

Community Update

SUMMER 2024 EDITION



ROCHESTER
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

PRIDE IN EXCELLENCE



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Class of 2024

This year Rochester Community Schools celebrates 1,123 graduating seniors. We congratulate the Class of 2024, and extend our sincere gratitude to the teachers, administrators and staff who have partnered with our families and community members to support excellence.

"As a class, our students have created profound bonds within our school community that have enabled them to excel at the highest levels. Their skills and talents have been matched over the years by their extraordinary ability to maintain a positive outlook, spread kindness and build empathy for others," said Deputy Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Debi Fragomeni. "Whether our students strive to pursue post-secondary education, career or technical work, athletics or the arts, they have the tools to flourish."

The Class of 2024 now joins a prestigious group of alumni from Rochester Community Schools. Congratulations Class of 2024! You are RCS pride in excellence.

1123

graduating seniors in the RCS Class of 2024

62%

of students earned a 3.5 GPA or higher

442

earned a 3.9 GPA or higher with 4 or more AP classes

70

earned a 3.8 GPA or higher with 3 or more AP classes

185

earned a 3.5 GPA or higher with 2 or more AP classes

73

earned or are candidates for AP Capstone Diplomas

*Data is based on available information at time of print.

RCS welcomes Nicholas Russo as its new superintendent

The RCS Board of Education of the Rochester Community School District voted on April 8 to approve the superintendent contract for Nicholas Russo. Mr. Russo will begin his term as superintendent on July 1, 2024.

"As an experienced teacher, principal and executive administrator, Mr. Russo has a demonstrated track record of excellence. Through a steadfast commitment to serving all RCS students, a passionate approach to building relationships, an intentional focus on business operations, and an emphasis on our strategic plan, we are confident that Mr. Russo can lead our district to new heights," said Michelle Bueltel, board president.

Mr. Russo brings over 26 years of educational leadership experience to Rochester Community Schools. Prior positions include serving as the assistant superintendent of human resources at Walled Lake Consolidated Schools, principal of Conant Elementary in the Bloomfield Hills School District, and principal of Beacon Tree and Jack Harvey Elementary in the Utica Community School District.

Mr. Russo earned an educational specialist degree in executive leadership from the University of Michigan, a master's degree in educational leadership from Wayne State University and a bachelor's degree in education from Michigan State University. He is a graduate of the Michigan

Leadership Institute's SUPES Academy and holds a Michigan Central Office certificate, among others.

Mr. Russo states that his leadership approach "prioritizes collaboration, inclusivity and responsiveness to the needs of students and the community," and he is committed to "fostering environments where both students and staff can thrive, advocating strongly for inclusion and equal access for all."

I am deeply honored and excited to lead a teaching and learning community that values tradition, student achievement and excellence. Working alongside dedicated Rochester Community School District teachers, administrators, staff, parents, caregivers and community partners is an incredible opportunity," said Mr. Russo. "Together, we can build strong relationships that lay the foundation for student success."



Kelley Cusmano, Michigan Teacher of the Year



Rochester Community School District teacher, Kelley Cusmano, is the 2024-25 Michigan Teacher of the Year! State Superintendent Dr. Michael F. Rice surprised Ms. Cusmano with the top honor during an assembly in front of approximately 1,600 students and her colleagues at Rochester High School.

The Michigan Department of Education organizes the Teacher of the Year program to honor and elevate the voices of teachers. Honorees have the opportunity to share their experiences and knowledge as they work with

stakeholders to strengthen Michigan's public schools for students and educators.

"Kelley is truly deserving of the Teacher of the Year award, and we are proud of her for earning this honor. Kelley is passionate, nurturing and relentless in her efforts to support our students. She is always looking for ways to motivate her students to achieve more than they ever thought they could," said Josh Wrinkle, Rochester High School principal.

In April, the MDE announced that 10 Michigan educators were selected as Regional Teachers of the Year. Ms. Cusmano represented region 9. A panel of statewide education stakeholders then interviewed the finalists before selecting Ms. Cusmano as Michigan's Teacher of the Year.

"We are excited to celebrate Kelley. As Michigan Teacher of the Year, Kelley represents what is best about being an educator. With an understanding heart, a passion for

teaching and learning, and the ability to build interpersonal relationships with students, staff and the community, she is truly making a difference growing and developing our future leaders," said Executive Director of Secondary Education Dr. Neil DeLuca.

Ms. Cusmano has been an educator for more than 18 years. She joined Rochester Community Schools in 2008 as an English Language Arts teacher at Rochester High School. The following year, she accepted the additional role as student council advisor – a position that she has embraced for the past 15 years.



"As a student council advisor, Kelley influences our school culture and climate by building positive relationships that are the foundation for all learning," said Mr. Wrinkle. "The future of education is strong because of dedicated teachers like Kelley."



Outstanding staff honored for Excellence in Education

The Rochester Community Schools Foundation presented Excellence in Education Awards to four outstanding staff members for their extraordinary service and dedication to our students and families. Selected from 88 nominations, these honorees represent pride in excellence across the district.

Congratulations to the 2024 Excellence in Education Award recipients.



Olga Frans, secretary at University Hills Elementary, has a beyond-the-call-of-duty commitment to student success and well-being. Her involvement in extracurricular school activities helps build a vibrant, supportive school environment.



Theresa Robinson, German teacher at West Middle School, engages students in innovative ways to continuously improve instruction, build a positive culture, and make learning enjoyable and meaningful.



Jo Anna Pillsbury, teacher and theatre director at Adams High School and director of the RCS Summer Music Theatre program, is well known for respecting students' voices, adapting to meet the needs of all learners and sharing wisdom that extends beyond the classroom.



Melinda Young, learning consultant at Baldwin Elementary, provides nurturing support to help students with learning challenges build academic skills, while meeting their goals for growth and personal success.

RCS is grateful to Michele Beitelshees of the Pino Insurance Agency for continuing this decades-long tradition to recognize exemplary service. Each winner is provided with a generous donation to be used for a school-related project or program.



2024 RCS Scholars of Highest Distinction

GPA of 3.9 or higher; Complete and pass 4 or more AP courses



Tarek Abukamil
Rochester
Oakland University



Gia Andonyan
Adams
Purdue Univ.



Hannah Barrett
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Kate Bradford
Stoney Creek
Purdue Univ.



Nicholas Capitani
Stoney Creek



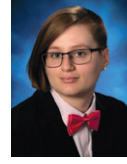
Katharine Adams
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Harrison Andrieux
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Magaret Bassett
Adams
Oakland Univ.



Rowan Brennan
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Regina Carbajal
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Arjit Agarwal
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Hana Anjum
Rochester
Wayne State Univ.



Lena Bates
Stoney Creek
Oakland Univ.



Drew Brown
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Claire Carbone
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Caitlyn Agostinelli
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Cincinnati



James Aretakis
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Adam Bazzi
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Caroline Bull
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Madison Carpenter
Rochester



Sidharth Ajithkumar
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Angelo Askar
Stoney Creek



Katie Beglin
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



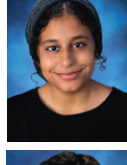
Kelly Burdick
Rochester



Megan Catsburg
Stoney Creek
Central Michigan Univ.



Modesola Akinbiyi
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Hajrah Awan
Rochester
Wayne State Univ.



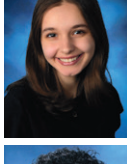
Katelyn Benitez
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Wisconsin



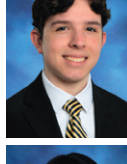
Casey Burke
Rochester
Aquinas College



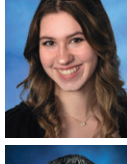
Kaylee Cattel
Rochester
Grand Valley State Univ.



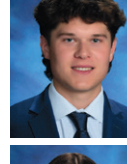
Hala Al-Dib
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



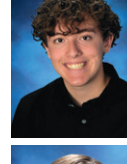
Benjamin Baggot
Stoney Creek



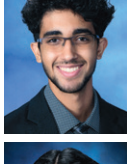
Lydia Bennett
Adams
Oakland Univ.



Tyler Burns
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



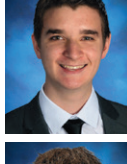
Thomas Cattel
Rochester



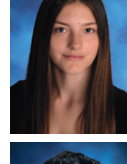
Salem Al-Hadrusi
Adams
Wayne State Univ.



Claire Bahk
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



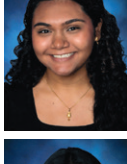
Luke Benson
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



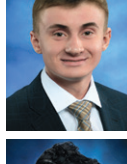
Alaiya Burns
Stoney Creek



George Cattermole
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



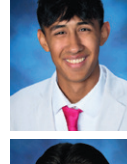
Zaineb Ali
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



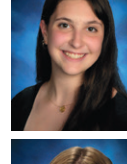
Maksym Bahriy
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



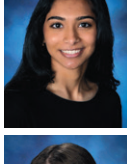
Michael Berry
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



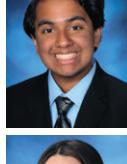
Mehtaab Buttar
Rochester
Univ. of Louisville



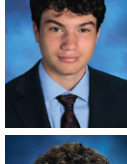
Emily Centofanti
Rochester
Western Michigan Univ.



Zoeya Ali
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



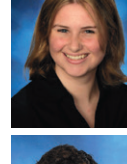
Zayn Baig
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Nathaniel Bikos
Stoney Creek



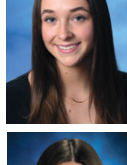
Carson Cagigal
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Wisconsin



Tessa Chalmers
Rochester
Univ. of Central Florida



Anisa Allamani
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



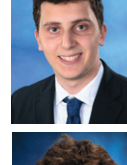
Elena Bailey
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Hayden Blake
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



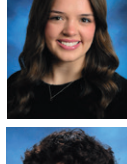
Ana Cano
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



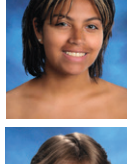
Hadi Chamra
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



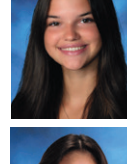
Kaitlin Allen
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



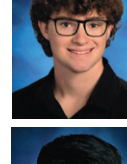
Claire Bakeman
Rochester
Western Michigan Univ.



Sienna Bostwick
Stoney Creek
Savannah College of Art
and Design



Isabella Cantio
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Joseph Chasse
Rochester
Oakland Univ.



Lauren Anderson
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



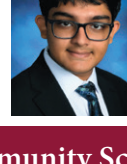
Aden Barghouthy
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Grant Braddock
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Cynthia Cao
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Ishaan Chauhan
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



2024 RCS Scholars of Highest Distinction

GPA of 3.9 or higher; Complete and pass 4 or more AP courses



Ady Chen
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Alana Corby
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Annabella Dawood
Adams
Univ. of Notre Dame



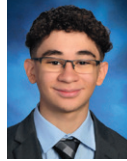
Tori Dunn
Stoney Creek
Grand Valley State Univ.



Avery Fraser
Rochester
Purdue Univ.



Yuan Chen
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Abraao Nicolas Costa
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



William Dee
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Amelia Dutil
Adams
Univ. of Alabama



Chase Frerichs
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Yujin Choe
Adams
Univ. of Illinois



Gwendolyn Craft
Rochester
Amherst College



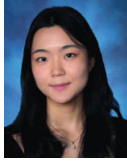
Abigail DeGraw
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Lukas Duz
Stoney Creek



Petra Gablowski
Adams
Michigan Technological Univ.



Haeun Choi
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Cecelia Crandall
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Josue Delgado
Adams
Lawrence Technological Univ.



Autumn Dzierzawski
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Jack Gerbi
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Wesley Chong
Adams
Oakland Univ.



Delaney Crandall
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Catherine Delikat
Adams
Ohio state



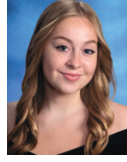
Nikolas Efthymoulidis
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Julia Gerdes
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Haechan Chung
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Lauren Cromie
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Logan Denby
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Sarah Eliassen
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Sydney Gergics
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Anthony Cimpean
Adams



Emersyn Crossley
Rochester
Central Michigan



Rachel Domulewicz
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Kareeman Elzayat
Rochester
Univ. of Detroit Mercy



Morgan Gill
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Trinity Cirenese
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Claire Curry
Stoney Creek
Kalamazoo College



Sophia Donnellon
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Gavin Farris
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Benjamin Gluhanich
Adams
Indiana Univ.



Emily Class
Rochester



Maya Dahanukar
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Cullen Doyle
Adams
Michigan State



Isabella Ferrara
Rochester
Oakland Univ.



Delia Goff
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Griffin Clow
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Olivia Dance
Adams
The Pennsylvania State Univ.



Stefan Dredetean
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Julia Fidler
Adams
Florida State Univ.



Diana Gojcaj
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Erin Coleman
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Cameron Dancel
Rochester
Kettering Univ.



Jenna Duby
Stoney Creek
Western Michigan Univ.



Helen Flores
Adams
Siena Heights Univ.



Daniel Gonzalez
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Faith Conniff
Stoney Creek
Grand Valley State Univ.



Danielle Danko
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Madison Dufrane
Stoney Creek



Katherine Fodale
Adams
Duquesne Univ.



Althea Goulding
Stoney Creek
Michigan Technological Univ.



Selena Cooper
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Margot Davis
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Liam Duggan
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Francesca Ford
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Addison Grake
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



2024 RCS Scholars of Highest Distinction

GPA of 3.9 or higher; Complete and pass 4 or more AP courses



Morgan Greenwald
Stoney Creek
Hope College



Brooke Haney
Rochester
Spring Arbor Univ.



Ava Hirvela
Adams
Western Michigan Univ.



McKenna Hubbard
Stoney Creek



Devanshi Joshi
Adams
Purdue Univ.



Alex Gregorio
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Edward Hardin
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Lillian Hittle
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Charles Huthwaite
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Isabella Joss
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Kaitlyn Grimaudo
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Cordelia Harris
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Sophia Hodges
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Lincoln Iaquaniello
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Benjamin Julian
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Sarah Gruber
Rochester



Bret Harvey
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Alfie Hodister
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Thomas Ignaczak
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Valeria Jurado Plascencia
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Luis Gerardo Guadarrama Olivera
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Tommy Hayman
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Benjamin Hollis
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Meagan Ismail
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Samuel Jurek
Stoney Creek
Purdue Univ.



Katelyn Guolla
Rochester
Elmhurst Univ.



Sawyer Hazard
Adams
The Univ. of Detroit
Mercy



Sydney Hooks
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Toledo



Alizeh Jahangir
Adams
Oakland Univ.



Anne Kaatz
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Isabella Guthrie
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Addison Henriques
Stoney Creek
Kettering Univ.



Nicholas Hopkins
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



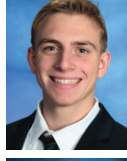
Keyura Jaligama
Rochester
Indiana Univ.



Grace Kada
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Hector Guzman Gomez
Stoney Creek
Purdue Univ.



Drew Heppner
Adams
Michigan Technological
Univ.



Tyler Horvath
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Christian Janiskee
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Jacob Kantzer
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Natalie Haise
Rochester
Davenport Univ.



Eva Herrmann
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Dustin Hosler
Adams



Youngeon Jeon
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Peter Kardasis
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Henry Hall
Adams
Purdue Univ.



Bennett Heughens
Rochester
Wayne State Univ.



Zaima Hossain
Rochester
Johns Hopkins Univ.



Hyelin Jeong
Adams
College for Creative
Studies



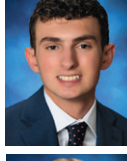
Kaden Kareta
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Xavier Hall
Rochester
Emerson College



Emma Heughens
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Aden Houser
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Andrew Jeric
Rochester
Purdue Univ.



Demetri Karras
Adams
Kettering Univ.



Isabella Hamerink
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Olivia Heughens
Adams
Loyola Univ.



Madalyn Howes
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Presley Johnson
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Aubrey Kastl
Stoney Creek
Pennsylvania State Univ.



Gabriella Hancz
Adams



Mikihito Higashi
Rochester
Univ. of Toronto



Mona Hrnjic
Rochester
Oakland Univ.



Aidan Johnston
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Griffin Keighron
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan





2024 RCS Scholars of Highest Distinction

GPA of 3.9 or higher; Complete and pass 4 or more AP courses



Evelyn Kekhoua
Adams
Michigan Technological Univ.



Tae Kim
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Eran Laci
Rochester
Wayne State Univ.



Garrett Lewis
Adams
Central Michigan Univ.



Sahana Macedo
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Ethan Kello
Rochester
Oakland Univ.



Amira Kizy
Stoney Creek
Oakland Univ.



Shreeya Lakshminarasimhan
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Jaeda Lewis
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Laura Machak
Stoney Creek
Western Michigan Univ.



Addison Kelly
Rochester
Indiana Univ.



Eli Knaup
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Milaan Lam
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Marco Leyva
Rochester
Pennsylvania State Univ.



William Adam Madamba
Rochester
Oakland Univ.



Anna Kelly
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Mason Knaup
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Ella LaMendola
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Eric Li
Rochester



Olivia Makiej
Adams



Adam Kerr
Rochester



Alyssa Ko
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Southern California



Sarah LaPrairie
Stoney Creek
Hope College



Daniela Limones-Lozano
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Ava Maktabi
Stoney Creek



Rose Keuten
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Flora Kokalas
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Amelia Lawson
Rochester
Westrn Michigan Univ.



Charlotte Lin
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Hasnain Malik
Rochester



Shahzeb Khan
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Mikayla Kondrat
Stoney Creek
Central Michigan Univ.



Haeun Lee
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Cleaton Lindsey
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Sana Malik
Rochester
Oakland Univ.



Arthur Kim
Adams
Univ. of Illinois



Rachael Koontz
Adams
Wayne State Univ.



Joseph Lee
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Laura Liu
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Dana Mansour
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



David Kim
Stoney Creek
Oakland Univ.



William Korson
Rochester
Michigan Technological Univ.



Charles Leik
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Alyssa Locke
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Taha Maqsood
Rochester



Jaemin Kim
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Evan Kovie
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Drew Lenard
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Olivia Lombardo
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Natalie Mara
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Jian Kim
Adams
Johns Hopkins Univ.



Audrey Kovtun
Stoney Creek



Lily Leone
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Ana Lopez Chavarria
Adams



Addison Martens
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Lynn Kim
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Jon-Ross Kramer
Stoney Creek
Indiana Univ.



Avis Lewis
Rochester
Oakland Univ.



Ryan Loren
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Thomas Martin
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Seohyeon Kim
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Ohm Kumblekere
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Dillon Lewis
Stoney Creek
Utah State Univ.



Ethan Lyons
Adams
Univ. of Miami



Allison Mary
Stoney Creek
Oakland Univ.



2024 RCS Scholars of Highest Distinction

GPA of 3.9 or higher; Complete and pass 4 or more AP courses



Anika Matharoo
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Asher Mohideen
Rochester
Wayne State Univ.



Tanvi Naveen
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



John Ostrander
Adams
Hope College



Wyatt Perkins
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Jake Mathew
Rochester



Drew Monroe
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Amit Nayak
Rochester



Kristine Pae
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Sophia Person
Stoney Creek
Michigan Technological Univ.



Addison Maul
Stoney Creek



Adrian Monter Ugarte
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Colin Nehilla
Stoney Creek
Kettering Univ.



Leah Palmer
Adams
Savannah College of Art and Design



Ethan Piche
Rochester
Oakland Univ.



Ethan McCullough
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Griffin Moore
Adams
Lehigh Univ.



Nora Nessau
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Andrew Palomba
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Thomas Pintar
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



William McPherson
Adams
Indiana Univ.



Max Morse
Stoney Creek



Sarah Newport
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Chiara Palomera Perez
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Nicholas Piro
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Kayan Mehta
Stoney Creek
Johns Hopkins Univ.



Grace Muench
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Eryk Nguyen
Adams
Cornell Univ.



Vanessa Palumbo
Rochester
Loyola Univ. Chicago



Mariam Sanju Plackattu
Rochester
Nova Southeastern Univ.



Malana Mentier
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Areeb Faraz Muhammad
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Lily Nguyen
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Arianna Parisi
Adams
Wayne State Univ.



Quinn Pollock
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Kelly Menzies
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Christa Munn
Stoney Creek
Alma College



Katherine Nottle
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Christy Park
Rochester



Cameron Potts
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Griffin Merchant
Rochester
Northwood Univ.



Arany Munoz Bonilla
Adams



Alaina O'Connor
Adams
Univ. of Rhode Island



Madelyn Parsons
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Fiona Poxson
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Emily Meyers
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Lyelle Murray
Adams
Grand Valley State Univ.



Sanika Ogale
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Madison Partlow
Adams



John Price
Adams
Purdue Univ.



Tyler Michalak
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Oliver Mutart
Adams
Univ. of Southern California



Braden O'Neil
Rochester



Dean Pascoe
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Anna Puertas
Adams
Pennsylvania State Univ.



Grace Minton
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Keira Nagy
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Giulia Orecchia
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Dhriti Patel
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Ryan Pursley
Stoney Creek
American Univ.



Andrew Miotke
Adams



Katherine Nahass
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Katelin Orsargos
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



James Peng
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Veda Puzzuoli
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



2024 RCS Scholars of Highest Distinction

GPA of 3.9 or higher; Complete and pass 4 or more AP courses



Jerome Quinn
Stoney Creek
Purdue Univ.



Alexander Reszewski
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Shifan Saeed
Adams
Florida Atlantic Univ.



Parker Shay
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Ava Spencer
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Ariana Rabaut
Stoney Creek



Ethan Reszewski
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Fabeha Saleem
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Cecelia Shea
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Swapna Srikantan
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Thomas Radabauagh
Adams
Worcester Polytechnic
Institute



Erin Rice
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Todd Sam
Rochester
Univ. of Central Florida



Alissa Shen
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Megna Srikanth
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Evan Ramakers
Rochester
Oakland School
Technical Campus NE



Makenna Roberts
Stoney Creek
Baylor Univ.



Joshua Sanchez
Adams
Brigham Young Univ.



Shiyu Shen
Rochester
Univ. of California



**Dhruv Srinivas
Gireesh**
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Savannah Rambow
Adams
Siena Heights Univ.



Katherine Robertson
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Reeya Sannake
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Tommaso Sinicola
Stoney Creek



Jane Stabnick
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Janhavi Ramekar
Adams



Samuel Rose
Stoney Creek
Arizona State Univ.



Peter Santia
Rochester
Purdue Univ.



Alivia Sirianni
Rochester
Indiana Univ.



Louis Stevanovski
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Anthony Randazzo
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Olivia Ross
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



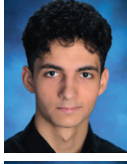
Nicholas Sarkozi
Adams
Michigan Technological
Univ.



Kelsey Smith
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Lilianna Stickney
Stoney Creek
Michigan Technological
Univ.



Jaber Rantisi
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Isabella Rossey
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Jack Sawdon
Rochester
Kellogg Community
College



Lillian Smith
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Noah Stockoski
Adams
Florida State University



Shravya Rao
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Arya Rukadikar
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Nishka Sawkar
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Riley Smith
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Moyra Stow
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Ankita Rausaria
Stoney Creek



Carter Rupert
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Gina Schnelbach
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Jordan Smyth
Adams



Gracie Striebich
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Gwyneth Rawlings
Stoney Creek
Depaul Univ.



Madeline Rush
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Adrianna Semioli
Adams



Inika Sonigra
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Sofie Striebich
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Adam Rayce
Rochester
Univ. of Wisconsin



Ava Sabbagh
Rochester
Oakland Univ.



Sarina Shah
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Kaitlyn Soriano
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Jordan Suhajda
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Madison Reid
Rochester



Jowan Saco
Rochester
Univ. of Detroit Mercy



Avi Sharma
Stoney Creek



Gabe Sousa
Stoney Creek
Michigan State Univ.



Mathew Sypniewski
Stoney Creek
Albion College



2024 RCS Scholars of Highest Distinction

GPA of 3.9 or higher; Complete and pass 4 or more AP courses



Rayaan Tabaddor
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Erica Traskos
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Gavin Wald
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Amelia Windeler
Rochester
Alma College



Jihyo Yoo
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Jack Tafel
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Brody Tyack
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Jordan Walsler
Stoney Creek
Florida Gulf Coast Univ.



Emma Wittkopp
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Bassem Yousef
Rochester
Oakland Univ.



Gillian Tansel
Stoney Creek



Natalie Uelsmann
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Julia Walsler
Stoney Creek
Florida Gulf Coast Univ.



Haley Wolf
Adams
Bowling Green State Univ.



Michael Yu
Adams



Ava Tebeau
Stoney Creek



Brooklyn Ugorowski
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Sarah Wang
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Bryce Wood
Adams
Oakland Univ.



Ryan Yu
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Jonah Telang
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Chester Van Daele
Stoney Creek
U.S. Marine Corps



Yuheng Wang
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Elizabeth Woollcott
Adams



Kian Zadeh
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Sruthi Tenneti
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Jillian Van Stee
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Aliah Wasti
Stoney Creek
Oakland Univ.



Armaai Worlobah
Rochester
North Carolina A&T State Univ.



Eleanor Zazekis
Adams



Hannah Thibideau
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Maximilian Viereck
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



Jacob Weiss
Adams
Oakland Univ.



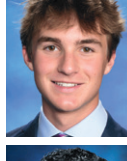
George Wright
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Jason Zhang
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Miles Thornton
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Benjamin Vigier
Adams
Michigan State Univ.



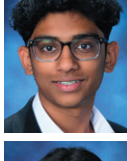
Alyssa Welker
Stoney Creek
Western Michigan Univ.



Xinyan Wu
Rochester
Univ. of California



Chongxi Zhou
Rochester
Univ. of Toronto



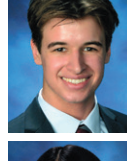
Shiv Tigadi
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Shaun Shanmugan
Vincent Rajah
Rochester
Oakland Univ.



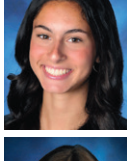
Aaliyah Wendell
Adams
Wayne State Univ.



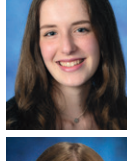
Patrick Wydeven
Rochester
Purdue Univ.



Alexia Xu
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



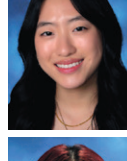
Angela Toma
Stoney Creek
Adrian College



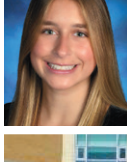
Vittoria Visciglio
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



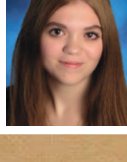
Sofia Williams
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Jessica Yin
Adams
Univ. of Illinois



Makena Torri
Rochester
Michigan State Univ.



Zoe Vorwald
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Madeline Wilson
Adams
Univ. of Chicago



Celebrating state champion athletes

The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) is a nonprofit organization that includes a membership of more than 1,500 public and private high schools from across the state. It exists to develop common rules for athletic eligibility and competition.

Earning an MHSAA state championship is one of the highest honors that a high school athlete can achieve. It takes superb athleticism, self-discipline, strength, skill, discipline and a commitment to excellence. Congratulations to the following MHSAA Division 1 state champions.



Rochester High School Boys Swim and Dive

Lucas Hosch, 100 Butterfly
Coaches: Aaron Helander and Carolyn Reif



Stoney Creek High School Girls Varsity Competitive Cheer

Sarah Adams	Gracie Darling	Cassidy Niester
Mia Badalucco	Abbey DeGraw	Grace Perrera
Kacey Bauer	Sofia Finazzo	Ariana Rabaut
Laila Biondo	Mary Guitron Ortiz	Ally Schamanek
Ava Boland	Audrey Harvath	Jane Stabnick
Elle Brandimarte	Alison Kalaj	Izzy Williams
Taylor Brandimarte	Kendall Keller	Sienna Wills
Sophia Brusseau	Lily Leone	Coaches:
Charlotte Cahill	Laura Machak	Tricia Williams
Briana Cairns	Natalie Marco	Andrea Cairns
Avery Chmielewski	Helena Merritt	Kayla Kenan



Rochester Adams Girls Golf Team

Elena Bailey	Brianna Park
Alexa Camargo	Janhavi Ramekar
Olivia Dance	Peyton Sage
Katie Fodale	Hannah Wang
Laura Liu	Eryn Yang
Lydia Mercado	Coach: Jeff Kutschman

**Congratulations to the Rochester Community Schools
MHSAA Division 1 state champions!**

RCS business operations recognized for budget excellence

The Rochester Community School District's commitment to sound fiscal management and budgetary policies is recognized by the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO), who awarded the district the prestigious Meritorious Budget Award (MBA) for fiscal year 2023-24. This is the seventh consecutive year that RCS has received the MBA for excellence in budget presentation.

"Rochester Community Schools remains committed to sound financial processes and fiscal stewardship that provide high-quality, student-centered education," said Matt McDaniel, Assistant Superintendent of Business Operations.

The MBA is conferred only to school districts whose budgets have undergone a rigorous review by financial professionals and have met or exceeded the program's stringent criteria. The RCS summary statement from ASBO reviewers said, "The budget is an excellent document which includes a wealth of information. The district is to be congratulated for their multiple years of budget submissions to the Meritorious Budget Award."

The RCS general fund budget in its broadest terms is outlined below. (Amounts are in millions.)

	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Proposed	2023-24 Amended
Revenue	\$228.6	\$213.4	\$228.1
Expenditures	223.8	213.7	228.0
Surplus (deficit)	4.8	(.2)	.08
Ending fund balance	43.6	39.2	43.7
Ending fund balance as a % of expenditures	19.48%	18.36%	19.16%

RCS Foundation invests in students

The Rochester Community Schools Foundation enriches education for RCS students through contributions and community partnerships.

During the 2023-24 school year, the RCS Foundation provided \$50,000 for 40 classroom grants to enhance educational experiences across the district. Highlights include STEM innovation lab equipment, engaging science materials to learn about weather, updated library books and literature, an adaptive physical education bicycle, sensory and mindfulness tools and a commissioned musical selection for orchestra students.

In addition, generous community members share donations through the online Support-A-Project platform to help fund literacy enrichments, band programs, student leadership training, media center materials and more.

The RCS Foundation was proud to award over \$88,000 in donor-directed scholarships to 64 graduating seniors from the Class of 2024 to recognize their outstanding accomplishments as they continue their education.

Thank you to the thoughtful community members who invest in our students.

For information about ways to make a difference through the RCS Foundation, visit www.rcs-foundation.org.



The RCS Foundation supports students with instructional tools, curriculum enrichments, scholarships, classroom grants and much more!



Sept. 28 Hometown Hustle offers 5K or 1-mile color run/walk

The Hometown Hustle is Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024!



Community members of all ages are invited to support the Rochester Community Schools Foundation through this beloved community tradition to benefit students across the district.

Participants can choose a 5K loop or a 1-mile superhero color run/walk. Both routes begin at the site of our generous sponsor, Chief Financial Credit Union, in downtown Rochester.

"The greater Rochester community truly values student education and wellness, as demonstrated by the outpouring of support during the Hometown Hustle," said Joann Beydoun, RCS Foundation director. "We are proud to offer this opportunity for donors and participants to make a difference through scholarships, school grants and other learning opportunities across RCS."

Community members can sponsor the event, volunteer or register to participate. For more information, visit: www.rcs-foundation.org.

Sparkle Awards

Hosted by the Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (PAC), the Sparkle Awards recognize individuals who demonstrate exceptional kindness, compassion and empathy in our schools. This year, the event celebrated more than 300 individuals who made a difference in a student's life.



August

Tu	August 20	Teachers report
W	August 21	Teacher work day Full day professional development districtwide
Th	August 22	Teacher work day
M	August 26	First day of school Half day of school, grades TK-12 and ATPS
Tu	August 27	Full day of school, grades 1-12 and ATPS TK and kindergarten student Group A, determined by building
W	August 28	Full day of school, grades 1-12 and ATPS TK and kindergarten Group B, determined by building
Th	August 29	Full day of school, grades TK-12 and ATPS Labor Day recess begins at end of day

September

Tu	September 3	Classes resume
F	September 27	No school Full day professional development districtwide

October

W	October 2	Afterschool parent-teacher conferences, grades 6-8
Th	October 3	Afterschool parent-teacher conferences, grades 9-12
W	October 9	Afterschool parent-teacher conferences, grades 9-12
Th	October 10	Afterschool parent-teacher conferences, grades 6-8
M	October 14	No school

November

Tu	November 5	No school
F	November 8	End of 1st trimester, grades ECSE-5
M	November 11	Elementary parent-teacher conference window opens
Tu	November 26	Elementary parent-teacher conference window closes
W	November 27	No school
W	November 27	Fall conference compensatory time, grades ECSE-12 and ATPS
Th	November 28	No school
F	November 29	No school

December

M	December 2	Classes resume
W	December 11	No school Full day professional development districtwide
F	December 20	Winter holiday recess begins at end of day

January

M	January 6	Classes resume
W	January 15	AM half day of school, grades 6-12 and ATPS PM teacher records, grades 6-12 and ATPS
Th	January 16	AM half day of school, grades 6-12 and ATPS PM teacher records, grades 6-12 and ATPS
F	January 17	AM half day of school, grades 6-12 and ATPS PM teacher records, grades 6-12 and ATPS End of 2nd quarter/1st semester, grades 6-12 and ATPS
M	January 20	No school

February

F	February 7	No school Full day professional development districtwide
F	February 14	Midwinter recess begins at end of day, ECSE-12 and ATPS
W	February 19	Classes resume
W	February 26	Afterschool parent-teacher conferences, grades 6-8
Th	February 27	Afterschool parent-teacher conferences, grades 9-12
F	February 28	AM half day of school, grades ECSE-5 PM teacher records, grades ECSE-5 End of 2nd trimester, grades ECSE-5

March

M	March 3	Elementary parent-teacher conference window opens
Tu	March 18	Elementary parent-teacher conference window closes
F	March 21	Spring recess begins at end of the day, grades ECSE-12 and ATPS
M	March 31	Classes resume

April

F	April 4	AM half day of school, grades ECSE-12 and ATPS PM teacher records, grades 6-12 and ATPS PM parent-teacher conference comp time, grades ECSE – 5 End of 3rd quarter, grades 6-12 and ATPS
W-Th	April 9-10	PSAT/SAT/WorkKeys testing – Tentative; subject to change
F	April 18	No school
M	April 21	No school Full day professional development districtwide

May

M	May 26	No school
Tu	May 27	Classes resume

June

M	June 9	Half day, grades 6-12 and ATPS PM teacher records, grades 6-12 and ATPS
Tu	June 10	AM half day for students, grades 6-12 and ATPS PM teacher records, grades 6-12 and ATPS
W	June 11	AM half day for students, grades ECSE-12 and ATPS PM teacher records, grades ECSE-12 and ATPS End of 4th quarter/2nd semester, grades 6-12 and ATPS End of 3rd trimester, grades ECSE-5 End of school year

Calendar-specific notations

Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) and Adult Transition Program and Services (ATPS) will follow the calendar of their similar grade-level cohorts.

Acronym Key

AM	Morning
PM	Afternoon
ATPS	Special Education Adult Transition Program and Services
ECSE	Early Childhood Special Education
TK	Transitional Kindergarten