ALL OUR STUDENTS:

Amplifying the Voice of Parents for Student Transportation

Brian Cordeiro, *President*

Independent Schools Association of Rhode Island





All RI Children are OUR STUDENTS

<u>Every child</u> in public and private schools are our children whose parents are seeking the best community to meet the needs of their children to grow and learn.

<u>All parents</u> from public and private schools are taxpayers contributing to support education in our state.

<u>Nonpublic schools</u> provide a **valuable public service** as part of the overall educational delivery system and save the public millions.

Independent Schools Association of Rhode Island

Diocese of Providence Catholic Schools

29

RI Private Schools

6K+

Students

36
RI Catholic Schools

9.7K+

Students

Nonpublic School Numbers In 2023-2024...

98

PreK - 12 RI Private Schools

16,689 Private School Students

Families Finding the Best RI School For Their Child to Grow and Learn

Nonpublic Students Saving RI Millions

The FY2024 budget set a base level core instructional funding average per pupil at \$11,876.

"The core principle behind the formula is that state funding should <u>follow the student.</u>"

Nonpublic students are saving RI millions (195M+).

Private Schools & Financial Assistance Our students are from all economic backgrounds

The Diocese of Providence

24/25 School Year

• Over \$3.1 Million in aid

Over 4,700 students applied

Independent Schools Snapshot

- One School: \$4M in aid
- One School: 56% of students receive Aid
- One School: 90% low income

STAR Kids Scholarship Program

- All Saints Academy Middletown
- St. Philomena's Portsmouth
- The Pennfield School Portsmouth
- The Prout School Wakefield
- Bishop Hendricken High School Warwick
- La Salle Academy Providence
- Monsignor Clarke School Wakefield
- St. Kevin's School Warwick

Bussing is essential for <u>ALL</u> our students

- Tax paying parents depend on transportation to assist getting children to the school that best serves their child.
- Wide bus regions ensure our schools can serve as an educational and economic engine of RI to attract sustainable and diverse student bodies.
- Passing costs on nonpublic school parents and schools significantly impacts resources for aid and operations.
- Regional Transportation has been a long standing basic educational service to ALL students in RI since 1977.

Private School Parents are Not The Cause...

- Is the legislature fully funding Statewide Transportation to assist districts in transporting all students?
- How have public school CTE Pathway programs, available to out of district students, contributed to rising transportation costs?
- Are we acknowledging the contribution private, parochial and independent school parents make to RI's education delivery system or seeking to cut cost on their backs?
- Do we want to do our best in RI to ensure ALL children get to the school that best serves their needs?