



Equity Council Agenda

Zoom Meeting Time: November 18, 2020 3:30 - 4:30 PM

Welcomes & Introductions

- Executive Office of Health and Human Services Secretary Womazetta Jones welcomed the Council members

K-12 School Reopening Strategy Updates | Commissioner Angelica Infante-Green, Rhode Island Department of Education

- Commissioner Infante-Green discussed the measures being taken to prevent COVID-19 spread in the classroom, including installing 6,100 HEPA filters and introducing COVID-19 tests for all students.

COVID-19 Data Update | Julian Rodriguez-Drix, COVID-19 Coordinated Response Lead at the Rhode Island Department of Health

- Black and Latino populations are still overrepresented in COVID-19 case numbers.
- RIDOH's Health Equity Zones are working with the contact tracing team to provide community members with the resources they need while in quarantine and isolation. For more information on the HEZs, [click here](#).

Higher Education Update | Amy Grzybowski, Executive Director, RI Higher Education & Industry Centers, Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner

- The number of COVID-19 cases in higher education institutions is remaining consistent with the overall community case increase, indicating no further major outbreaks.
- Most higher education institutions in Rhode Island will resume remotely after Thanksgiving break.

Community Feedback: What are you hearing from the community? What should the State know?

- A Council member voiced teacher concerns and community fear about COVID-19 outbreaks in schools. A member asked for opportunities to share accurate information about schools in their communities. For more information, visit the [RIDE K-12 School Reopening playbook](#).
- A member voiced community confusion around the testing availability. To check current COVID-19 testing availability, visit <https://portal.ri.gov/>.

Next Steps

- State Staff will:
 - invite speakers from the [COVID-19 Vaccination Subcommittee](#) to a future meeting.
 - report back on additional information about statewide industry COVID-19 case clusters.

Close

- Closing remarks given by Secretary Womazetta Jones

