



# EVENT MAY 17, 2023 SCHEDULE

RIPEC K-12 Education Forum  
Johnson & Wales University  
Harbor View Building

# Welcome

8:30 – 9:00 am

## Continental Breakfast and Networking

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9:00 – 9:15 am

### Welcome

Mim L. Runey, LP.D., Chancellor, Johnson & Wales University; Chair, Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council

### Opening Remarks

Michael DiBiase, President and CEO, Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council

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9:15 – 10:00 am

## Panel One: Teacher Workforce and Professional Development

### MODERATOR

Victor Mercurio, Ed.D., Associate Professor, Educational Leadership Doctoral Program, Johnson & Wales University

### PANELISTS

Danielle Dennis, Ph.D., Dean, Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies, University of Rhode Island

Jeanine Dingus-Eason, Ph.D., Dean, Feinstein School of Education and Human Development, Rhode Island College

Frank Flynn, President, Rhode Island Federation of Teachers and Health Professionals

John P. Papay, Ed.D., Associate Professor and Interim Director of the Annenberg Institute, Brown University

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10:00 – 10:15 am

## Break

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RIPEC

# EDUCATION FORUM

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10:15 – 11:00 am

## Panel Two: Education Funding

### MODERATOR

Paige Clausius-Parks, Executive Director, Rhode Island  
Kids Count

### PANELISTS

Christopher Blazejewski, Majority Leader, Rhode Island House  
of Representatives

Colleen Burns Jermain, Ed.D., Superintendent, Newport  
Public Schools

Ryan W. Pearson, Majority Leader, Rhode Island Senate

Kenneth K. Wong, Ph.D., Professor and Walter and Leonore  
Annenberg Chair for Education Policy, Brown University

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11:00 – 11:15 am

## Break

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11:15 – 12:00 pm

## Panel Three: Innovation and Choice

### MODERATOR

Sarah Friedman, Co-Founder, The Learning Community

### PANELISTS

William Bryan, Senior Project Executive, Gilbane Building  
Company; Chair, Rhode Island Career and Technical Education  
Board of Trustees

Michaelle Larracuente, Director of Programs and  
Implementation, Highlander Institute

Ramona Santos Torres, Executive Director and Co-Founder,  
Parents Leading for Educational Equity

Spencer Sherman, Vice President of Strategic Partnerships,  
Linked Learning Alliance

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12:00 – 12:15 pm

## Break

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12:15 – 1:00 pm

## Lunch and Keynote Address

Susan F. Lusi, Ph.D., President & CEO, Mass Insight  
Education & Research