in the state.
- Have bipartisan, broad-based support from stakeholders to ensure sustainability.

The *ECS Corporate Award* recognizes a *for-profit corporation, nonprofit organization, or foundation* that has demonstrated a sustained commitment to improving public education in the United States.

The ECS Corporate Award is presented to organizations or companies that:

- Support improvement that is consistent with ECS' mission and priorities.
- Support promising practices to improve student outcomes.
- Enjoy broad-based support in the states or communities in which they operate.

Please take a moment to [nominate](#) a worthy individual, state or organization. Click here to complete the short nomination form by **October 30**.

Thank you for helping us honor the hard work being done across the states!

RIDE will post this field memo on Tuesday, at:

<http://www.ride.ri.gov/InsideRIDE/FieldMemos.aspx>