



## BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

235 HIGH STREET, 2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR, BRISTOL RI 02809

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Ana C. Riley  
Superintendent of Schools

To: School Committee  
From: Ana C. Riley, Superintendent  
Re: Recommendation on the Closing of Guiteras  
Date: November 18, 2024

Upon close review and analysis of our plans to right-size our school district for both effectiveness and efficiency of services to our students, it is my recommendation that we move up our scheduled closure of Guiteras Elementary School to next year. RIDE requires a 6 month advanced notice of a school closure.

The reasons for this are multiple. However the primary drivers in this recommendation are the budgetary costs of maintaining the building and the declining enrollment at the school.

We continue to have facility issues, such as flooding and subsequent water damage in the basement of the school last week. These repairs costs, when coupled with the regular maintenance costs of a building this old, are significant.

More important is the number of students in a school building this size. We are projecting an enrollment of just 93 students at Guiteras next year (there are only 124 there now and the school once housed 300). In analyzing our space needs, and available classroom space at Colt Andrews and Rockwell, we are confident there are enough empty classrooms to accommodate all of these students at Colt Andrews and/or Rockwell next year.

Lastly, and perhaps most meaningful, is that research shows bringing these students into a larger cohort of classmates per grade level has both academic and social emotional benefits to the students. An additional benefit is the increased opportunity for educators to collaborate with peers regarding teaching and learning initiatives.

With our children in mind,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ana C. Riley".

Superintendent of Schools  
Bristol Warren Regional School District

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