



INVESTMENTS IN SAFETY AND SECURITY

Rochester Community Schools is committed to providing safe, secure and welcoming learning environments for all students and staff, through strategic investments across all facilities and school campuses.

Secure entrances and visitor management



At all RCS buildings, exterior doors are closed and locked during the school day. Guests enter a secure vestibule near the front office/main entrance and register using an enhanced visitor verification system. Guests must wear a temporary badge, identifying them with permission to be in the building.

Video surveillance systems and bus cameras



The use of a robust state-of-the-art security video system includes over 1,500 active cameras placed in office and high-traffic areas, to monitor points of entry and activity.

The internal and external camera system offers advanced analytics to identify suspicious or out-of-the-ordinary activity quickly; document situations in real-time; and serve as a deterrent to harmful behavior.



RCS school buses are equipped with camera systems to record and document passenger and driver activity.

Safety communication tools



A variety of communication tools are used for emergency responses.

Families receive safety notifications via text, phone call and email, through the ParentSquare communication system, allowing quick, accurate information sharing.

All school phones are programmed to dial a number and reach the main office to seek urgent help. This special emergency number rings a number of selected phones to make sure a notification is made.

When a 911 call is made from any district phone, an immediate notification is made to central office administration, allowing additional support to be mobilized if needed.

Recent facility improvements and upgrades

Over the past decade, significant improvements have been made to enhance physical security and build a collaborative culture of safety.

- Implemented the Centegix crisis alert system, including a wearable alert badge for all staff members to get assistance with the push of a button.
- Continued updates to the video surveillance camera system in schools and on buses and increased number of staff radios.
- Added security/window tint, door blinds and thumb-turn door locks in lockdown spaces.
- Audited all district buildings; updated maps; added numbers to exterior building doors; modified entrance and exit procedures.
- Updated secure vestibules with enhanced visitor verification system and building lockdown capabilities.
- Enhanced districtwide communication, notification and warning systems during an emergency.
- Integrated preschool programs into elementary school buildings for unified environments.
- Updated alarm systems to be activated when buildings are not occupied.