

# Rhode Island Healthy Schools Coalition

## What is the Rhode Island Healthy Schools Coalition?

**Rhode Island Healthy Schools Coalition**, over 100 members strong, is the only statewide school wellness organization connecting the RI school community, while providing direct support for district school wellness work to create and sustain healthy school environments for all children. RIHSC engages school communities, motivating and helping districts with wellness initiatives, which ultimately address student health and education outcomes.

## Why is it needed?

Rhode Island has been a leader for school wellness and has demonstrated over the years that a combination of state and community-based vision and support can effectively change school environments. There currently exists a strong foundation of state and federal laws and regulations to drive healthful policy in our schools. It is the challenging work of making these policies come alive in each school that will take continued commitment, leadership and community support. Schools need the involvement of parents, administrators, teachers, school board members, students, local businesses and community organizations, all working together, to improve nutrition, increase physical activity, decrease overweight and obesity risks, and improve learning outcomes.



## What can RIHSC do?

RIHSC is uniquely positioned to help schools achieve healthy culture change by sharing relevant and timely school wellness news, information and resources; by providing access to educational workshops, funding opportunities and personalized technical assistance for wellness committee work; and by establishing a forum for community collaboration, advocacy and the sharing of successful practices.

*Follow us and stay up-to-date!*



Tom Hoagland, Co-Chair

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