ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

PRIDE IN EXCELLENCE

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The State of Michigan, under Section 21f of the State School Aid Act, has provided the option for parents to request that their student(s) in grades **6 – 12** be enrolled in no more than two online courses per semester in place of regularly scheduled courses. Rochester Community Schools prides itself on forward movement and innovative uses of technology to support learning. Our solid history of meaningful learning across the district with highly qualified RCS teachers is noteworthy and impressive in terms of our accomplishments and student growth. Therefore, we encourage parents to carefully consider if a 100% online course is ideal fortheir child, given that they will be forfeiting face-to-face teacher classroom instruction and support.

Parents should carefully consider the unique qualities of their child when investigating if an online course is right for them. Some of the factors to consider include:

- Does your student possess the independent study habits needed to complete an online course without direct supervision?
- Does your student have the reading, writing, math, and computer literacy skills to succeed in a completely online class?
- Can your student create and maintain a study schedule without face-to-face interaction with a teacher and collaboration with other students?
- Can your student self-advocate and seek help in a virtual setting?
- Are you confident enough in your student's independent study habits to forfeit access to any information on progress until the end-of-semester grade? (Information in myRCS is populated through the teacher gradebook, and the district will not have access to this for online courses.)

Currently, the statewide online course catalog lists courses offered by districts throughout the state and courses taught by Michigan Virtual University (MVU). The Rochester Community Schools District website includes a link to the state catalog under Academics, Curriculum, Secondary, 21F Courses. It is important to note that not all online courses meet the rigor of RCS courses from a credit or graduation requirement perspective and are, therefore, subject to administrative approval. It is also important to note that RCS has no control over the courses offered on the state website. Courses in the catalog during registration may not be offered the next school year.

Parents who wish to enroll their child in this learning option for the 2024-2025 school year will need to submit their requests for online courses before the scheduling deadline. More information, as well as the application, is available here.

Should you have additional questions about online learning opportunities, please contact your child's counselor or the curriculum department.

Sincerely,

Debi Fragomeni
Deputy Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

Neil DeLuca
Executive Director of Secondary Education