

Rhode Island Municipal Education Compact

[city/town] recognizes that **improving educational outcomes** is central to **raising the incomes** of those who live in our community and ensuring all residents lead **healthier lives**. Moreover, as Rhode Islanders, we recognize that **all of us together** have a role to play in adding 1 million hours of out-of-school learning time per year across our state to help reach our goal of improving educational outcomes.

[city/town] aspires to be among the very best public education systems in New England and the United States;

[city/town] will foster a culture of innovation, collaboration, and increased awareness of learning opportunities for all community members;

[city/town] will explore participating in and creating learning opportunities that support and enhance efforts both inside and outside of the traditional school settings and schedules to enhance learning outcomes;

[city/town] will work to ensure that the children and adult learners are exposed to and deeply engaged in learning activities; and

While each city and town in Rhode Island is unique, there are several specific actions steps that municipal leaders can take to help advance the concept of expanding the culture of learning from the 180-day school year to a full 365-day calendar year. Below is a sample of potential ways that municipal leaders can engage in this effort:

- Conduct a community-wide needs assessment and audit of existing and desired out-of-school time opportunities
- Regularly promote out-of-school-time learning activities using social media, constituent newsletters, and public forums
- Host an annual community forum on education
- Commit to reviewing both K-12 and higher education outcomes data with the Rhode Island Department of Education on an annual basis to better understand areas for improvement
- Create a Municipal Youth Commission to engage students in local leadership opportunities and develop critical thinking, communication skills and more
- Invest in existing or new community learning programs, centers, and/or libraries that will help advance the goal of improving educational outcomes
- Ensure seamless family supports to connect families from the school day to out-of-school time opportunities (e.g. support awareness campaigns, transportation)
- Be creative and propose programs that advance learning in ways that are unique to the needs of your community

Mayor/Town Administrator/Town Manager/Council President

Governor McKee