

**From:** [Deirdre Finn \(dfinn@meridianstrategiesllc.com\)](mailto:dfinn@meridianstrategiesllc.com) <dfinn@meridianstrategiesllc.com>

**To:** [Gist, Deborah](mailto:Deborah.Gist@ride.ri.gov) <Deborah.Gist@ride.ri.gov>  
[Deirdre Finn\(dfinn@excelined.org\)](mailto:dfinn@excelined.org) <dfinn@excelined.org>

**CC:** [Teixeira, Angela](mailto:Angela.Teixeira@ride.ri.gov) <Angela.Teixeira@ride.ri.gov>  
[Erin Price\(Erin@excelined.org\)](mailto:Erin@excelined.org) <Erin@excelined.org>  
[Greene, Clark](mailto:Clark.Greene@ride.ri.gov) <Clark.Greene@ride.ri.gov>

**Date:** Tue, 8/30/2011 10:40:55 AM

**Subject:** RE: Digital Learning Now!

Great. Thanks very much. We are accepting feedback through mid september. My cell is [850-445-9619](tel:850-445-9619). I am with my daughter at the dentist but will be back at the office by 11:30. Cell is still the best way to reach me. Talk to you soon. Deirdre

*Sent via DROID on Verizon Wireless*

-----Original message-----

**From:** "Gist, Deborah" <Deborah.Gist@ride.ri.gov>  
**To:** "Deirdre Finn (dfinn@excelined.org)" <dfinn@excelined.org>  
**Cc:** "Teixeira, Angela" <Angela.Teixeira@ride.ri.gov>, "Erin Price (Erin@excelined.org)" <Erin@excelined.org>, "Greene, Clark" <Clark.Greene@ride.ri.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue, Aug 30, 2011 14:13:30 GMT+00:00  
**Subject:** RE: Digital Learning Now!

Deirdre,

Clark Greene will be coordinating our response on the report card. Can you let us know your timeframe?

Also, I was just trying to call you about something else, but I can't find a phone number for you anywhere. Can you send that to me?

Thanks!

Deborah

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**From:** Deirdre Finn (dfinn@excelined.org) [mailto:dfinn@excelined.org]

**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2011 4:52 PM

**To:** Gist, Deborah

**Cc:** Teixeira, Angela; Erin Price (Erin@excelined.org)

**Subject:** Digital Learning Now!

Deb,

Hope you and your family got through Hurricane Irene ok.

Attached is the draft Digital Learning Report Card for Rhode Island. I am afraid I do not have the best information on your state. Would you let us know where we got it right and where we got it wrong? I know you are advancing reforms in several areas, particularly through Race to the Top. (Our report card is focused on state law but we can highlight efforts to expand digital learning in the comments section and in some cases we may award partial credit. We have not yet finalized the scoring.)

Patricia shared your plans for developing model policies for digital learning. My hope is that this report card provides you with a start on the roadmap for reform.

Also, I love the idea of convening students to develop their own school model. (I think students will especially like Carpe Diem's model, which only requires school attendance on Friday for students who are not performing well. Students changed behavior and became more engaged in their learning to avoid that consequence.)

We are updating Report Cards through mid-September but will be providing Governors Bush and Wise, and others like Gisele Huff, with a briefing next Tuesday, so any information you have to share before then will be greatly appreciated.

Thanks so much for your help, Deirdre

Deirdre Finn  
Deputy Director  
Foundation for Excellence in Education