
DANIEL J. McKEE

MAYOR



PRESS RELEASE

45 Broad Street, Cumberland , Rhode Island 02864 · (401) 728-2400

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Contact: Barbara Goodrich
Administrative Assistant to the Mayor

Mayor Daniel J McKee will host a public meeting to discuss the recent report he commissioned with a dozen Rhode Island mayors and town administrators entitled "Fund the Student: A Plan to Fix Rhode Island's Broken Public School Finance System". The meeting will be held at the Our Lady of Fatima Hall on Monday, March 8th at 7:00 p.m.

McKee stated, "The purpose of the meeting is to inform the public and coordinate an advocacy plan so that our General Assembly swiftly passes a money follows the student funding policy."

Mayor McKee continued by saying, "I invite all public school parents, educators and taxpayers to get involved in this important discussion. I am pleased to be working with Erika Sanzi and parents who have been recently energized by the Cumberland School Department's school re-organization plan. I look forward to talking about my efforts to improve public education and the positive impact a funding formula will have on Cumberland and communities throughout Rhode Island."

Ms Sanzi commented, "I am strongly in favor of the proposed state school funding formula and am currently opposed to the elementary redesign proposal for Cumberland's K-5 schools. Mayor McKee and I have set up the public meeting and I hope to see all our local and state elected officials attend."

McKee said "It is very encouraging that the Rhode Island Department of Education supports a funding policy that allocates money based on the actual number of students in our schools rather than on past precedent. A plan to finally stop funding empty seats will position Rhode Island strongly for over one hundred million dollars in Race to the Top funds. More importantly, it will create the necessary conditions for innovation and improvement in our public schools."