



Senate Committee on Education
Chair, Hanna M. Gallo
Vice Chair, Harold M. Metts

&

Senate World Languages and English Language Learners Commission
Chair, Juan M. Pichardo

Present the

Fifth Annual Rhode Island Education Summit

*The Equitable Delivery of a 21st Century Education:
Closing the Achievement Gap*

Thursday,
October 20, 2016
4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

AGENDA

Department of Administration
Cafeteria – Ground Level
One Capitol Hill
Providence, Rhode Island

Parking is available in the Department of Administration lot, Department of Health lot, street parking, and State House lower parking lot

Capitol TV will be filming

Registration 4:00 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.

Welcome and Introductory Remarks 4:20 p.m. – 4:35 p.m.

- **The Honorable Hanna M. Gallo**, Chairperson, Senate Committee on Education
- **The Honorable Harold M. Metts**, Vice Chairperson, Senate Committee on Education
- **The Honorable Juan M. Pichardo**, Chairperson, Ocean State World Languages Commission

Session 1: Education Leaders – Closing the Achievement Gap

4:35 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- **Ken Wagner, Ph.D.**, Commissioner of Elementary & Secondary Education
Commissioner Wagner will provide the plan to close the achievement gap for K-12 students
- **Jim Purcell, Ed.D.**, Commissioner of Postsecondary Education
Commissioner Purcell will provide a plan to increase teacher diversity in our teacher preparation pipeline and address higher education's role in closing the achievement gap
- **Mike Grey**, Chairperson of the Governor's Workforce Board
Chairperson Grey will provide insight into the Governor's Workforce Board's ongoing efforts to help prepare the workforce of the future by connecting young adults, ages 14 to 24, with the education, work experience and occupational skills training they need to succeed, including the Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston
- Question and Answer

**Session 2: Closing the Achievement Gap Through Early Childhood Education and Quality
Childcare Programs**

5:05 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

- **Elizabeth Burke Bryant**, Executive Director, Rhode Island Kids Count
Ms. Burke Bryant will present the latest data on the opportunity gap, key strategies and information on the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading
- **Elizabeth Roberts**, Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services and Chair, Children's Cabinet
Secretary Roberts will discuss the connection between early childhood services and kindergarten readiness and the role of EOHHS and the Children's Cabinet
- In-school services for students K-3 and the impact on grade level proficiency in English language arts from the perspective of:
 - **Susan DeRiso**, Director of Literacy & Title I, Cranston Public Schools
 - **Reyna Zapata**, Bilingual/ESL PK Teacher, Providence Public School District
 - **Patti DiCenso**, Superintendent, Pawtucket Public School District
 - **Daniel Wall**, Cranston School Committee Member
- Question and Answer

Light Dinner

5:45 p.m.

Student Panel

6:15 p.m. – 6:40 p.m.

Session 3: Increasing Teacher Diversity and Teacher Retention in Schools 6:45 p.m. – 7:20 p.m.

- **Delisa Saunders, Ph.D.**, Deputy Director of Human Rights & Community Relations, American Federation of Teachers
Dr. Saunders will discuss efforts on increasing teacher diversity and retention
- **Joanna Ravello, Ph.D.**, Director, Community & Organizational Development, University of Rhode Island
URI will discuss their strategies and successes in increasing faculty and staff diversity at the University
- **Donald Halquist, Ph.D.**, Dean of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development, Rhode Island College
Dr. Halquist will discuss strategies to increase enrollment and completion of minority students in teacher preparation program at Rhode Island College
- **Victor Capellan**, Superintendent, Central Falls School District
Mr. Capellan will discuss ongoing efforts in the Central Falls School District to increase teacher diversity and retention.
- Question and Answer

Closing Remarks 7:20 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

- **The Honorable Hanna M. Gallo**
- **The Honorable Harold M. Metts**
- **The Honorable Juan M. Pichardo**