

**ROCHESTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
16 Pine Street
Rochester, Massachusetts**

September 25, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kate Duggan, Chairperson, Robin Rounseville, Anne Fernandes, Josh Trombly and Kirstin Jimenez (all in-person).

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools, Howard Barber, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, Sharlene Fedorowicz, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Jaime Curley, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Heidi Letendre, Principal, Charles West, Assistant Principal and Melissa Wilcox, Recording Secretary (all in-person).

I. Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm by Chairperson Duggan. The school committee and those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairperson Duggan stated in accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, the Agenda has been set, the meeting is being recorded, and unless there are any emergencies that need to be added, the Agenda will be followed as outlined. Chairperson Duggan added that the meeting is being conducted via hybrid format and the public has the ability to participate in-person or remotely through zoom with the link provided. The school committee held a moment of silence in honor of RMS 6th grader Vivian Jones, who passed away this summer. Chairperson Duggan shared: *I'd like to ask all those in attendance here tonight to join me for a moment of silence for a member of the RMS community who has left us far too soon. Vivian Jones was a rising sixth grader at RMS whose yearlong battle against cancer ended on August 22. A Rochester resident her whole life, she will forever be remembered for her love of animals and her love of learning here at RMS. We send our deepest condolences to her family and our thanks to all the members of the community who have supported them during this impossible time.*

II. Tour of Building

Mr. Jones, Facilities Director, will provide a tour of the building.

Mr. Jones escorted the school committee members and administration on a tour of Rochester Memorial School to review and explain updates, on-going projects and capital plans with the group.

III. Public Comment

Public comment is governed by approved school committee policy.

Chairperson Duggan read the following: Per the committee's policy we will offer up to 30 minutes for public comments this evening. Public comment is not a discussion, debate, or dialogue between individuals and the School Committee. However, the committee takes any public comment made seriously and appreciates hearing from the public. Anyone looking to provide a public comment must be acknowledged by the Chairperson before addressing the committee. Those making a public comment will have up to three minutes to address the committee and must start their comment by stating their name and the town they reside in. For those in-person, there is a sign in sheet for those looking to make a public comment located on the side wall and those on zoom, if you are attending this meeting by zoom, you can send a message in the chat with your name and the town you reside in. The chairperson will alternate between in-person and zoom participants.

There were no public comments.

IV. Recognition

The school committee recognized and welcomed the following new staff members; Sarah George, HR Manager, Lucy Fuller, Receptionist/Admin Assistant, Jennifer Rosati, Paraprofessional, Emily Lacasse, Speech Language Pathologist, Lisa Russello, Principal's Administrative Assistant, Bailey Sweet, Special Education Teacher,

Meghan Craig, Paraprofessional and Debra Smith, Special Education Teacher. The school committee also recognized the following for longevity:

Name	Years of Service
<i>Rochester Memorial School</i>	
Kathryn St. Yves	10
Darbi Lambert-Matos	20
Tara Nelson	20
Beth Hemenway	25
<i>ORRSD</i>	
Jill Henesey	10
Cheryl Almeida	20
Silas Coellner	25
Michael Devoll	25
Bill Tilden	25

V. Executive Session

That the School Committee enter into executive session for purposes of exception #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, and exception #7, to comply with the provisions of any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements.

MOTION to enter into executive session at 6:41pm for the purposes of exception #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, and exception #7, to comply with the provisions of any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements, to return to regular session by Anne Fernandes.

Seconded by Robin Rounseville

Motion Carries 5-0

Roll Call: Duggan (yes), Rounseville (yes), Fernandes (yes), Trombly (yes), Jimenez (yes)

MOTION to exit executive session at 6:54pm to return to regular session by Anne Fernandes.

Seconded by Robin Rounseville

Motion Carries 5-0

Roll Call: Duggan (yes), Rounseville (yes), Fernandes (yes), Trombly (yes), Jimenez (yes)

VI. Approval of Minutes

That the School Committee review for approval the following minute(s):

a. Regular Session Minutes: June 4, 2025

MOTION to approve the regular session minutes from June 4, 2025 by Robin Rounseville.

Seconded by Josh Trombly

Motion Carries 5-0

VII. General

a. Approval of Memorandum of Agreements

That the School Committee review the Memorandum of Agreement(s) between the Rochester School Committee and the Rochester Memorial Teachers' Association.

MOTION to approve the two Memoranda of Agreements as discussed by Robin Rounseville.

Seconded by Josh Trombly

Motion Carries 5-0

i. Approval of Minutes

That the School Committee review for approval the minutes(s) of the Negotiations Subcommittee from July 2, 2025.

MOTION to approve the executive session minutes from July 2, 2025 by Anne Fernandes.

Seconded by Josh Trombly

Motion Carries 5-0

b. Opening Day Update

That the School Committee hear an update from administration.

Superintendent Nelson shared an update from opening day on August 25, 2025. The day began with a meet and greet breakfast for faculty and staff to reconnect and also meet new staff. Next, Superintendent Nelson welcomed new staff in each district, shared summer highlights from staff and distributed longevity service awards. Next, Dr. Fedorowicz shared a brief update on Vision2028 thus far and plans for year three during this upcoming school year. Lastly, Carolyn Casey, the founder and executive director of Project 351 provided a keynote presentation to the faculty and staff about passion and purpose. To further incorporate student voice as part of the strategic plan, three Project 351 students from our districts, Sadie Hartley-Madison, Zoe Motta and Molly Wronski, joined Ms. Casey to share their passion and purpose with the faculty and staff. Lastly, Principal Letendre provided an overview of opening day happenings, including a staff meeting and classroom preparation time.

c. Approval of Donation(s)

That the School Committee review the following:

- A donation from Savvas in the amount of \$833.33.

MOTION to approve the donation from Savvas as presented by Anne Fernandes.

Seconded by Robin Rounseville

Motion Carries 5-0

- A donation of school supplies from the Rochester Democratic Town Committee.
- Tissues 22 rectangular boxes; 5 square boxes
- Hand sanitizer 2 large bottles; 6 small bottles
- Disinfectant wipes 23 canisters
- Baby wipes 4 packs
- #2 pencils 904 pencils
- Mechanical pencils 40
- Erasers 22 large; 69 small
- Glue sticks 129
- Sharpies 37
- Dry erase markers 37 markers
- Dry erase boards 2 small
- Post-it notes 34 pads
- Highlighters 35
- Crayons 884, plus 16 jumbo size
- Colored pencils 252
- Paper towels 6 rolls
- Underwear 20 pair girls; 4 pair boys
- Socks 5 pair
- Sweatpants 0
- Band-Aids 586 assorted
- Chapstick 12
- Neosporin 3 tubes
- Scissors 4 pair
- Pens 34 assorted
- Pencil sharpeners 7
- Rulers 2
- Binders 12, various sizes
- 3-hole punch 1
- Spiral notebooks 32
- 2-pocket folders 53
- Notebook paper 880 sheets

- Graph paper 300 sheets
- Legal pads 6
- Scotch tape 6 rolls
- Push pins 1 box
- Index cards 100
- Reinforcement labels 1 pack of 560
- Foamtastic sheets 1 pack of 10
- Dawn dish soap 1 bottle
- Paper towels 30 rolls
- Lysol wipes 15 containers
- Kleenex 60 boxes
- New kids underwear 10 pairs
- New kids sweatpants 6 pair

MOTION to approve the donation from the Rochester Democratic Town Committee as presented by Anne Fernandes.

Seconded by Robin Rounseville

Motion Carries 5-0

d. Approval of Revised Student Handbook

That the School Committee review a revision to the 2025-2026 Rochester Memorial School Student Handbook.

Superintendent Nelson explained that the 2025-2026 student handbook was approved by the school committee prior to the conclusion of last school year but due to a Supreme Court case ruling over the summer, all districts in the Commonwealth are recommended to adopt this language regarding religious opt-out of curriculum materials. Attorney Paige Tobin of MLM, the district's legal team, worked with M.A.S.S. in the development of this language and also provided training on protocols for the leadership team in the summer. If approved, the revised student handbook will be shared in the weekly newsletter by the principal and updated on the website.

MOTION to approve the revised 2025-2026 student handbook as presented by Robin Rounseville.

Seconded by Anne Fernandes

Motion Carries 5-0

e. Approval of Grant(s)

That the School Committee review the Small, Rural School Achievement Program (REAP) grant award in the amount of \$55,317.00 from the US Department of Education.

Superintendent Nelson informed the school committee that as they may recall, Rochester is the only district classified as rural (unlike Marion and Mattapoisett) and therefore is able to receive this grant which supports the reading program at Rochester Memorial School. This is not a new grant, it has been received annually.

MOTION to approve the REAP grant as presented by Robin Rounseville.

Seconded by Josh Trombly

Motion Carries 5-0

VIII. Administrative and School Committee Reports

a. Chairperson Report

Chairperson Duggan shared the following: The start of the school year always feels like a magic time - coming off the long leisurely days of summer, feeling refreshed and ready to dive back into a routine and activities. In many ways, this year will look a lot like the last, but there are some new faces and new features that I want to highlight here. First of all, we have new students! For those entering a new school, this time of year can feel intimidating and even a bit scary. I hope that all of our students, but particularly those new to RMS, including many of our pre-k and kindergarten students, have already come to associate this building and this community with learning, support, friendship, and discovery. The same goes for the new staff that we recognized at the start of this meeting. This is a great time to strengthen old connections and forge new ones as we all embark on a school year full of opportunities for personal and academic growth. It's another year with a new curriculum - this fall, RMS teachers will be conducting

math lessons using enVision Mathematics, a curriculum grounded in problem-based learning and visual math. Along with the nearly complete new playground and updates to the RMS cafetorium, the purchase of this math curriculum was made possible by the voters here in town that approved these expenses outside of the school's operating budget - many thanks for the support of the voters here! This winter will also see the beginning of the roll out of the Fly Five curriculum, which supports the development of positive academic and behavioral outcomes through the teaching of developmentally appropriate skills, all tied to RMS's C.A.R.E.S. motto. I want our RMS teachers to know how impressed we are that they are able to balance these curricular changes along with the rest of their classroom responsibilities. It does not go unnoticed! The RMS PTO is composed of all new board members that have been hard at work launching plans for the year, and having attended their first meeting last week I am looking forward to seeing it all come together. I want to extend our thanks to the PTO and to the Rochester Fire Department for putting on a successful kindergarten barbecue a few weeks back - surely the first of many great community events to come. New energy is coming to RMS as well - not just that provided by the occupants of the building, but also in the form of solar energy as we can see from here even the new solar panels going up over the back parking lot. We are grateful for our town's leadership in the Select Board and Planning Board for helping get the solar project off the ground, literally, and look forward to it going online later this year. We also experienced a new open house format that split grades among different evenings, necessitated by the limited parking due to the solar project. This resulted in not one but two great evenings of connections and excitement, so a big thank you to the staff at RMS for their flexibility in reimagining this year's open house, and for working tirelessly to get the building ready for our students. With so much to talk about that is new at RMS this fall, it's worth reiterating that some things here have not changed: providing an excellent education to every student in an environment where they feel safe and supported remains the priority of this community and this committee. Thank you for joining us this evening and for joining us in this commitment to RMS.

b. Central Office Reports

i. Superintendent

Superintendent Nelson reviewed his most recent Superintendent's Newsletter from August 2025. He highlighted the facilities, food service and administrative teams for the hard work during the summer to prepare for another school year. He thanked the town for their on-going support of the school system and buildings. He reminded families to complete their annual forms in PowerSchool. He shared that the draft communication plan shared with the Joint School Committee in June 2025 had been finalized and distributed to families as well. He also thanked the many faculty and staff that choose to work during the summer in the SAIL program to support our students. Superintendent Nelson explained that he had a unique start to the school year, joining Police Chief Assad on the school bus to celebrate the first day of school for Kindergarteners. He highlighted the relationship with the local police department and acknowledged their support of RMS students. He shared that Rochester hosted a legislative lunch during the summer at RMS and he, along with some of the school committee members and town officials were able to advocate for RMS and Old Rochester Regional during this event. Lastly, he acknowledged the steady leadership of Charley West in the SAIL program for many, many years as Mr. West will not be returning to the program next summer.

ii. Teaching & Learning

Dr. Fedorowicz shared the following updates:

New Teacher Induction was held on Thursday, August 21, 2025 celebrating new teachers.

New Math Program- Envisions

Thank you for the three towns for supporting the new math program again at the last Town Meeting. Thank you to the principals and IT for successfully rolling out our 4th program to align all 3 of our districts. We will be hosting a parent night on the evening of Wednesday, October 29th at the ORR cafeteria. More details to come.

Professional Development

Dr. Curley secured Sarah Ward, an Executive Functioning expert, for the entire district and was well-received. In the afternoon, teachers had time to work with Envisions math and take time to plan for the first day. We also completed a half day yesterday, which focused on ALICE training.

In literacy, we are done with the HILL for literacy and they left us in a great place. We are continuing our district level, school level and data meetings to support our teachers and students.

Open Architect training is coming up at staff meetings.

iii. Student Services

Dr. Curley shared information about the following:

Integrated Monitoring Review was conducted by the state in the spring to assess special education teacher and related service personnel licensure and professional development; parent, student, and community engagement, including compliance with Child Find requirements; facilities and classroom observations; implementation and oversight of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs); time and learning, and equal access. We were found in full compliance! This is a testament to all of our staff for following our district protocols/requirements all of the time. Thanks to Dr. Fedorowicz for her portion and to Cris Salvador and Kim Read for all of their help pulling it all together!

The Wellness Committee kick off meeting was yesterday. We reviewed the policy and the next meeting is December 10th.

Safety – On June 25th and 26th all administrators and several police officers from each town participated in ALICE training. Mr. Nelson and I met with police chiefs to discuss all school safety related issues. ALICE Training will take place on the professional development half day on September 24th.

MTSS Academic Audit - Last year we conducted Social/emotional/behavioral audits to determine our needs and develop solid tier 1, 2 and 3 interventions. We are continuing our work in this area this year. We are also conducting a similar audit this year to determine our needs and develop solid tier 1, 2 and 3 supports. The visit took place today for Rochester Memorial School. That the School Committee hear an update on current happenings of the student services department, including community outreach events, and updates on initiatives related to school climate and culture, and safe schools.

iv. Business Office

Mr. Barber reviewed the final FY2025 Year End Financial Report of obligations paid or encumbered to date and the Record of Warrant(s) as signed by the sole signatory for June 4, 17, 27 and 30, July 30, August 22, September 4, 5 and 18, 2025.

v. Facilities

Mr. Barber reviewed this month's update from Facilities Director Eugene Jones.

- Solar Canopies 80% completed.
- Back Playground 100% completed.
- All firefighting systems have been inspected/tested including the ANSUL (kitchen fire suppression system), fire pump, fire sprinkler, kitchen hoods and stationary fire extinguishers.
- Building Inspector/Fire Marshall inspection completed and permit issued.
- Boilers and Roof Top Units inspected and permitted.
- Hosted Senator Rodrigues luncheon.
- Phased replaced well #2 pump.
- Conducted minor preventative maintenance on facility, ground support equipment and machinery.

vi. Food Service

- Meals continue to be free for all students. Each student will receive one free breakfast and one free lunch, per day.
- Second meals, a la carte drinks, snacks and milk only are available for purchase.

- The Food service team participated in a full day of professional development training on 08/26.
- Café has a part-time 3-hour per day position available
- Fun Facts: in SY 24/25 RMS Cafe served : 23,371 *School Breakfast* & 48,030 *School Lunches*

vii. Personnel

1. The following staff members resigned or retired at the conclusion of the 2024-2025 school year.

Janet Bejtlich	Speech Language Pathologist
Bridgit Wollenhaupt	Special Education Teacher
Donna Cisco	Paraprofessional
Melissa Mills	Paraprofessional
Alison Rotello	Administrative Assistant

2. Crystal Randall resigned as assistant cook.

c. Principal and School Council Report

Principal Letendre shared the following:

Opening of School: The opening of school went smoothly. Our students transitioned with ease during the first week of school. The two Open House nights went well and families and staff did like the layout. The staff discussed options for next year at their staff meeting on Wednesday, September 17th and agreed to having Open House on the same night. Kindergarten orientation was well attended and each student with their family took a short bus ride for the first time. Preschoolers transitioned happily to school the week of September 2nd. The Kindergarten BBQ was held on Tuesday, August 26th and was well attended. We are grateful to our PTO and Rochester Fire Department for their support and cooking for our families.

Staffing Updates: Rochester Memorial School has welcomed new staff members to our team over the summer months. Our new faculty includes: Meghan Craig, Paraprofessional, Jennifer Rosati, Paraprofessional, Bailey Sweet, 6th Grade Special Education, Debra Smith, 4th Grade Special Education, Emily Lacasse, Speech Language Pathologist, Lisa Russello, Administrative Assistant.

Educator Milestones: Congratulations to ... 10 Years of Service Kathryn St. Yves - Kindergarten Teacher, 20 Years of Service Darbi Lambert-Matos - Special Education Teacher (Speech/Language) and Tara Nelson - Grade 1 Teacher, 25 Years of Service Beth Hemenway.

Curriculum and Instruction Updates: Envisions Math is new to RMS this year and we will be meeting with Susan Looney each month within grade level teams. Mrs. Looney is a math consultant and will assist with the navigation of Envisions and implementation of best math practices throughout the year. Beginning of year assessments are underway for both reading and math. Faculty will meet with administrators and interventionists to review data and make recommendations for instructional focus areas. RMS will continue with School Literacy Leadership Team meetings as well as hosting data meetings throughout the school year.

Additional Updates: Through Capital Planning, the kindergarten playground is getting two new pieces of play equipment-the fire truck and train will be replaced. The students are very excited about the new equipment coming. RMS will continue with The Feinstein Foundation and tickets went home. This year the school donation award for the winning ticket will be \$2,000.00 and \$500.00 to a charity of the student's choosing. ALICE: Mrs. Letendre and Mr. West met with Rochester Police to plan for ALICE training with staff, which took place on Wednesday, September 24th during the half day PD Day.

Grade Level Meetings: Mr. West has been running grade level meetings to review school expectations, along with a review of what bullying means and action steps, as well as bus safety and more.

Shout Outs: A big thank you to Mrs. Lisa Russello and Mrs. Kim Amato, our Administrative Assistants, for their work preparing for a successful start to the new school year. Thank you to our custodian team, led by Mr. Gilly Leonardo, who worked all summer to prepare our classrooms from top to bottom. The floors are so shiny. We would like to thank Mr. Bill Simmons and the technology team, for their

dedicated work in setting up our iPads, Chromebooks, and phone extensions. This year, our kindergarten and first graders received new iPads.

Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday, October 8th: Staff Meeting 3:15-4:15 PM

Wednesday, October 8th: SLLT Meeting

Thursday, October 9th and 30th: PLC Meeting Dates

Wednesday, Oct. 15th: Celebrations Committee at 3:10 PM

Wednesday, Oct. 22nd: Project 351 Students go to High School

Friday, October 17th: Susan Looney will be at RMS for grades K-2 teacher meetings

Tuesday, October 21st: Susan Looney is meeting with grades 3-6 teachers

Thursday, October 23, 2025: Make-up Picture Day

Parent-Teacher Conferences:

- Thursday, October 23, 2025: Students begin dismissal at 12:25 pm
- Friday, October 24, 2025: Students begin dismissal at 12:25 pm

IX. School Committee Reports

- a. Budget Subcommittee – no report
- b. Capital Subcommittee – no report
- c. Equity Subcommittee – Kirstin Jimenez reported their first meeting is October 9th.
- d. Policy Subcommittee – Josh Trombly reported they met earlier today and appointed Margaret McSweeney as Chair. They reviewed the following policies which were recommended to the next Joint School Committee meeting; GBEC – Gifts to and Solicitation By Staff, JJE – Student Fund-Raising Activities KBE – Relations with Parent/Booster Organizations, ECAB – Access to Buildings and Grounds, KI – Visitors to the Schools, EFBA – School Food and Nutrition – Meal Modifications, KBG – Parent Advisory Councils (PACs) and BAA – Evaluation of School Committee Operational Procedures. The following policies were held for further discussion at their next meeting; IN – Artificial Intelligence and BGB – Policy Adoption.
- e. District Wellness Committee – Robin Rounseville reported they met on September 17th and reviewed the policy. They are also going to be working with a coach from the state through a grant again this year. The next meeting is December 10th.
- f. ORR District Committee – Robin Rounseville reported they met earlier today to approve Memoranda of Agreements with the secretarial staff and the teaching staff.
- g. Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund – no report
- h. Early Childhood Council – no report
- i. SMEC – Anne Fernandes reported their first meeting is September 30th.
- j. READS - Superintendent Nelson shared that READS met earlier the same day. This was a joint meeting between the Board and the Special Education Administrators. They introduced new members, approved minutes, heard nominations for the president of the board and secretary and took action, reviewed subcommittee members and heard program updates. The next meeting is November 6th.
- k. MASC – Kate Duggan reported that the legislation that she has been advocating for on behalf of RMS, rural aid, was funded at 75% of its FY25 level. This was disappointing, but there was good news elsewhere in the FY26 budget, including an increase to \$150 of the per pupil minimum funding amount from the state via Chapter 70, and a requirement for DESE to complete a study of Chapter 70 functioning by June of 2026. She will continue to reach out to our state and local officials throughout the year with the goal of ensuring that our students and school get the support they deserve. Relatedly, the third information item on the agenda included in the materials tonight is a letter addressed to Massachusetts Governor Healey and the Legislature, providing all stakeholders with a simple means to collectively advocate for urgent state-level funding reforms that would provide desperately needed resources to Massachusetts public schools, including RMS, before the budget challenges we and most other districts have been grappling with further undermine students' Massachusetts constitutional right to a quality education. She has signed on herself and encouraged others to read the letter and consider signing as well. She shared that Josh Trombly will be attending this year's MASC conference in Hyannis in November. MASC has also sent out the resolutions to be voted at the MASC conference. She will be reaching out to the members individually so that they can weigh in on which resolutions the committee wants to support or not support.

1. Superintendent's Goals Subcommittee – Kate Duggan reported they met on 9/18 and discussed the upcoming End of Cycle Summative Evaluation process for the Superintendent. They also reviewed the Presentation and Evidence Submission Format, the Superintendent's Evaluation Form, and the Evaluation Timeline, so all the pieces are now in place for the review process this spring.

X. Information and Future Agenda Items

a. Information

- i. READS Quarterly Reports June 2025 and September 2025
- ii. DESE Office of Public School Monitoring Integrated Monitoring Review Report
- iii. MTA Fiscal Crisis Sign on Letter Fall 2025

b. Timeline

- i. Next Rochester School Committee: November 6, 2025
- ii. Next Joint School Committee: October 9, 2025

c. Future Agenda Items

- i. MCAS Results (November/December)
- ii. Initial Budget Review (January)
- iii. School Choice Public Hearing (January)
- iv. Health Unit Application (February)
- v. Budget Public Hearing (March)
- vi. Approval of Leases (April)
- vii. School Committee Reorganization (June)
- viii. School Improvement Plan Approval (June)
- ix. Student Handbook Approval (June)

The 2025-2026 school calendar is available on our website: <https://tinyurl.com/239tr9xa>

District-wide events are available on our website: <https://www.oldrochester.org/district-calendar>

XI. Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn at 7:46pm by Robin Rounseville.

Seconded by Josh Trombly

Motion Carries 5-0

Meeting Resources

Agenda

June 4, 2025 Minutes Draft
Welcome Back Message
Opening Day Presentation
Savvas Donation
School Supplies Donation
Student Handbook – Revised Draft
REAP Grant Award Letter
Superintendent's Newsletter
Final FY25 Financial Memo
Final FY25 Financial Report
Warrants
Facilities Report
Food Service Report
Principal's Report – Center
Principal's Report – OHS
READS Quarterly Report June 2025
READS Quarterly Report September 2025
Integrated Monitoring Review Report
MTA Fall Crisis Letter

Pursuant to Chapter 30A of the Massachusetts General Laws, you are hereby notified of the following meeting:

**ROCHESTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
16 Pine Street
Rochester, Massachusetts**

September 25, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

ZOOM LINK:

<https://oldrochester-org.zoom.us/j/95561881344?pwd=OxKszymWvS8ZMw4qrs4PR5MgaDhcal.1>

Meeting ID: 955 6188 1344

Passcode: 798324

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format. School Committee, administration and the public will have the option of meeting in person at Rochester Memorial School located at 16 Pine Street, Rochester, MA 02770 or via zoom.

Supporting documentation for agenda items can be found on the School Committee webpage:

<https://www.oldrochester.org/district/sc.>

I. Meeting to Order

II. Tour of Building

Mr. Jones, Facilities Director, will provide a tour of the building.

III. Public Comment

Public comment is governed by approved school committee policy.

IV. Recognition

- a. The following staffing changes have taken place for 2025-2026 school year.

New Hires:

Name	Position
Sarah George	Human Resources Manager
Lucy Fuller	Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Rosati	Paraprofessional
Emily Lacasse	Speech Language Pathologist
Lisa Rusello	Principal's Administrative Assistant
Bailey Sweet	Special Education Teacher
Meghan Craig	Paraprofessional
Debra Smith	Special Education Teacher

Longevity:

Name	Years of Service
<i>Rochester Memorial School</i>	
Kathryn St. Yves	10
Darbi Lambert-Matos	20
Tara Nelson	20
Beth Hemenway	25
<i>ORRSD</i>	
Jill Henesey	10
Cheryl Almeida	20
Silas Coellner	25
Michael Devoll	25
Bill Tilden	25

V. Executive Session (VOTE)

That the School Committee enter into executive session for purposes of exception #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, and exception #7, to comply with the provisions of any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements.

VI. Approval of Minutes (VOTE)

That the School Committee review for approval the following minute(s)

- a. **Regular Session Minutes: June 4, 2025**
- b. **Executive Session Minutes: June 4, 2025**

VII. General

a. **Approval of Memorandum of Agreements (VOTE)**

That the School Committee review the Memorandum of Agreement(s) between the Rochester School Committee and the Rochester Memorial Teachers' Association.

i. **Approval of Minutes (VOTE)**

That the School Committee review for approval the minutes(s) of the **Negotiations Subcommittee** from **July 2, 2025**.

b. **Opening Day Update**

That the School Committee hear an update from administration.

c. **Approval of Donation(s) (VOTE)**

That the School Committee review the following:

- A donation from Savvas in the amount of \$833.33.
- A donation of school supplies from the Rochester Democratic Town Committee.

d. **Approval of Revised Student Handbook (VOTE)**

That the School Committee review a revision to the 2025-2026 Rochester Memorial School Student Handbook.

e. **Approval of Grant(s) (VOTE)**

That the School Committee review the Small, Rural School Achievement Program (REAP) grant award in the amount of \$55,317.00 from the US Department of Education.

VIII. Administrative and School Committee Reports

a. **Chairperson Report**

That the School Committee hear a report from the Chairperson regarding current happenings in the school and local community.

b. **Central Office Reports**

i. Superintendent

1. That the School Committee review the most recent Superintendent's Newsletter.

ii. Teaching & Learning

1. That the School Committee hear an update on current happenings of curriculum, professional development, new teacher induction program and teaching and learning initiatives.

iii. Student Services

1. That the School Committee hear an update on current happenings of the student services department, including community outreach events, and updates on initiatives related to school climate and culture, and safe schools.

iv. Business Office

1. That the School Committee review the current FY2026 Financial Report of obligations paid or encumbered to date.
2. That the School Committee review the Record of Warrant(s) as signed by the sole signatory for June 4, 17, 27 and 30, July 30, August 22, September 4, 5 and 18, 2025.

v. Facilities

1. That the School Committee review this month's update from Facilities Director Eugene Jones.

vi. Food Service

1. That the School Committee review this month's update from Food Service Director Jill Henesey.
- vii. Personnel
 1. The following staff members resigned or retired at the conclusion of the 2024-2025 school year.

Janet Bejtlich	Speech Language Pathologist
Bridgit Wollenhaupt	Special Education Teacher
Donna Cisco	Paraprofessional
Melissa Mills	Paraprofessional
Alison Rotello	Administrative Assistant

2. Crystal Randall resigned as assistant cook.

c. Principal and School Council Report

That the School Committee review the Principal's report including student recognition, classroom lessons, community events and school council information.

IX. School Committee Reports

- a. Budget Subcommittee
- b. Capital Subcommittee
- c. Equity Subcommittee
- d. Policy Subcommittee
- e. District Wellness Committee
- f. ORR District Committee
- g. Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund
- h. Early Childhood Council
- i. SMEC
- j. READS
- k. MASC
- l. Superintendent's Goals Subcommittee

X. Information and Future Agenda Items

a. Information

- i. READS Quarterly Reports June 2025 and September 2025
- ii. DESE Office of Public School Monitoring Integrated Monitoring Review Report
- iii. MTA Fiscal Crisis Sign on Letter Fall 2025

b. Timeline

- i. Next Rochester School Committee: November 6, 2025
- ii. Next Joint School Committee: October 9, 2025

c. Future Agenda Items

- i. MCAS Results (November/December)
- ii. Initial Budget Review (January)
- iii. School Choice Public Hearing (January)
- iv. Health Unit Application (February)
- v. Budget Public Hearing (March)
- vi. Approval of Leases (April)
- vii. School Committee Reorganization (June)
- viii. School Improvement Plan Approval (June)
- ix. Student Handbook Approval (June)

The 2025-2026 school calendar is available on our website: <https://tinyurl.com/239tr9xa>

District-wide events are available on our website: <https://www.oldrochester.org/district-calendar>

XI. Adjournment (VOTE)

The list of agenda items are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. If you need more information or reasonable accommodations for this meeting, please contact the Superintendent's Office at 508-758-2772 ext. 1956. Meeting resources, minutes and recordings are available on the School Committee webpage: <https://www.oldrochester.org/district/sc>

ROCHESTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Rochester, Massachusetts

16 Pine Street - Rochester, MA 02770

MEETING MINUTES

June 4, 2025

Regular meeting of the Rochester School Committee was held on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at 6:30pm. This meeting was held in-person and there was also a zoom link available.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Katherine Duggan, Anne Fernandes, Kirstin Jimenez, Robin Rounseville and Joshua Trombly (all in-person).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools; Howard Barber, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations; Sharlene Fedorowicz, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning; Jaime Curley, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services; Heidi Letendre, Principal; Charley West, Assistant Principal; Melissa Wilcox, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent (all in-person).

Meeting was called to order at 6:31pm by Vice-Chairperson Ms. Duggan. Ms. Duggan stated in accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, the agenda has been set and the meeting is being recorded. The school committee, administration and everyone present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION

The School Committee and administration recognized the retirement of Janet Bejtlich, Speech Language Pathologist and Bridgit Wollenhaupt, SPED Teacher at Rochester Memorial School. The School Committee welcomed new member Kirsten Jimenez.

Open Comments

Ms. Duggan stated the following:

Public Comment is governed by approved school committee policy.

Per the committee's policy, we will offer up to 30 minutes for public comments this evening. Public comment is not a discussion, debate, or dialogue between individuals and the School Committee. However, the committee takes any public comment made seriously and appreciates hearing from the public. Anyone looking to provide a public comment must be acknowledged by the Chairperson before addressing the committee. Those making a public comment will have up to three minutes to address the committee and must start their comment by stating their name and the town they reside in. For those in-person, there is a sign in sheet for those looking to make a public comment located on the side wall and those on zoom, if you are attending this meeting by zoom, you can send a message in the chat with your name and the town you reside in. The chairperson will alternate between in-person and zoom participants.

There were no public comments.

I. Approval of Minutes:

1. A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Session

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review and approve the minutes of April 28, 2025 and May 1, 2025.

MOTION: Ms. Rounseville to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of April 28, 2025 as presented

SECONDED: Ms. Fernandes

MOTION PASSED (4:1) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: abstain, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

MOTION: Ms. Fernandes to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of May 1, 2025 as presented

SECONDED: Ms. Rounseville

MOTION PASSED (4:1) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: abstain, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

1. B. Approval of Minutes – Executive Session

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review and approve the minutes of May 1, 2025.

MOTION: Ms. Rounseville to approve the Executive Session minutes of May 1, 2025 as presented

SECONDED: Mr. Trombly

MOTION PASSED (4:1) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: abstain, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

IV. General

A. Approval of OpenSciEd Science Curriculum

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review the adoption of OpenSciEd Science Curriculum.

Dr. Fedorowicz explained that OpenSciEd was piloted over the last couple of years utilizing grant funding and funding was built into the FY2026 budget to replace consumables. This recommended adoption for Rochester is also being brought forward at the other elementary schools and the Junior High School to align science curriculum.

- Highly Rated & Standards-Aligned: Top score from EdReports; built for Massachusetts Frameworks
- Phenomenon-Based & Investigative: Students explore real-world phenomena through inquiry and experimentation
- Teacher-Facilitated & Student-Driven: Learning is led by student questions and supported by teacher guidance
- Collaborative & Inclusive: Fosters peer learning, values all voices, and builds a sense of belonging
- Adaptable & Cost-Effective: Editable, open-source materials reduce costs
- Teacher-Endorsed: Piloted by teachers and approved for adoption (89%) through a staff vote

MOTION: Ms. Rounseville to approve the adoption of OpenSciEd curriculum as presented

SECONDED: Ms. Fernandes

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

B. Approval of Envisions Math Curriculum

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review the adoption of Envisions Math Curriculum.

Dr. Fedorowicz presented information on the selection process for a new math curriculum to hopefully align all three elementary districts. She added that the math pedagogy has changed. Please see appendix A. She thanked the committee involved in the process. The recommended selection is Envisions. Superintendent Nelson added that the community supported this new curriculum in a special article at Town Meeting.

School Committee Feedback:

Ms. Fernandes inquired about the new math pedagogy. Dr. Fedorowicz explained it is more inquiry based and includes more student involvement.

MOTION: Ms. Rounseville to approve the adoption of Envisions Math curriculum as presented

SECONDED: Mr. Trombly

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

C. Approval of 2025-2026 Student Handbook

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review the 2025-2026 Rochester Memorial School Student Handbook draft.

Mr. West presented the revisions to the student handbook which included staffing updates, updates to the MCAS schedule, the addition of protections for children not yet eligible for special education and related services and updated language regarding in school suspensions.

School Committee Feedback:

Ms. Fernandes shared that the school committee receives meeting materials days in advance so the public is aware they are able to review ahead of the meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Fernandes to approve the 2025-2026 RMS Student Handbook with final staffing names updated based on hiring

SECONDED: Ms. Rounseville

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

D. School Improvement Plan Update

Recommendation:

That the School Committee hear an update from administration on the School Improvement Plan for the 2024-2025 school year.

Principal Letendre presented an update at the conclusion of year 1 on the two-year school improvement plan. This work was also shared with the school council for feedback. Ms. Letendre thanked the school council for their input. She worked with the principals of the other elementary schools as well to align. Superintendent Nelson added that this document is also tied to the

strategic plan. Please see appendix B.

E. Approval of 2025-2026 Leases

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review the leases with Countryside and the SMEC for the 2025-2026 school year. Superintendent Nelson informed the school committee that these leases are similar to last year. The SMEC board sets the rates and the school committee has representation on their board. The Countryside rate has been increased by 3% as previously approved by the school committee.

MOTION: Ms. Fernandes to approve the FY26 SMEC and Countryside Leases as presented

SECONDED: Ms. Rounseville

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

F. Approval of 2025-2026 School Committee Dates

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review the following school committee dates: September 25, 2025, November 6, 2025, January 8, 2026, March 25, 2026 (Weds), April 9, 2026, May 7, 2026 and June 3, 2026 (Weds).

Superintendent Nelson explained these are the anticipated regularly scheduled meetings and more will be added as needed.

MOTION: Ms. Fernandes to approve the 2025-2026 school committee dates as presented

SECONDED: Ms. Rounseville

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

G. Approval of Donation(s)

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review the following donation(s):

- The book *Cars, Trains, Ships & Planes* by Clive Gifford for the RMS library in honor of retiree Donna Cisco.
- The following books from the RMS PTO from the Scholastic Book Fair:
 - *My Tooth is Lost!* by Drew Daywalt
 - *Harold & Hog Pretend for Real!* By Dan Santat
 - *David Goes to School* by David Shannon
 - *That's Not Funning, David!* by David Shannon
 - *How do Dinosaurs Say Good Night?* By Jane Yolen
 - *I Broke My Truck!* By Mo Willems
 - *Listen to My Trumpet!* By Mo Willems
 - *Are You Ready to Play Outside?* By Mo Willems
 - *I am Invited to a Party!* By Mo Willems
 - *How do Dinosaurs Say Goodbye?* By Jane Yolen
 - *The Itchy Book!* By Leugen Pham
 - *Moon! Earth's Best Friend* by Stacy McAnulty
 - *Fly Guy Presents: Scary Creatures!* By Tedd Arnold
 - *Dinosaurs, Dodos and Woolly Mammoths* by Dan Gutman
 - *I Funny: School of Laughs* by James Patterson
 - *Audacity Jones to the Rescue* by Kirby Larson
 - *Scratch Scratch* by Lindsay Currie
 - *Pug's Sleepover* by Kyla May
 - *Wildfire Rescue* by Rekha Rajan
 - *Thea Stilton Series; The Treasure of the Sea (Book 5), Compass of the Stars (Book 2), The Dance of the Star Fairies (Book 8)* by Geronimo Stilton
 - *Geronimo Stilton- Journey Through Time Series: The Test of Time (Book 6)*
 - *The Baby-sitters Club Series; Mary Anne's Bad Luck Mystery (Book 13), Claudie and the Bad Joke (Book 15), Kristy and the Walking Disaster (Book 16), Mallory and the Trouble with Twins (Book 17), Karen's Birthday (Book 6) and Karen's Prize (Book 10)* by Ann M. Martin
 - *Bad Kitty, Supercat* by Nick Bruel
 - *Pixar Character Encyclopedia* by DK Publishing
 - *Geronimo Stilton- The Kingdom of Fantasy Series; The Hour of Magic (Book 8), The Wizard's Wand (Book 9), The Guardian of the Realm (Book 11) and The Golden Key (Book 15).*

MOTION: Ms. Rounseville to approve the mentioned list of books as presented

SECONDED: Mr. Trombly

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

H. Approval of Disposal of Library Materials

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review the list of materials to be withdrawn from the Rochester Memorial School library.

MOTION: Ms. Fernandes to approve the disposal of library materials as presented

SECONDED: Ms. Rounseville

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

I. Approval of Disposal of Curriculum Materials

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review for disposal curriculum materials for GoMath and Pilot Math upon adoption of the new Math curriculum Envisions.

MOTION: Ms. Rounseville to approve the disposal of old math materials as presented

SECONDED: Mr. Trombly

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

J. Approval of Disposal of Technology Items

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review for disposal a list of items from the Technology Team to be recycled as they are non-operational and exhausted their useful life.

Superintendent Nelson explained that the following items are broken or beyond their useful life.

12 document cameras 15 years old/not working

2 mac pro towers 2009

1 iMac 2008

1 iMac 2015

MOTION: Ms. Rounseville to approve disposing of/recycling the technology items as presented

SECONDED: Ms. Fernandes

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

K. Approval of Disposal of Surplus List

Recommendation:

That the School Committee review for disposal a list of surplus items that are damaged or broken.

Superintendent Nelson shared the following items to be disposed of by the Facilities team:

12 broken desks

12 broken easels

Curriculum materials form 1990

MOTION: Ms. Rounseville to approve the disposal/recycling of the surplus items as presented

SECONDED: Mr. Trombly

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

IV. New Business

B. Business

1. Financial Report

Recommendation:

That the School Committee hear a report.

Mr. Barber reported that the Rochester School District currently has \$274,378 available of the general funds appropriated for the 2025 Fiscal Year. Per the attached Year to Date Budget Report, we are able to identify how our funds are encumbered and expended. This report recognizes a total general funding by the town of \$7,173,464.

- \$ 7,173,464 – General Funds Approved
- \$ 6,899,086– Obligations Paid Year to Date
- \$ 274,378 - Remaining Available Funds

2. Record of Warrant(s)

The record of the warrant(s) of May 21, 2025 were shared. Complete warrant packets are emailed to school committee members prior to signature by the sole signatory.

3. Food Services Report

Recommendation:

That the School Committee hear a report.

Food Service Director's Report (By: Jill Henesey) as follows:

- Meal participation continues to grow strong.
- In the process of procuring foods for the upcoming school year.
- We had a successful Board of Health inspection.

4. Facilities Report

Recommendation:

That the School Committee hear a report.

Facilities Director's Report (By: Gene Jones) as follows:

- Hosted annual Town Meeting.
- Playground and asphalt capital requests approved at Town Meeting.
- Audio/visual enhancements for cafetorium approved at Town Meeting.
- Completed required maintenance on facility systems and equipment.

D. Personnel

Rebecca Sorenson was hired as a paraprofessional long-term substitute. Jennifer Rosati was hired as a paraprofessional to replace Donna Cisco and Michaela Pace was hired as a special education teacher to replace Bridgit Wollenhaupt. Lisa Russello was hired as Principal's Administrative Assistant, replacing Alison Rotella who resigned. Emily Lacasse was hired as a speech language pathologist to replace Janet Bejtlich.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

Vice-Chairperson Ms. Duggan shared the following: *This past weekend, I had the pleasure and honor of attending ORR's graduation ceremony and watching the Class of 2025 turn their tassels and march off to meet their futures. This is always such a special time of year, with end of school activities, performances, field trips, and celebrations taking place, including a warm and spirit-filled fitness fun day earlier today! So as we near the end of the school year, I wanted to reflect on the contributions of everyone in our school community who got us to this point, the end of another great year at RMS.*

On behalf of this committee, I want to extend sincere thanks to the entire RMS community for their contributions, great or small, to making this past year a time of growth, discovery, and celebration. Thank you to the teachers, staff, students, administrators, families, and community members for stepping up in countless ways to support our students and our school. Your dedication in the classroom, participation in school events, volunteer efforts, and ongoing support of our mission have helped create a thriving learning environment for all.

A special thank you also to the voters here in Rochester who once again showed up to support RMS at town meeting. The town approved the budget request this committee and others worked so hard to put together, as well as the requests for funds for some capital improvements and for a new math curriculum. Financing the Envisions Math curriculum that we voted to adopt earlier tonight is a major step in helping align the three Tri-Town elementary curricula so that when students get to the junior high, they will all be better able to hit the ground running on even footing. I am excited to hear more about Envisions and all the other amazing things in store for RMS when we return to this room in the fall.

In the spirit of celebrating all the hard work done over the past 10 months, I would like everyone here to take a minute to think of someone who made an impact for you this past year. PAUSE I hope you will give them a word of thanks the next time you see them, or even send them a text, email, or note to let them know you appreciate them. While there is never a wrong time to thank someone, this time of year feels like an especially good time to do so. With that, I'd like to turn it over to the central office administrators for their reports.

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Superintendent Nelson shared that the most recent Superintendent's newsletter was sent out to the school community last week. He shared that the High School hosted a phenomenal indoor graduation ceremony over the weekend. Two students assisted him deliver the Superintendent's address where they shared what it meant to them to be a Bulldog. The student leadership skills being developed throughout the schools is important work that is part of the strategic plan and this was a great example. He thanked the school committee for their service and support this school year. On behalf of Dr. Curley, he shared that SEPAC is looking for more parent participation in the fall and the state audit of the Student Service department has wrapped up and we are waiting on a final report.

Dr. Fedorowicz highlighted the following: *New teachers will be conducting teacher celebrations at their last meeting coming. Our last professional development day will be held on May 28th for this school year. Instructional Council is working to assist*

in the development of the professional development for next year as part of our professional development planning process.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORTS

Principal Letendre reported the following:

PreSchool:

- Preschool Teacher Ms. Pacheco held her 2nd Annual Art Show for pre-k families and it was a huge success.
- Preschool Promotion Ceremony for both sessions will be held on June 5th and June 6th from 12:00-1:00 PM.

School Presentations:

- STEAMapalooza was a great success with so many students sharing their inquisitive minds around science, technology, engineering, art and music.
- There were several science displays that outlined the Scientific Method based on the student's hypothesis and investigations.
- The art on display brightened our hallways and as well as the clay pot art displayed on the stage.
- Students also signed up to play musical instruments, or sing solo or with friends.
- Thank you to our PTO and volunteers for a successful Book Fair.
- Our 2nd Annual School Talent Show was amazing. There were over 20 student acts and the student ambassadors led the show with introductions and positive commentary after each act.
- We had dancers, singers, gymnasts, original skits with one dedicated to Mr. Forns, karate and a record paced Rubric cube demonstration.
- The 5th and 6th grade Band, Jazz Band and Chorus entertained RMS students and families on Wednesday, May 8th.

Staffing Updates:

- Alison Rotella, RMS secretary, resigned at the end of May.
- We recently hired a new paraprofessional Jennifer Rosati, a secretary, Lisa Russello, a special education teacher, Michaela Pace and a speech language pathologist, Emily Lacasse to start in August 2025.

Curriculum and Assessment Updates:

- End of Year DIBELS and Aimsweb Math assessments have been completed. MCAS assessments ended the week of May 19th.
- Staff engaged in EOY data meetings the week of May 19th.
- Kindergarten Screenings are complete and Kindergarten placement has started.
- Placement for next year Pre-K to 5 is in process and classroom assignments will be noted on the end of year report cards.
- Teachers had professional development on May 28th. Teachers engaged in content area professional development.

Final June Events:

- Monday, June 2nd: Grade 2 field trip to the Lloyd Center
- Monday, June 2nd: 6th-grade to Martha's Vineyard/All Day
- Tuesday, June 3rd: 6th grade to Junior High visit-10:00-12:00 PM
- Tuesday, June 3rd: 3rd grade Wax Museum - 1:30-2:30 cafe
- Wednesday, June 4th: Fitness Fun Day/Boosterthon Fun Run/Staff vs. 6th-grade basketball game
- Wednesday, June 4th: Staff Meeting
- Thursday, June 5th: Project GROW Graduation
- Friday, June 6th: Project GROW Graduation
- Friday, June 6th: Kindergarten show 1:30-3:00 PM (cafe)
- Monday, June 9th: 6th-grade Carnival 1:00-3:00 PM, back field
- Wednesday, June 11th: Promotion Ceremony 9:30 AM in gymnasium

VIII. School Committee

B. Committee Reports

1. Budget Subcommittee – Ms. Duggan thanked the voters for supporting the school department's budget and articles at Town Meeting.
2. ORR District School Committee – Superintendent Nelson reported they met on May 22nd, approved OpenSciEd, student handbooks, school committee dates and heard school improvement plan updates. They also approved travel to the Galapagos and recognized retirees and student athletes.
3. SMEC – Ms. Fernandes reported they met on May 29th. They approved minutes, staff appointments and the second reading of the FY26 spending plan. They also approved FY25 spending plan amendments and paying off dept. The next meeting is September 30th.
4. READS – Superintendent Nelson reported the READS Deaf and Hard of Hearing program has moved forward with acquiring a new building in Norton.
5. Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund – Ms. Rounseville reported they met on May 20th to award funds and reviewed the grant cycle process for feedback.

6. Early Childhood Council – No report.
7. Policy Subcommittee – Mr. Trombly reported they met on May 22nd to review and approve revisions to Title IX policies with legal counsel present to explain the changes. He added that policy BAA was discussed and Ms. Cowles will be bringing a revised draft to their next meeting in the fall.
8. Equity Subcommittee – Ms. Duggan reported the next meeting of the Equity Subcommittee will be June 12, 2025.

MASC Update from Ms. Duggan: *I did attend MASC's Day on the Hill in early May to hear a legislative update, before meeting with our Representative Mark Sylvia and staff from Senator Michael Rodrigues's office. Both are very supportive of our school and we had excellent discussions around fiscal priorities. Also, yesterday I testified before the Joint Committee on Education at the State House in support of two bills being considered by legislators that would fully fund Rural Aid. I've been working with the Rural Schools Committee that is part of MASC and am hopeful that with our advocacy, lawmakers will finally fulfill their promises to fully fund rural aid, which would benefit Rochester directly and alleviate some of the pressure on our tight budget. I will update you all as the state budget reaches its final form later in the year.*

VIII. School Committee

C. School Committee Reorganization

Recommendation:

That the School Committee reorganize for the 2025-2026 school year.

Superintendent Nelson explained that he would accept nominations for Chairperson and then turn the meeting back over to the Chair.

Robin Rounseville nominated Kate Duggan for Chairperson.

Kirstin Jimenez seconded.

Anne Fernandes nominated Josh Trombly for Chairperson.

There was no second.

Vote for Kate Duggan as Chairperson passed: (4:0:1) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: abstain, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

Next, Anne Fernandes nominated Josh Trombly for vice-chairperson.

Kirstin Jimenez seconded.

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

Next, the committee reviewed the following list and made the revisions below:

School Committee Secretary	Melissa Wilcox
Recording Secretary	Melissa Wilcox / ~~Toni Bailey~~
ORR District School Committee	Robin Rounseville
Mass. School Supt. Union No. 55	Anne Fernandes ~~Vacant~~ Kate Duggan Joshua Trombly
READS	Michael S. Nelson
Sick Leave Bank	Robin Rounseville Anne Fernandes
SMEC	Anne Fernandes
Early Childhood Advisory Council	~~Kate Duggan~~ Robin Rounseville
Sole Signatory	~~Vacant~~ Kate Duggan ~~Kate Duggan~~ Josh Trombly(alternate)
MASC Delegate/Legislative Liaison	Kate Duggan
School Physician	Dr. Reynolds/Dr. Mendes

District Wellness Committee	Robin Rounseville
Collective Bargaining	~~Not Applicable~~ Anne Fernandes Kirstin Jimenez
Grievance Subcommittee	Committee as a whole
Capital Planning Committee	Anne Fernandes
Policy Subcommittee	Joshua Trombly
Warrant Review Committee	Committee as a whole
Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund Committee	~~Robin Rounseville~~ Kirstin Jimenez
Budget Subcommittee	Committee as a whole
Town Liaison	~~Vacant~~ (Chairperson) Kate Duggan
Superintendent's Goals Subcommittee	~~Vacant~~ (Chairperson) Kate Duggan Anne Fernandes
Equity Subcommittee	~~Kate Duggan~~ Kirstin Jimenez

IX. Future Business

A. Timeline

The next meeting(s) of Committee will be held as follows:

Rochester School Committee

September 25, 2025

Hybrid Format

Joint School Committee

June 12, 2025

Hybrid Format

B. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- School Improvement Plan (September)
- MCAS Results Report (November/December)
- Initial Budget Review (January)
- Approval of Chairperson's Annual Report (February)
- Health Unit Application (February)
- Budget Approval Public Hearing (April)
- School Choice Public Hearing (April)
- Administrator Contracts (May)
- School Council Goals Update (June)
- Student Handbook (June)
- Approval of Leases (June)
- School Committee Reorganization (June)

XI. Executive Session

Recommendation:

That the School Committee enter into executive session for purposes of exception #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body, and the chair so declares and exception #7, to comply with the provisions of any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements.

MOTION: Ms. Rounseville to enter executive session at 8:01pm for purposes of exception #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares and #7, to comply with the provisions of any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements to return to regular session only to adjourn.

SECONDED: Mr. Trombly

ROLL CALL

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

MOTION: Ms. Fernandes to exit executive session at 8:22pm to return to regular session.

SECONDED: Ms. Rounseville

ROLL CALL

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

ADJOURNMENT:

That the School Committee adjourn the Regular Session of the Rochester School Committee at 8:23pm.

MOTION: by Ms. Rounseville to adjourn at 8:08pm

SECONDED: Ms. Fernandes

MOTION PASSED (5:0) Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Jimenez: yes, Rounseville: yes, Trombly: yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wilcox, Recording Secretary

Meeting Resources:

April 28, 2025 Draft Minutes

May 1, 2025 Draft Minutes

OpenSciEd Curriculum Adoption Info Slide

Envisions Math Curriculum Information

25-26 Draft Student Handbook

School Improvement Plan Update

Countryside Lease FY26

SMEC Lease FY26

25-26 Draft School Committee Calendar

Library Book Donation Review forms

Library Discarded, lost and weeded book lists

Tech Items to recycle list

FY25 RMS Financial Report Memo

FY25 RMS Financial Report – General Operating

Warrant(s)

Food Service Report

Facilities Director Report

Superintendent's Newsletter

Principal's Report

Subcommittee Reorganization List



Elementary Math Curriculum Selection Process

Dr. Shari Fedorowicz
June 2, 2025

Old Rochester Regional School District
MA Superintendency Union # 55



The Vetting Process

- Math Committee: elementary educators K-6 narrowed the choices down to 3 HQIM DESE approved programs from 10 programs:
 - Envisions
 - Reveal Math
 - Illustrative Math
- Each grade level met to decide on lessons to pilot.
- All teachers were able to pilot the 3 programs.
- A rubric was used to collect quantitative and qualitative data.
- The Math Committee and teachers made a decision based on the overwhelming results of the survey data.

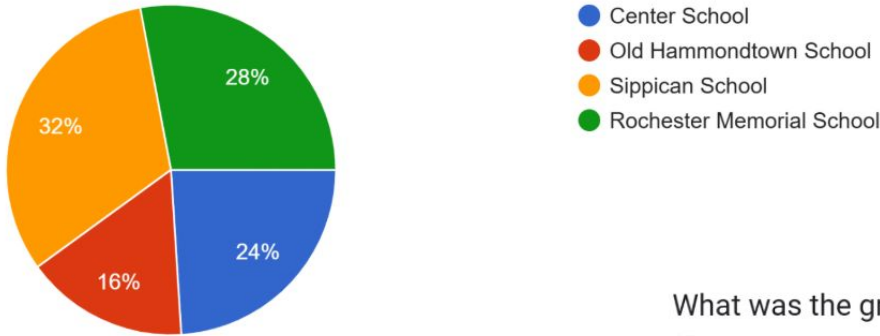
The Meetings

1/31/25	Full Day of Materials Review with the Math Curriculum Review Team
2/3/25	Grades K & 1 Grade-Level Math Curriculum Review Meetings
2/25/25	Grades 4, 5, & 6 Grade-Level Math Curriculum Review Meetings
2/26/25	Grades 2 & 3 Grade-Level Math Curriculum Review Meetings
3/19/25	Illustrative Math Pilot for Educators
3/24/25	Envisions Math Pilot for Educators
3/31/25	Reveal Math Pilot for Educators
4/1/25	Math Curriculum Survey Sent to Educators
5/5/25	Math Curriculum Survey Results Discussion with Educators

Educators from All Elementary Schools and Grade Levels Participated in the Pilot and Survey

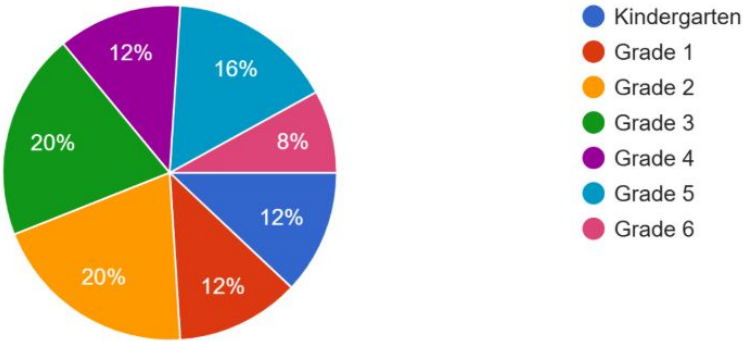
What school do you work at?

25 responses



What was the grade level of the students in the trial lessons?

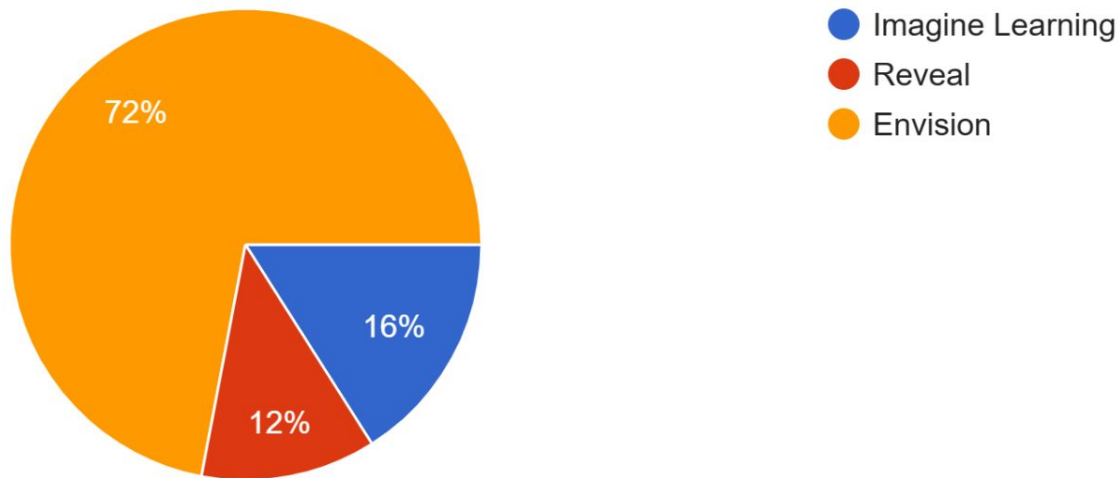
25 responses



First Choice - Envision (72% of vote)

Based on the new way in which the research tells us to teach math (unlike GoMath and Everyday Math), which program is your first choice to adopt?

25 responses





Thank you!

Old Rochester Regional School District
MA Superintendency Union # 55



Questions?



OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MA SUPERINTENDENCY UNION NO. 55



2024-2026 ROCHESTER MEMORIAL SCHOOL- SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Key: **Green** is On-going

Pink is on Hold

Yellow Need More Info

Bold is Completed

MISSION

The mission of our school system is to inspire all students to think, to learn, and to care.

VISION

The Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 is dedicated to creating a safe and nurturing learning environment that offers inclusive and engaging educational experiences. Through collaborative relationships with our school community members, we strive to foster a respectful culture that prioritizes academic excellence and social-emotional readiness. Our primary objective is to provide every student with the necessary skills and developed mindset to embrace future opportunities and become responsible, lifelong learners and contributing global citizens.

CORE VALUES

The core values of Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 foster a strong sense of pride and belonging among all school community members. These values represent how our school community embraces the pursuit of academic excellence, models the respect and appreciation of human differences, and prepares students to be responsible and accountable global citizens.

Our school community will inspire us to:

THINK:

Cultivate a culture of academic rigor and integrity that encourages critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, and effective communication.

LEARN:

Strive for academic excellence in educating the whole child through authentic, rigorous, and evidence-based learning opportunities that foster real-world application and a continuous pursuit of learning.

CARE:

Ensure a caring and safe environment for all school community members by promoting a sense of belonging and respect for all.

THEORY OF ACTION

IF WE...

implement a rigorous, equitable, and cohesive curriculum that aligns with our Portrait of the Graduate...

AND...

expand and extend the professional development planning process to support equitable adult learning with resources, time, and professional practices to be student-centered...

AND...

enhance our multi-tiered, comprehensive systems of support in all schools...

AND...

provide an inclusive and supportive climate and culture for all school community members...

AND...

promote a sense of belonging and positive relationships between all school community members ensuring a safe learning environment...

THEN WE WILL...

have inspired all students to think, to learn, and to care while providing an opportunity to pursue academic excellence.

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Measuring Impact	Outcomes (SMART Goals) By June 30th 2026
#1: Teaching & Learning Implement an equitable, cohesive curriculum that aligns with our Portrait of the Graduate in all schools.	1.1 Engage in professional development work to create an elementary Portrait of a Graduate in alignment with the Jr. High School and High School Portrait of the Graduate (POG)	1.1 Staff can explain what a Portrait of a Graduate is, why we have it, and our part	1.1 Elementary administration will have outlined the meaning and purpose of Portrait of the Graduate for faculty and staff to begin this work at the elementary level
	1.2 - Implement a curriculum review cycle in accordance with the identified Phases in the “2024 Curriculum Review Cycle Plan” - Continue the implementation	1.2 The curriculum review cycle for the 2024-2025 school cycle reflects the next steps as such as reviewing the math curriculum	1.2 - Identified faculty are participating in the math curriculum review work - The Literacy Action Plan is implemented and reviewed

	of the Literacy Action Plan	Literacy Action Plan steps are outlined with the DLLT and faculty as appropriate	annually for updates
	1.3 - Continue monthly meetings with the Instructional Council - Establish elementary curriculum leaders by grade span/department	1.3 - Monthly Instructional Council meetings are scheduled with clear objectives - Elementary Curriculum Leader job descriptions have been outlined and the positions have been posted	1.3 - Instructional Council meetings continue to be an active committee outlining professional development needs for the district - The Curriculum Leaders are identified, and are engaged in curriculum work at RMS as well as district-wide
	1.4 Establish common assessment practices in literacy and math PreK-6 that are vertically and horizontally aligned and enhance common data collection and analysis procedures to inform instruction	1.4 - Common assessment data is analyzed to inform instruction - Grade level data meetings take place in accordance with the assessment schedule - Professional development time is allocated for vertical and horizontal data analysis	1.4 - Time is given to analyze student data and make informed instructional focus areas - Common Assessment practices are established and implemented in PreK-6 for literacy and math - Data analysis professional development is provided to highlight areas needing improvement and areas that are working
	1.5 Maintain, enhance, and utilize a curriculum management system containing a scope and sequence	1.5 Additions and edits to curriculum are documented in a curriculum management system	1.5 Educators utilize a curriculum management system to inform curriculum, instruction, and

	for vertical articulation of standards covered during grade-level transitions, daily instruction, and assessments	and shared with appropriate grade level/content areas faculty	assessment in literacy and math
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Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Measuring Impact	Outcomes (SMART Goals) By June 30th 2026
#2: Teaching & Learning Expand and extend the professional development planning and implementation process to support equitable adult learning with the resources, time, and professional practices to be student-centered and aligned with the Portrait of the Graduate.	2.1 Implement the professional development plan that supports effective and equitable teaching and learning	2.1 - Surveys are prepared and uploaded to SMART PD for educators to complete at the end of each PD session - Educators complete the survey at the end of each professional development day - The Instructional Council will analyze the survey data to determine its effectiveness and plan future PD to reflect the needs of educators	2.1 - Educators have participated in high-quality, effective professional development opportunities that transfers into the classroom and is in alignment with the District Strategic Plan - Instructional Council agendas reflect discussion on survey results from PD offerings - PD plans reflect input from the survey results
	2.2 Align the purpose and responsibility of the curriculum leadership team to drive teaching and learning initiatives system-wide through professional development and train the trainer models	2.2 The curriculum leadership team guides and develops district-wide curriculum initiatives	2.2 - The curriculum leadership team has been implemented and is supporting teaching, learning, and professional development initiatives - Professional development for the adoption of high quality instructional materials is provided based on the curriculum review cycle in math, science, ELA and social studies

	2.3 ● Provide educational leaders/teacher leaders with ongoing professional development in curriculum writing such as Understanding by Design (UbD) to support consistent curriculum implementation and instructional practices	2.3 ● Professional development will be provided in curriculum writing such as Understanding by Design (UbD) model with applicable educators	2.3 ● Educational leaders/teacher leaders will be engaged in purposeful professional development, which is aligned with curriculum initiatives and lessons reflect the UbD planning model
	2.4 ● Support implementation of the Portrait of a Graduate (POG), with dedicated time and resources	2.4 ● District Committee created to outline POG ● Grade level teams will begin Portrait of a Graduate work by collaborating across the district to identify student learner expectations aligned to POG	2.4 ● Committee Meetings take place with outcomes identified ● Professional development time has been provided with school schedules for educator collaboration that focuses on the POG
	2.5 ● Provide Professional Development to support and implement adoptions of the current Literacy Action Plan	2.5 ● Continue to provide resources, materials, and training that support the implementation of the <i>Into Reading</i> program ● PD time is designated for <i>Into Reading</i> training through Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) and Hill for Literacy ● Data meetings take place 3-5 times a year ● Science of Reading training modules are offered during PD Days, and/or PLC time	2.5 ● Professional development is aligned with the Literacy Action Plan ● Data meetings have been outlined for the year ● Science of Reading Modules are completed by each educator, as applicable

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Measuring Impact	Outcomes (SMART Goals) By June 30th 2026
#3: Support Systems Strengthen the multi-tiered and comprehensive academic, behavioral, and social emotional systems of support in all schools.	3.1 Review, design, and expand consistent district-wide support systems available to all students through the general education setting	3.1 - Identify the systems of support for academics, behavioral and social and emotional learning (SEL) - Targeted staff will participate in the development and implementation of the Safe and Supportive Schools grant - Building-based Support Team (BBST) team will meet weekly to ensure that student intervention needs are being addressed and Student Resource Study Team (SRST) meetings will take place bi-weekly - Educators will use the assigned FLEX block to provide intervention and enrichment to students	3.1 - Outline current systems of support in academics and SEL, including Responsive Classroom - Safe and Supportive Schools Grant initiatives will be shared at the building level and reported out to staff, as applicable - BBST/SRST meetings are attended and action steps are identified to support students - PLC and grade level meeting time is used to plan FLEX Block focus areas for student success and planning for Tiered Instruction
	3.2 Revise, design, and expand consistent district-wide intervention systems of support available to students in small group or individual settings (minus one interventionist for 25-26 school year)	3.2 - Outline of intervention expectations for literacy are completed and shared - Finalize district DCAP that defines what tiered intervention at the elementary and secondary level	3.2 Intervention systems of support are identified and implemented to address the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs of all learners
	3.3 Identify and provide professional development in all schools that foster the full implementation of the systems of support	3.3 Train and support educators on the systems of support at the classroom level while being in alignment with the district plan such as Responsive Classroom & Fly Five	3.3 Educators have participated in training in the tiered levels of support aligned to the DCAP to address the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs of all learners

	3.4 - Review and enhance a district-wide system for data collection to assess students' behavioral and social-emotional needs, as applicable - Implement data collection and screening tools to identify SEL and behavior support needs	3.4 - Educators will use assessment data to provide targeted literacy and math interventions in the classrooms and in small groups - A school-based data team is identified with an outline of roles and responsibilities - Data team meetings are scheduled and agendas outline the purpose of meetings	3.4 Data collection and screening practices are scheduled and analyzed consistently to assess students' academic, behavioral and social-emotional needs
	3.5 Provide systems of support that ensure successful grade-level transitions based on students' academic, behavioral, and social-emotional learning needs	3.5 Grade-level transitions are planned and communicated within/between schools	3.5 Transition plans are outlined and scheduled for each grade level/grade span as applicable

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Measuring Impact	Outcomes (SMART Goals) By June 30th 2026
#4: Climate & Culture Provide an inclusive, equitable, and positive climate and culture in all schools that promotes a sense of belonging for all school	4.1 - Implement and sustain evidence-based approaches to teaching and discipline that promote the development of strong academic and social skills for all students - MARC bullying modules with staff this year	4.1 - Responsive Classroom techniques including: Morning Meeting, school & classroom rules, behavior supports, and restorative practices, will be implemented school-wide - Provide Responsive Classroom resources to faculty	4.1 - Evidence-based practices related to teaching and discipline are implemented to decrease behavioral referrals - Responsive Classroom training takes place for faculty and staff needing to be trained - Morning Meeting is implemented on a daily basis with a focus on SEL practices as

community members.		- Review expectations at the fall staff meeting and throughout the year as applicable - Explore SEL resources and lessons within the Into Reading program	outlined in Responsive Classroom curriculum
	4.2 Develop and promote a unified brand that embodies the spirit of the school-system and the school community at large	4.2 - Identify staff to work at the district level to determine the unified brand of the district - Determine how the branding of the district will transfer to the school level and identify the who, what, when, why and how this will be shared	4.2 - A unified school system brand has been established, embodying the spirit of all districts - The unified branding is implemented and reflected in school communications and logos
	4.3 Develop and implement a clear and flexible communication plan for individual schools and the school-system to ensure family engagement and information sharing	4.3 - Weekly newsletters (SMORE) are sent out on Sunday afternoons - Blackboard messages are created to inform families, faculty, and staff of important school-related events and/or community events - The school website and social media pages are kept up-to-date highlighting school, district and/or community events and happenings	4.3 - Schools provide consistent and timely communication to community stakeholders and faculty on a consistent basis - School website reflects up to date social media posts and current events
	4.4 Utilize student voice, student engagement, and student leadership skills to guide and enhance a respectful and successful learning environment for all	4.4 - Implement Student Councils - Create opportunities to utilize student voice within classrooms and school community - Identify Project 351 Influencers in grades 4-6 - Hold monthly meetings with Project 351 students	4.4 - Student voice and student leadership are fostered and highlighted throughout the school year - Students meet to share ideas and problem-solve with their peers throughout the year

		• Hold bi-monthly meetings with student ambassadors • School Influencers attend the four training meetings and attend monthly meetings	• School-based initiatives are identified by Project 351 students and school-based Ambassadors
	4.5 • Provide professional development to support and implement best practices related to monitoring and improving student behavior and discipline	4.5 • Provide continued PD and to improve upon behavior reporting system • Continue to improve upon behavior data reporting and analysis • Engage in PD to further support students with social-emotional and behavioral needs-Tier II Social Emotional training • Fly Five materials purchased for Tier I • Pilot of Fly Five with staff	4.5 • Administrators and Educators consistently implement proactive approaches to decrease student incidents and promote positive behaviors • Trauma training for appropriate staff • Responsive Classroom training for new staff • Fly Five is implemented in each classroom
	4.6 • Plan transition days and activities to support students entering RMS at the beginning of the year and end of the year	4.6 • Schedule Open House and Orientation Days • Explore implementing a Step Up Day in Spring of 2025	4.6 • Dates are scheduled, implemented and reviewed for efficiency and effectiveness

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Measuring Impact	Outcomes (SMART Goals) By June 30th 2026
#5: Safe Schools Ensure safe, secure, and equitable learning	5.1 • Provide professional development to school community members regarding physical and cyber safety and security practices	5.1 • Provide faculty and staff training on school safety and cyber security • Conduct safety drills throughout the school year in	5.1 • Training take place throughout the year on ALICE training • Fire drills are conducted with the support of the RMS Fire Department

environments in all schools.		alignment with the safety manual • Professional training in Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI) • Invite local police and fire department personnel to visit and walk the schools • Continue to improve upon GoGuardian Use • Continue training staff of Heimlich Maneuver, EpiPen, CPR and First Aid as applicable	• Updated manual shared with The Leadership Council to be followed in emergencies • Staff training in CPI takes place each fall and throughout the year, as needed • Go Guardian is implemented and updated as • Health and safety trainings take place annually and/or as appropriate
	5.2 • Establish annual review and audit procedures of all facility systems and related phase replacement plans	5.2 • The annual plan is outlined with a timeline of check-ins to review facility and maintenance needs	5.2 • The needs of the school will be documented, prioritized, and reported with the facilities director and actions steps will be taken as applicable
	5.3 • Adopt a classroom technology plan review cycle to maintain equipment and infrastructure for instructional technology	5.3 • Maintain classroom, student and staff technology equipment • Support maintenance and refurbishment of technology • Improve upon tech ticket reporting • Support the development of replacement plans	5.3 • All instructional technology is updated and functional to support student learning • The technology maintenance plan is outlined by the technology department • Increase staff submission of technology and maintenance requests within the ticketing system • Technology maintenance and replacement plan is in place

	5.4 Establish short and long term capital plans for all school buildings, grounds, and facility operations	5.4 - School administration will meet with the district administrative department heads to target areas of need in the building - School and district administration will meet with town officials to walk the building and view areas of need - Items agreed upon will be added to the town's capital improvement plan as applicable	5.4 - The needs of the school will be documented, prioritized, and reported to central administration - Long and short-term capital plans for buildings and grounds are outlined - Items added to the Capital Plan will be reviewed with town leadership - Town capital planning documents reflect the needs identified by the school
	5.5 Continue to be engaged and actively involved in the budget process at the building level	5.5 - Fiscally support the needed personnel, technology, and resources to ensure a safe and effective learning environment - Participate in discussions to identify and prioritize the budget process	5.5 The needs of the school will be documented, prioritized, and reported to the budget subcommittee



**OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MASSACHUSETTS SUPERINTENDENCY UNION #55**

Marion - Mattapoisett - Rochester
135 Marion Road
Mattapoisett, MA 02739

www.olderochester.org

Phone: 508-758-2772
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Michael S. Nelson, M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools

Sharlene Fedorowicz, Ph.D.
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning

Howard Barber, CPA, SFO, MCPPO
Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations

Jaime L. Curley, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

STATEMENT ON BACK TO SCHOOL 2025-2026

With the 2025-2026 school year upon us – it is my hope that our faculty and staff members have enjoyed the summer break and have taken the opportunities to relax, have fun, and rejuvenate.

The start of a new school year brings with it a strong sense of renewal. As educators - we all feel a mix of emotions when renewing our professional work and returning to our classrooms. Personally, I feel a mix of anxiousness, nervousness, and readiness. I love the work that we do together and I am truly excited about the school days ahead.

We are fortunate that our schools share one strategic plan – Vision2028. Our schools are able to collectively work together to realize Vision2028's objectives and initiatives - by sharing a vision, core values, and a theory of action. As a result, all of our students will benefit from the outcomes we achieve together.

This year we will continue our work implementing a cohesive curriculum, developing our districts' Portrait of the Graduate, strengthening our comprehensive and multi-tiered systems of support, fostering an inclusive school climate and culture for all students, and ensuring safe learning environments in all schools.

Most importantly, this year our faculty and staff members will spend 180 school days providing our students with opportunities to learn individually and collectively with their peers.

On Opening Day – we will spend time connecting with one another, celebrating the longevity of our peers' work, welcoming new colleagues and discussing the importance of education and student voice with our keynote speaker.

The mission of our school system remains our guide moving forward.

We strive to inspire all students to think, to learn, and to care.

Thank you for being educators – our work matters.

Michael S. Nelson

Superintendent of Schools

The mission of our school system is to inspire all students to think, to learn and to care. The Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, active military/veteran status, marital status, familial status, pregnancy, or pregnancy-related condition, homelessness, actual or perceived shared ancestry, ethnic background, national origin, or any other category protected by state or federal law in administration of its educational and employment policies, or in its programs and activities.



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OPENING DAY AGENDA **August 25, 2025**

Breakfast (7:30am – 8:30am) – Meet & Greet

Coffee and breakfast food items will be made available during this time in the Old Rochester Regional School District's Cafeteria. Please also use this time to reconnect with your colleagues and meet new ones.

Opening Remarks, Introductions, & Recognitions (8:30am) – The Leadership Council

All staff members are expected to report to the high school auditorium for Opening Day activities.

Keynote Presentation (Approximately 9:15am) – Carolyn Casey, Founder & Executive Director Project 351



Keynote Presentation Overview

Carolyn's path of service was inspired by the example of her parents – both educators – and her siblings, who put faith, family, and community first. In addition, taught her that love is an action verb and compassion, kindness, and a devotion to advocacy serve as the foundation for a purposeful life. Her presentation will focus on promoting student voice and developing a purposeful life.

Biography of Keynote Speaker

Carolyn graduated from the College of the Holy Cross with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and received her Masters in Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She is a founding member of the Advisory Board for the Martin Richard Institute for Social Justice at Bridgewater State University and is a member of the Corporation Board for Beacon Academy and the CEO's Kitchen Cabinet at Big Sister Association of Greater Boston. A fervent believer in the power of inclusive convening, Carolyn co-founded a monthly forum for nonprofit women executives to strengthen collaboration, best practice exchange, and peer mentorship. Her dedication to youth leadership and advocacy has been recognized by Holy Cross College Club of Boston, United Way, LIFT Boston, Irish America Magazine, and Harvard's Phillips Brooks House Association.

Dismissal – Return to School Buildings

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OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT &
MASSACHUSETTS SUPERINTENDENCY UNION #55

Welcome Back!

AUGUST 25, 2025



Vision 2028

Strategic Plan

Mission

The mission of our school system is to inspire all students to think, to learn, and to care.

Vision

The Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 is dedicated to creating a safe and nurturing learning environment that offers inclusive and engaging educational experiences. Through collaborative relationships with our school community members, we strive to foster a respectful culture that prioritizes academic excellence and social emotional readiness. Our primary objective is to provide every student with the necessary skills and developed mindset to embrace future opportunities and become responsible, lifelong learners and contributing global citizens.

Vision 2028

Strategic Plan

Core Values

The core values of Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 foster a strong sense of pride and belonging among all school community members. These values represent how our school community embraces the pursuit of academic excellence, models the respect and appreciation of human differences and prepares students to be responsible and accountable global citizens.

Our school community will inspire us to:

THINK:

Cultivate a culture of academic rigor and integrity which encourages critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, and effective communication.

LEARN:

Strive for academic excellence in educating the whole child through authentic, rigorous, and evidence-based learning opportunities that foster real world application and a continuous pursuit of learning.

CARE:

Ensure a caring and safe environment for all school community members by promoting a sense of belonging and respect for all.

Vision 2028

Strategic Plan

Theory of Action

IF WE...

implement a rigorous, equitable, and cohesive curriculum that aligns with our Portrait of the Graduate...

AND...

expand and extend the professional development planning process to support equitable adult learning with resources, time, and professional practices to be student-centered...

AND...

enhance our multi-tiered, comprehensive systems of support in all schools...

AND...

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AND...

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THEN WE WILL...

have inspired all students to think, to learn, and to care while providing an opportunity to pursue academic excellence.

Teaching & Learning

Objective One

Implement an equitable, cohesive curriculum that aligns with our Portrait of the Graduate in all schools.

Objective Two

Expand and extend the professional development planning and implementation process to support equitable adult learning with the resources, time, and professional practices to be student-centered and aligned with the Portrait of the Graduate.

Highlights

Year 2 Accomplishments:

Obj 1: Brought together a community committee to develop a draft of the PreK–12 Portrait of the Graduate Core Competencies and Attributes.

Obj 2: Launched and implemented a PD Planning Process created by the Instructional Council that produced common themes and topics aligned with the Strategic Plan.

Year 3 Focus:

Obj 1: Expand staff voice and input in Portrait of the Graduate, create student-friendly “I Can” statements, and collaborate within school buildings to bring the Core Competencies and Attributes to life.

Obj 2: Refine the PD Planning process with themes that deepen alignment to the Strategic Plan and support ongoing HQIM implementation and assessments.

Support Systems

Objective Three

Strengthen the multi-tiered and comprehensive academic, behavioral, and social emotional systems of support in all schools.

Highlights

Year 2 Accomplishments:

Started pilot of the Fly Five curriculum, aligned to Responsive Classroom; provided district-wide training for tracking incidents.

Year 3 Focus:

Complete a needs assessment on MTSS academic tiers (1, 2, and 3) and maintain and expand ORR Cares at ORRHS with student-led, adult-supported initiatives along with Fly Five in K-8.



Climate & Culture

Objective Four

Provide an inclusive, equitable, and positive climate and culture in all schools that promotes sense of belonging for all school community members.

Highlights

Year 2 Accomplishments:

Engaged students in leadership, collaboration, and career exploration through programs like Project 351, Kindness Crew, Student Ambassadors, and the Student Advisory Council, while partnering with local businesses and incorporating career-focused guidance sessions.

Year 3 Focus:

Continuation of student engagement and career exploration and launch OpenArchitect for data collection, analysis, and intervention planning.



Safe Schools

Objective Five

Ensure safe, secure, and equitable learning environments in all schools.

Highlights

Year 2 Accomplishments: Enhanced cybersecurity and digital safety through staff training, community presentations, and newsletters; continue facility audits and updates, including security systems and phase replacement planning; and maintain instructional technology through device updates, legacy hardware disposal, and network infrastructure improvements.

Year 3 Focus: Review safety and security practices, assess and inventory technology and facilities, evaluate usable life, and develop phased replacement and ten-year capital plans in collaboration with building and district teams.



OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT &
MASSACHUSETTS SUPERINTENDENCY UNION #55

Welcome New Staff!



Sarah George

Human Resources Manager

ORRSD

SUMMER HIGHLIGHT

My summer highlight for 2025 was visiting Acadia National Park in Maine. We're aiming to visit every National Park in the country, and surprisingly, Acadia was one that we hadn't checked off our list. We didn't have the best weather for early June, but the hikes were fantastic!

FUN FACT

I have traveled to 27 out of 44 countries in Europe, over half the European continent. I can play 7 instruments, 5 of which are self-taught.



Lucy Fuller

Receptionist/Admin Assistant

ORRSD

SUMMER HIGHLIGHT

Summer is my favorite time of year, and I made the most of it! I spent as many weekends as possible soaking up the sun at Silvershell Beach in Marion! Weeknights were often filled with cheering on my son Brendan at his baseball games, and I even caught a few Red Sox games in Boston with my family. A special highlight was traveling to Annapolis, Maryland, to celebrate my niece's wedding!

FUN FACT

- I am the youngest of 9 siblings!
- I have 2 children, Paige & Brendan - both are ORR students/alumni.
- We have an 8-year-old dog named Brady (named after Tom Brady).



Jennifer Rosati

Instructional Assistant

Rochester Memorial School

SUMMER HIGHLIGHT

Went to Iceland this summer & this is a pic of me by the Kerio crater.

FUN FACT

I have 2 college age children and a dog named Myles.



Emily Lacasse

Speech Language Pathologist

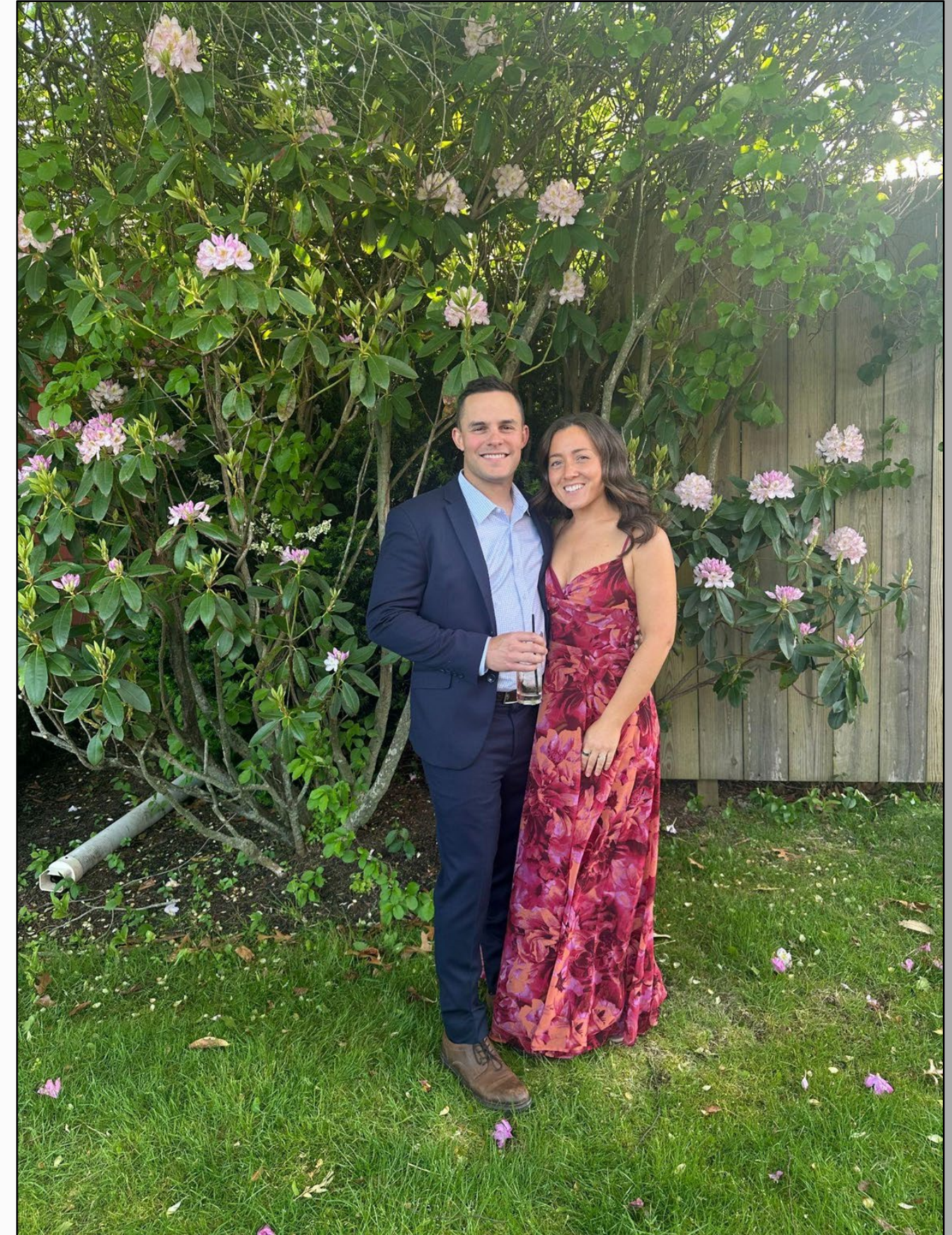
Rochester Memorial School

SUMMER HIGHLIGHT

I spent my summer days at the beach, playground, or just hanging out in the yard with my son Leo.

FUN FACT

I love iced coffee year round. Also, my husband and I have been married for 6 years but together for 16 years.



Lisa Russello

Administrative Assistant

Rochester Memorial School

SUMMER HIGHLIGHT

Taking mini vacations with my family and granddaughter to the Cape and Wells, Maine.

FUN FACT

I lived in South Florida for 40+ years and my son and daughter are 2 years, 2 months and 2 days apart (unplanned).



Bailey Sweet

Special Education Teacher

Rochester Memorial School

SUMMER HIGHLIGHT

This summer I went on a roadtrip to Washington D.C, and also went to California.

FUN FACT

I have had my pet turtle, Sheldon, for 17 years and I love ballet; I have been dancing since I was 3 years old.



Meghan Craig

Instructional Assistant

Rochester Memorial School

SUMMER HIGHLIGHT

I had a great summer and was able to go to the Outer Banks with my family, spend time at the beach, and watch my sister get engaged.

FUN FACT

Three fun facts about me are I just graduated from the University of Alabama, I graduated from Old Rochester in 2021, and I have a French bulldog named Oshie!



Debra Smith

Special Education Teacher

Rochester Memorial School

SUMMER HIGHLIGHT

I took the train to Philly with my family and went to lots of museums, the zoo, and ate at great restaurants!

FUN FACT

- Both of my daughters graduated from RMS.
- I started teaching as a high school English teacher.
- I swim in the ocean all winter with friends.



Years of Service Recognition



Rochester Memorial School



10 Years of Service

- Kathryn St. Yves

20 Years of Service

- Darbi Lambert-Matos
- Tara Nelson



25 Years of Service

- Beth Hemenway

Old Rochester Regional School District



10 Years of Service

- Jill Henesey

20 Years of Service

- Cheryl Almeida



25 Years of Service

- Silas Coellner
- Michael Devoll
- Bill Tilden

Passion and Purpose

Keynote Presentation:
Carolyn Casey

Founder & Executive Director Project 351
and Project 351 ORR Students



[VIDEO](#)



Welcome

BACK TO SCHOOL

WE LOOK FORWARD TO A GREAT YEAR!



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Sharon.bryan@sawas.com

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RMS CLASSROOM SUPPLY DONATION INVENTORY
(Donations collected by the Rochester Democratic Town Committee on behalf of the
RMS community, September 22, 2025)

Tissues	22 rectangular boxes; 5 square boxes
Hand sanitizer	2 large bottles; 6 small bottles
Disinfectant wipes	23 canisters
Baby wipes	4 packs
#2 pencils	904 pencils
Mechanical pencils	40
Erasers	22 large; 69 small
Glue sticks	129
Sharpies	37
Dry erase markers	37 markers
Dry erase boards	2 small
Post-it notes	34 pads
Highlighters	35
Crayons	884, plus 16 jumbo size
Colored pencils	252
Paper towels	6 rolls
Underwear	20 pair girls; 4 pair boys
Socks	5 pair
Sweatpants	0
Band-Aids	586 assorted
Chapstick	12
Neosporin	3 tubes
Scissors	4 pair
Pens	34 assorted
Pencil sharpeners	7
Rulers	2
Binders	12, various sizes
3-hole punch	1

Spiral notebooks	32
2-pocket folders	53
Notebook paper	880 sheets
Graph paper	300 sheets
Legal pads	6
Scotch tape	6 rolls
Push pins	1 box
Index cards	100
Reinforcement labels	1 pack of 560
Foamtastic sheets	1 pack of 10
Dawn dish soap	1 bottle



Rochester Memorial School

2025 - 2026 Student Handbook



Our Mission:

To inspire all students to think, to learn and to care.

Our School Rules:

Take CARE of Yourself

Take CARE of Others

Take CARE of Our School Environment

16 Pine Street, Rochester, MA 02770 508-763-2049

August 2025

Dear Rochester Memorial School Families,

We would like to welcome everyone to a new school year! As a school, we are very excited to be able to share each day with your child. Our goal is to create and maintain a positive, inclusive and safe learning environment that values each student.

The Rochester Memorial School Handbook has been designed to share information regarding school policies, and general school information. We hope that you will find the information contained in this handbook to be a useful reference throughout the school year.

We look forward to this new school year and continuing to work with each family. Working together is important and is essential in supporting all students.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Heidi Letendre
Principal

Charles West
Assistant Principal

Central Office Administration

Michael S. Nelson – Superintendent of Schools

Sharlene Fedorowicz – Asst. Supt. of Teaching and Learning

Howard Barber – Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations

Dr. Jaime Curley – Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

Eugene Jones – District Facilities Director

Jill Henesey – Food Service Director

Doreen Lopes – Early Childhood Coordinator

Sarah George – Human Resources Manager

Rochester Memorial School Committee Members

- Katherine Duggan, Chairperson
- Joshua Trombly, Vice-Chairperson
- Kirstin Jimenez
- Anne Fernandes
- Robin M. Rounseville

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Rochester Memorial School Staff

2025-2026

Heidi Letendre - Principal

Charles West - Assistant Principal

Ellen Murphy - School Nurse

Lisa Russello - Principal's Administrative Assistant

Kim Amato - Special Education Administrative Assistant

Sharon Cruz - School Social Worker

Jamie Pacheco - School Social Worker

Rochester Memorial Staff List

<https://rms.oldrochester.org/families-students/staff-directory>

GENERAL INFORMATION

School Hours: 8:40 AM - 3:00 PM

Transportation Information

Bus Transportation

Bus routes for the Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts School Superintendency Union #55 for the Towns of Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester are established yearly. Eight buses transport our students. Routes are slightly modified each fall to accommodate new membership. Any questions regarding bus routes and/or stops that affect your child should be addressed to the District's transportation provider, **Amaral Bus Company Inc.** Ms. Cheryl Sweeney, Dispatch Manager at amaralbustritown@gmail.com or Phone: (508) 324-0551. Press 1 (for Amaral Bus Co). Then press 2 (for Tri-Town District).

At this time, changes in student transportation plans are strongly discouraged. Please Contact the main office with any questions or requests. For Rochester Routes, please use the following link. <https://rms.oldrochester.org/families-students/transportation>

Buses

The following safety precautions will be followed on school buses:

- Windows on buses will be kept open to circulate fresh air;
- Seating arrangements will account for students with disabilities who require close contact with adults.
- Routine cleaning of buses will be implemented.

There will be 8 Rochester bus routes this year and buses will continue to use the front loop of the building. Students will be encouraged to safely disembark from the bus.

Arrival

Upon entering the building, students will proceed directly to their classrooms.

Students will disembark in the following manner:

- Kindergarten and First Grade Teachers/Staff will gather their students from each bus.
- Kindergarten will enter the building through the K/Project Grow entrance and First Grade will enter through the middle entrance.
- Grade levels 2-6 will disembark their buses one grade level at a time as directed by their bus driver. Grade levels will disembark beginning with Grade 2; and then the other grades will respectively follow.
- Grades 2 will enter through the middle doors and will proceed down the hallway between the media center and the courtyard.
- Grades 3, 4, 5 & 6 will enter through the main entrance and will proceed directly to their individual classrooms.

Departure

1. Students will be dismissed following the afternoon announcements and will depart through the same doors they entered the building in the morning.
2. Students will be dismissed by grade level beginning with grades 5 & 6 and progressing to Kindergarten.
3. Kindergarten and First Grade Teachers/Staff will escort their students to each bus.
4. Grades 2-6 teachers/staff will escort their students to the exits of the building.
5. Once all buses are fully loaded, they will be allowed to depart.

Parent/Guardian Drop-Off & Pick-Up

In an effort to facilitate the safest and smoothest transition for our students who are not riding the bus at the beginning and end of the day, we ask that you please adhere to the following safety precautions.

- Parents/Guardians may park their vehicle and walk their child to their respective grade level drop off location. (K-2 drop off/pick up @ main entrance with black ballasts, 3-6 drop off/pick up @ door near the structure)
- Please use the crosswalks at all times when walking your student(s) to and from your vehicle.
- Staff will be stationed at the two rear entrances to support students' transition into the building.
- Please do not pull around and pass other parent/guardian vehicles during this process. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

Arrival (Drop Off)

- Parents/Guardians will drop-off their students in the back loop starting at 8:35 AM.
- Students in Grades K-2 will be dropped off and enter the building through the main rear entrance.
- Students in Grades K&1 will safely line up at a designated area outside or inside weather permitting. Once all students have arrived a staff member will walk them to their classrooms.
- Students in Grades 2 will go directly to their classrooms.
- Students in Grade 3-6 will be dropped off and enter the building through the rear entrance of the C Wing near the playground structure. These students will go directly to their classrooms.
- In order to ensure that other cars may pull in behind, parents/guardians will be encouraged to pull their vehicles all the way up to the end of the building.

Departure (Pick Up)

- Parents/Guardians will pick their students up in the back loop beginning at 2:55 PM.
- Parents/Guardians may park their vehicle and meet their child at their designated grade level location.
- Students in Grades K-2 will be picked up at the main rear entrance.
- Students in Grade 3-6 will be picked up at the rear entrance of the C Wing.
- As cars depart, please continue to pull your vehicle forward.
- Please refrain from pulling around and passing other vehicles during this process.
- Please stay in your car while your children are loading and please avoid allowing them to board on the passenger side of your vehicle.

Idling

School buses and personal motor vehicles are strictly prohibited from idling on school grounds.

Student Emergency Information or Status

Parent Notification to RMS

To ensure student safety, changes in family situations, addresses, or cell and telephone numbers **must be** reported to the school office ***immediately***. It is important that all our records are up to date. Please fill out the Student Information Update Form, included in your Power School profile online documents immediately. This form serves as an annual 'affidavit', attesting to a student's residency in our town. Families moving from the town should notify the school office at least three days before their departure so transfer materials can be prepared. A *release of information* form must be received from the "new" school before any records will be forwarded.

Attendance

School attendance is compulsory. Attendance law states that:

- The Commonwealth of Massachusetts G.L. c. 76 sect. 1 requires that every child, with certain exceptions, between ages established by the state board of education, must attend a public day school or some other approved school, during the time when public schools are in session.
- Under G.L. c. 76, sect. 1, necessary absences by a student may not exceed 7 full-day or 14 half-day sessions in any 6-month period.
- Under G.L. c. 76, sect. 1, a pupil who is not present during at least half a session must be marked and counted as absent on the school register.

All Massachusetts schools are accountable for student achievement. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) mandates particular indicators of success for all schools with one being “chronic absenteeism.” All students are considered “chronically absent” if they miss 10% of the school year.

Full days of attendance are essential to the learning process. If a child is to be out of school, parents/guardians should call the School Nurse’s office at **508-763-2049 ext. 2019** before 9:00am on the morning of the absence. Please provide the following information in the message that you leave on the answering machine: **student’s name, teacher, and reason for absence**. If a call is not received and a student is absent, the School Nurse uses the *Blackboard Connect* messaging system to contact parents/guardians at home or work.

Absences are “excused” for only the following reasons:

- Bereavement
- Hospitalization
- School-sponsored trip
- Documented court or legal commitment
- Obligatory religious holidays
- Illness substantiated by a note (Five days or more of continuous absence for medical reasons must be corroborated by a physician’s note).
- Weather so inclement as to endanger the health of the child

A child may also be excused for other exceptional reasons with approval of the Principal or designee. In instances of chronic or irregular absence reportedly due to illness, the school administration may request a physician’s statement certifying such absences to be justified.

Excessive absenteeism can occur because families take vacations during school time. This is strongly discouraged. Teachers **will not** provide assignments prior to vacations taken during school time. Upon students return, missed assignments will be made up as soon as possible. Missed assignments are factored into students' grades.

When Absences Exceed Three or More Days

On the third day of consecutive absence or tardiness, the school nurse or a designee of the principal will call the student's home. Each Principal or designee shall make a reasonable effort to meet with any student, and that student's parent/guardian, who has missed five (5) or more unexcused school days (a school day shall be equal to two (2) or more class periods in the same day) in a school year. The meeting shall be to develop action steps to improve student attendance and shall be developed jointly by the Principal or designee, the student, and the student's parent/guardian. The parties may seek input from other relevant school staff and/or officials from relevant public safety, health and human service, housing, and nonprofit agencies.

On the eighth day of an unexcused absence, the school attendance officer will be notified and a complaint for Failure to Cause School Attendance pursuant to *G.L. c. 76, sect. 2* may be filed in Wareham District Court.

If the students' absences or tardiness occur on a regular basis and impede their academic progress, the school, as a mandated reporter, must consider filing a Child Requiring Assistance (CRA) report. Depending on circumstances, the school district may choose to file a 51A with the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families.

Tardiness

Tardiness negatively impacts the educational progress of all students. Therefore, the above policy will also be followed for excessive tardiness.

Dismissals

All dismissal policies are developed with students' learning and safety in mind. Policies are developed with input from the Rochester School Committee and town safety officials.

Dismissals During the School Day

No child will be dismissed from school during the day unless an authorized adult comes to the office to dismiss the student. This applies to daily, or occasional, pickup

arrangements. Students being dismissed before the end of the school day must bring a note to the homeroom teacher that morning. Students will be called from class *when the parent/guardian arrives*.

Any Change in Dismissal Routine

To ensure each child's safety, a note from a child's parent/guardian must be provided before a child is allowed to leave school with any adult other than a parent or if the student is normally transported by bus. There must be a note for each change to a child's routine. Bus changes are allowed for childcare purposes only, not for play or party dates. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) must arrange with the office prior to a bus switch.

Riding Bicycles to School

Students may ride their bicycles to school provided that they wear a helmet (as required under state law) and obey all traffic regulations. **A blanket permission note is required before students begin riding to and from school.** Bikes must not be ridden on sidewalks just outside school where children and adults are walking. Students not following safety rules may have their riding privileges revoked. A bike rack is available in front of the cafeteria. Students are encouraged to lock their bicycles.

School Breakfast & Lunch - Food Service

Full student breakfast and lunches are available at no cost. A la carte menu choices are available at a variety of prices. *Free and Reduced Lunch Assistance* forms are sent to all families electronically and are also posted to the RMS webpage. Paper applications may be sent home at the start of the school year if a family requires a paper version and are also available at the school office. Applications are accepted throughout the year.

Lunch Protocol

Students will come to the cafeteria line. The child's meal choice (hot or cold) is placed on the counter, and the student takes their meal package and proceeds to the cashier. Lunch monitors clean and sanitize desks after children leave prior to the next group entering.

Lunch Menus

Lunch menus will be posted on [Rochester Memorial School](#) website in the Families and Students menu, and the [Food and Nutrition](#) website.

In August 2023, Massachusetts enacted permanent universal free school meals. This means that breakfast and lunch will continue to be served at no cost to all students. However, students choosing only milk is not part of the free program and will be charged. A la cart items are not part of the free meal and students will be charged for

any a la cart item they chose. Families that need assistance should complete a Free and Reduced Lunch Application immediately. Each application can be downloaded and emailed to the Food and Nutrition Director or by clicking the link and applying online. Online applications will be processed much faster than paper applications. The application for Free and Reduced Lunch can be found on the [District Food & Nutrition Website](#). Even though lunches are free, we still need to maintain our accounts in good standing with a debit balance. If students want an extra milk or snack, there will be a charge for those items and the student's account will be used. There are settings to automatically replenish your account once the balance reaches a minimum amount. Here is a link to [Titan: https://family.titank12.com/](https://family.titank12.com/)

Bringing Lunch from Home

If you choose to have your child bring lunch from home each day, to keep it cold, we recommend (1) bringing food in an insulated lunch bag with a frozen gel pack or frozen juice box; (2) freezing the sandwiches overnight (will thaw by lunchtime but keep cold until then); (3) packing the foods in a cooler with ice or another cold source.

Please note the District Life Threatening Allergy Policy Below:

[Life Threatening Allergy Policy](#)

School Safety and School Visits

All visitors and volunteers are required to have a valid driver's license or Massachusetts issued identification card to be scanned-in upon entering the building *for any reason*. Office staff will provide badges to wear once the ID is scanned into our system and each visitor is approved to enter. This includes stops at the Nurse's office. All visitors who do not have a valid driver's license or Massachusetts issued ID card will not be allowed to enter the school during operating hours.

Parents or guests wishing to visit a particular class are asked to plan with the teacher or the principal at least one day in advance. Teachers will always welcome an extra pair of hands; we encourage you to become an active part of our volunteer staff. Massachusetts State Law requires that all regular classroom volunteers, lunchroom visitors and field trip chaperones have a Criminal Record (CORI) check. These forms must be completed in the school office before your first volunteer visit. Visitors are asked to park in the lot at the rear entrance of the school. Do not park in the driveway or on the road in front of the school. Cars parked on either side of Pine Street during school hours will be ticketed.

Video Cameras

The School Committee, after carefully considering the privacy rights of students and drivers and the District's duty to ensure discipline and protect the health, welfare, and safety of staff and students on school transportation vehicles, has authorized the use of video cameras on its transportation vehicles when deemed necessary by school administration.

Student Dress Code

The responsibility for the dress and appearance of the students will rest with individual students and parents/guardians.

They have the right to determine how the student will dress providing that attire is not destructive to school property, complies with requirements for health and safety, and does not cause disorder or disruption. The administration is authorized to take action in instances where individual dress does not meet the stated requirements.

This does not mean that student, faculty, or parent groups may not recommend appropriate dress for school or special occasions. It means that students will not be prevented from attending school or a school function, or otherwise be discriminated against, so long as their dress and appearance meet the requirements set forth above.

Rochester Memorial School has a no head-adornment policy while students are in the school building, including but not limited to hats and hoods. Head adornments worn for medical, religious and/or cultural reasons are permitted.

Decorative footwear and flip-flops can create a safety issue when students play at recess and during Physical Education classes. Therefore, flip-flops or any other type of open-toed shoes are strongly discouraged for safety reasons.

Recess

Outdoor recess is held whenever possible. Please be sure that your child is properly dressed. During inclement weather, recess is held inside. The playground is supervised; however, the responsibility for appropriate behavior rests with the students. The playground and indoor recess expectations are discussed in school and students are expected to treat the playground with respect and to behave with consideration for other students. It is our policy that if a child is well enough to go to school, he or she is well

enough to participate in all school activities, including recess. A child requires a doctor's note for temporary excuse from physical education or outdoor recess.

Student Valuables & Sports Equipment

It is strongly recommended that students do not bring large sums of money, hand-held video games, cell phones, smart watches, toys, Pokemon Cards, sports equipment or stuffed animals to school.

Inclement Weather: Cancellations and Delays

Please be attentive to our telephone messaging system for news of school cancellations or delays. During stormy weather the District may call school for an entire day, or for a one to two hour delayed opening. If bad weather develops during the school day, afternoon classes or special programs and after-school activities may be canceled. It is important that families have plans in place for dealing with these possibilities. We utilize the "BlackBoard" communication program that is capable of contacting all RMS families within a five to ten-minute window. As soon as the Superintendent has determined a delay, closing, or early dismissal, we will send out a "BlackBoard" call. As a result of all district schools utilizing the BlackBoard system, storm delays and closings may not be broadcast on local television stations. We ask that you not call the school office or the police station.

The dispatcher reports they receive many calls which interfere with their ability to handle actual emergencies. If the decision is made to close school early or cancel after-school activities, due to inclement weather, an attempt will be made to contact parents, using all emergency contact numbers within the "BlackBoard" system. In the event of a non-weather emergency, we will contact all families using the same system.

Home/School Communication

Telephone Calls

No school telephone in any office may be used by students unless authorized by faculty. If students have forgotten books, classwork, or musical instruments, classroom teacher discretion will determine whether a call can be made via the front office. In cases of illness or emergency, calls will be made by the school nurse, an administrator, social worker or personnel in the main office.

Cell Phones/Smart Watches

A student may carry or keep a cell phone in their backpack if authorized by the school office. The phone must be shut off and kept in the child's locker/backpack and may be used only for emergency or unusual circumstances as agreed by

parents/guardians and administration. The phone and/or electronic watch may not be used to receive or send messages anytime during school hours or on school buses. Student phones/watches used to make, or receive, unauthorized calls during school hours, or on a bus, will be confiscated by the school administration or the bus driver.

Students with Smartwatches or the like, may wear them in school, but they are not to be used for anything other than telling time during the school day or during school sponsored activities without parents/guardians being present. In the event that a student uses the watch for other purposes, it will be confiscated and held in the front office until the end of the day.

Homework and Independent Reading

The School Committee has established homework guidelines that all teachers follow. Your child's teacher will establish homework routines appropriate to the student's grade level. The School Committee policy can be acquired through the main office at the school. We ask all family members to become "Reading Partners" with our students. Research shows the more children read, the better readers they become. We encourage all students to read independently each night for 20–30 minutes before bed. In some classrooms, student reading logs are sent home for students and/or parents to initial.

Photographs of School Activities for Local Papers

Opt-Out Procedure for Parents Who Do Not Want Their Child's Picture to Appear:

As part of our public relations efforts, local newspapers are invited to photograph many school programs and events. Students are often included in these photos. As a parent, you have the right to request that no picture of your child is used in this way. You must make this request in writing by completing a FERPA Privacy Form and returning it to the Principal before September 3rd. If no letter is on file, we assume parental permission is granted for photographs to appear in local newspapers or on our school website

OPT Out for Library Books

If you prefer that your child does not check out a specific library book, you may opt out of having your child check out the book by emailing your school's librarian with the exact title of the book and the author's full name. If no email was sent to opt out, your student will have full access to the variety of books available in the library. Here is the link to the library book platform Alexandria: <https://rmstwogether.weebly.com/search.html>

Parent/Guardian Involvement & Concerns

1. Being actively involved in your child's school is helpful to both your child and the school community. The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meets for an hour once a month in the PTO Office at RMS.
2. School Council - In June of 1993, the Massachusetts State Legislature passed and Governor Weld signed into law The Education Reform Act of 1993. Section 59C of Chapter 71 of the Education Reform Act of 1993 calls for the establishment of a School Council at each elementary, secondary, and vocational school in the Commonwealth. The school council provision of the act is intended to enhance parent and community participation in the school. The PTO, by law, is responsible for conducting the election of all parent representatives to the School Council. The nomination and election process is conducted each September and parent volunteers are needed to be a part of our School Council. Representation from primary and intermediate grade students' families, as well as special education families (if available), staff members and the community sit on this advisory team. Meetings are typically one afternoon per month.
3. The Rochester School Committee sets its meeting schedule at the start of the school year. These meetings are typically held on Thursday evenings about once per month. Meetings are typically held at the Rochester Memorial School and are televised. Meeting schedules, resources and minutes are available on the [school committee webpage](#).
4. Constructive criticism of our school is welcomed on the assumption that it is motivated by a sincere desire to improve the quality of the educational program and to equip the school to perform its tasks more effectively. Complaints are resolved most expeditiously if they are first taken to the staff member or administrator immediately in charge of the area in which a problem arises, then through successive administrative levels to the Principal, Superintendent, and subsequently to the School Committee, if necessary.

Anonymous letters serve no positive purpose when trying to resolve problems and will not be given the same weight as an identified correspondence. The School Committee has adopted a policy to be followed when a parent/guardian has a concern that has not been satisfactorily addressed. A copy of that policy is available at the school office.

Mrs. Letendre, Principal, is available to all RMS families each month before PTO or School Committee meetings and at other times during the school day by

appointment. Please call the school office or contact the principal directly via email: heidiletendre@oldrochester.org.

All teachers are accessible via the school's e-mail carrier as well. Go to our school website, <https://rms.oldrochester.org/> to access a list of staff/teacher email addresses.

Health Information

Health Records

Student health records are kept in a locked file in the nurse's office. It is the parents' responsibility to keep the nurse informed of new medical information. Students are required to have physical examinations in PreSchool, Kindergarten, 1st grade, 3rd grade, and 6th grade.

Vision/hearing screenings and height/weight measurements are done yearly. Parents are notified only if the results are not within normal limits. Postural screening is done only for students in grade 5. Screening for head lice is done as needed.

Dispensing Medications

Children are not permitted to carry medications on the bus or in the school building. A signed order from a physician, dentist, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant is required to administer any prescription medications in school, as required by Massachusetts General Law. Parental permission is also required. A Medication Protocol form that covers non-prescription medications is included in this packet. Special arrangements for medication administration during field trips must be made with the school nurse. Medications will be given by a parent or by a school representative who has permission from the parent. Children will be allowed to self-administer inhalers on field trips only, with permission of the school nurse and when parental permission is on file at the nurse's office.

First Aid/Emergencies

If a sudden illness or an accident occurs at school, the school nurse will administer first aid and immediately notify parents. Parents are responsible for transporting the student home in the event of illness or injury. If a serious illness or accident (life-threatening accident) occurs at school, the Rochester EMS will be called for transport to the hospital.

Tobacco and Vaping

Paraphernalia or possession/use of tobacco and/or vaping within school buildings, facilities, on school grounds, and on school buses is prohibited. [See School Committee Policies ADC and JICH.](#)

Additional Services Available

Rochester Memorial School offers all students General Education support and accommodations including:

- Title I Services
- Social Work/Counseling Services
- Availability of the School Psychologist
- Reading Specialist Support
- STEM Specialist
- Others as outlined in the Rochester Memorial School Curriculum Accommodation Plan.
- Rochester Memorial School provides many Special Education services to students (who are eligible) including:
 - Inclusive support in regular classrooms
 - Pull-out instruction when warranted
 - Speech and Language therapies
 - Occupational and physical therapies
 - School Social worker small group/individual support

Non-Discrimination in Curriculum

Consistent with Massachusetts regulations, 603 CMR 26.05(1), the Rochester School District, through its curricula and materials, encourages respect for the human and civil rights of all individuals, regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin or sexual orientation. In accordance with district guidelines, families may request information from the building principal on available accommodations related to curriculum content.

Health and Guidance Curricula

District Health and Guidance Curricula have been implemented across all grade levels at RMS. There are nine general topics covered with the specific content tailored to the developmental needs of our differing age groups. The topics are as follows:

Growth & Development Students will learn the basic characteristics of physical growth and development, including body functions and systems throughout the life cycle, and will acquire skills to promote and maintain positive growth and development. As a part of the Growth and Development curriculum, the 5th graders will participate in a program which focuses on the changes students go through during puberty. A parent letter will be sent out prior to the presentation.

Nutrition Students will gain the knowledge and skills to select a diet that supports health and reduces the risk of illness and future chronic diseases.

Social & Emotional Health Students will acquire knowledge about emotions and physical health, the management of emotions, personality and character development, and social awareness; and will learn skills to promote self-acceptance, make decisions, and positive coping skills.

Family Life Students will gain knowledge about the significance of the family on individuals and society, and will learn skills to support the family, balance work and family life, be an effective parent, and nurture the development of children.

Interpersonal Relationships Students will learn that relationships with others are an integral part of the human life experience and the factors that contribute to healthy interpersonal relationships, and will acquire skills to enhance and make many of these relationships more fulfilling through commitment and communication.

Disease Prevention & Controls Students will learn the signs, symptoms, and treatment of chronic and communicable diseases, and will gain skills related to health promotion, disease prevention, and health maintenance.

Safety & Injury Prevention Students will gain the knowledge and skills to administer first aid and carry out emergency procedures, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation, will avoid, recognize, and report verbal, physical, and emotional abuse situations, and will assess the factors that contribute to intentional and unintentional injury, including fire safety.

Violence Prevention Students will learn how their actions affect others, will understand the power that positive character traits can have in violence prevention, will gain skills to report incidents of violence and hurtful behavior to adults in the school and community, will avoid engaging in violence, and identify constructive alternatives to violence, including how to discourage others from engaging in violence.

If parents/guardians wish their children to be exempt from any portion of the Health Curriculum, a written request should be addressed to the school principal.

General Student Information

The Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) Testing

Once during the school year, students in grade 5 participate in the Science Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) Test. Also, once a year all students in grades 3-6 will participate in the English Language Arts & Mathematics Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) tests. Testing during the 2025-2026 school year will take place at the following times:

Grades 3–8 ELA and Mathematics, and grades 5 and 8 STE (computer-based tests)	
ELA Testing Window: Math Testing Window: Science Testing Window:	March 23–April 17 April 27–May 22 April 27–May 22

It is highly recommended that all students must be present during MCAS testing.

Student Records

The privacy of student records is guaranteed. Only parents/guardians and appropriate school personnel are allowed access to the information in a student's record. Specific written consent provided by the parent or legal guardian is necessary for any other examination. A student transcript, which includes name, address, and grades, is kept for at least sixty years. However, the student's temporary record, containing standardized test scores, evaluations by teachers, and Special Education records are given to the student upon graduation or destroyed within five years after the student leaves the school system. In accordance with the student record regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Education, parents have the right to inspect a student's record. Records are made available within two (2) working days of a request being made. Copies of any part of the record may be requested and a reasonable fee may be charged for the cost of duplicating these materials. It has been our practice to make any student records easily accessible to parents.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has adopted procedures for non-custodial parents who wish to receive separate copies of student records or school notices. Information is available in the school office.

Report Cards and Parent-Guardian Conferences

It shall be the duty of each teacher at the end of each term or at the end of any period of time designated by the Superintendent, to estimate and to record the progress of students. The report card is an effective means of communicating an individual student's progress in relation to the curriculum and the student's own mastery of skills and social development. In the elementary grades, the written record is a standards-based report that indicates a student's progress. Rochester Memorial School operates on a three-term grading cycle as noted below.

Term	Period Covered	Number of Days	Marks Close	Report Cards Issued
<u>1st</u>	Aug. 28 - Nov. 24	60 days	November 26, 2025	Friday, Dec. 12, 2025
<u>2nd</u>	Nov. 24 - Mar. 12	62 days	March 13, 2026	Friday, March 20, 2026
<u>3rd</u>	Mar. 15 - June 10	58 days	June 12, 2026	Monday, June 10, 2026 Day 180

Regular communication between school and home is important if we are to be successful. Conferences between parents and teachers are scheduled once during the school year, but if questions about your child's progress should arise in any curricular area, initiate a conversation with teachers at any time.

Promotion/Retention of Students

It is expected that students' progress annually from grade to grade. Exceptions are made only when it is in the best educational interest of the student.

Student Enrichment:

RMS offers various ways for students to enrich their academic learning. Below are some examples:

- Student Ambassadors with 5th & 6th grade representatives and officers
- Project 351 Program
- Annual Talent Show
- Steam-A-Palooza
- 6th Grade Student vs. Staff Basketball Game
- 4th Grade Chorus: Students participate in a music-based production that is presented in January.
- 5th and 6th Grade Chorus: Groups meet once a week during school, several performances each year including the *FORM* concert which

showcases all choruses in the district.

- 4th Grade Band: Students select an instrument for in-school instrumental instruction. In January, students come together as a beginner band.
- 5th and 6th Grade Band: Weekly instrumental instruction continues and the students meet as a band once a week.
- Jazz Band: Auditions are held in the fall and the band meets before school once a week.
- After School Activities: There are three enrichment/athletic sessions each year: one in the fall; two sessions in the spring. Each session lasts 8 weeks and offers a variety of elective programs. Brochures are sent home with students.

Field Trips

During the year, field trips may be scheduled at each grade level. A student's behavior while on these trips will reflect upon the student's school. Misconduct will not be tolerated. A permission slip must be signed by one of the student's parents or guardians before a student can participate in the field trip. The form must be returned to the teacher-in-charge prior to the trip. All school rules apply to field trips. Any child may be denied the privilege of going on a field trip based on poor academic performance or inappropriate behavior.

Party Invitations:

In keeping with RMS's C.A.R.E.S. philosophy, and as a result of not wanting any child to feel hurt or excluded, we remind parents of the insensitive practice of students bringing party invitations to school. Uninvited students, as well as the inviter, may be in unnecessarily uncomfortable situations. Please take the time to mail party invitations, or see that they are delivered outside of the school community and school day. The Rochester Blue Book is a great reference for parents to find addresses. We ask that you not call the office for this information.

Internet Use Policy

An Internet user agreement is given to students at the beginning of their elementary experience. Students and parents sign and return the agreement and it is kept on file.

Student Fee, Fines and Charges (Approved by the Rochester School Committee)

The School Committee recognizes the need for student fees to fund certain school activities. It also recognizes that some students may not be able to pay these fees. No student will be denied access into any program because of inability to pay these supplementary charges. A school may exact a fee or charge only upon School Committee approval. The schools, however, may:

- ***Charge students enrolled in a certain course for the cost of materials used in projects that will become the property of the student.***
- ***Charge for lost and damaged books, materials, supplies and equipment.***

Students who are experiencing financial hardship are exempt from paying fees. However, these students are not exempt from charges for lost and damaged books, locks, materials, supplies and equipment.

All student fees and charges, both optional and required, will be listed and described annually in each school's handbook or in some other written form and distributed to each student. The notice will advise students that fees are to be paid and of the penalties for their failure to pay them. Permissible penalties include the withholding of report cards until payment is made or denial of participation in extra class activities while the student is enrolled in this District. Any fee or charge due to any school in the District and not paid at the end of the school year will be carried forward to the next succeeding school year, as such debts are considered to be debts of the student to the District and not to a particular school.

Replacement Fee Recommendation

Chromebook Complete Unit Replacement	\$300.00
Chromebook Screen	\$50.00
45W Adapter with Power Cord (USB-C Connection)	\$50.00
Keyboard	\$50.00
iPad Complete Unit	\$325.00
Apple usb-c to lightning cable	\$25.00
Apple usb power adapter (block)	\$25.00
Case	\$50.00

School Rules and CARES

Rochester Memorial School emphasizes a positive, community-based sense of responsibility and respect throughout the school day. Students learn what is expected of them through the consistent modeling of the adults around them.

Students, teachers, administrators and parents all work together to maintain a safe, orderly school environment where everyone can learn and grow.

Students are expected to follow the school-wide rules that follow. These rules apply at all times, in all areas of the school.

- **Take CARE of Yourself**
- **Take CARE of Others**
- **Take CARE of Our School Environment**
- **Everyone C...A...R...E...S!**

COOPERATION:	We work, learn and solve problems together, with our friends and teachers.
ASSERTIVENESS:	We assert ourselves appropriately and respectfully.
RESPONSIBILITY:	We make good choices about our behavior and our learning. We respect one another and ourselves throughout the day.
EMPATHY:	We think of our friends and their feelings; we care about how others will react to us.
SELF CONTROL	We stop to think about what it is we'll say or do - in class, on the bus, on the playground - everywhere.

School Staff Role in Establishing High Behavioral Expectations:

Teachers and support staff model and reinforce positive behavior and compliance with school-wide rules and values. In addition, teachers implement classroom rules and policies. Generally, these rules are developed with student involvement appropriate to age and social development.

These classroom policies are submitted to the Principal for review. After administrative review, teachers will send home written classroom rules and consequences for family discussion. Students and parents/guardians and teachers will sign the Student Conduct Agreement that will be kept on file in the classroom. Teachers follow all disciplinary steps outlined in their program on a consistent basis. This may include notes or phone calls home, after school time, individual contracts as deemed appropriate, or other strategies. Teachers and parents who have ongoing concerns about a student's behavior have several sources of support - the School Social Workers, Administration, and the Building-Based Support Team (BBST).

Responsive Classroom

Rochester Memorial School utilizes the Responsive Classroom approach in supporting our students in the learning process and throughout the school day. All RMS teachers and administrators have participated in Responsive Classroom training.

Responsive Classroom is a way of teaching and leading that creates a safe, challenging, and joyful classroom and school wide climate for all students. Teachers who use the Responsive Classroom approach understand that all of students' needs—academic, social, emotional, and physical—are important.

Elementary teachers create an environment that responds to all of those needs so that your child can do their best learning. The Responsive Classroom approach develops teachers' competencies in four key areas:

1. Engaging Academics—Teachers create learning tasks that are active, interactive, appropriately challenging, purposeful, and connected to students' interests.
2. Positive Community—Teachers nurture a sense of belonging, significance, and emotional safety so that students feel comfortable taking risks and working with a variety of peers.
3. Effective Management—Teachers create a calm, orderly environment that promotes autonomy and allows students to focus on learning.
4. Developmentally Responsive Teaching—Teachers use knowledge of child development, along with observations of students, to create a developmentally appropriate learning environment.

School Bus Conduct Rules

1. Treat your bus driver and other passengers with respect and courtesy.
2. Get on and off the bus by moving slowly and safely.
3. Passengers must be seated at all times with their feet on the floor, and facing forward.
4. Conversations should be carried on in a normal tone of voice. Shouting is inappropriate and unsafe.
5. Arms and heads must be kept inside the bus.
6. Windows may be open only by the bus driver or with their permission
7. Aisles must be kept clear at all times.
8. Profane and bullying language is forbidden.
9. Horseplay is unsafe and forbidden.
10. Throwing objects is unsafe and forbidden.

Bus Expectations

The driver of the offending student will report violations of bus rules to the student, the school principal and the student's parents in writing promptly. Violations may result in the loss of bus privileges or application of discipline sanction up to and including suspension.

- 1st Offense – Warning
- 2nd Offense – Detention or Assigned Seat at Front of Bus – *This will be strictly enforced in conjunction with changes to our bullying policy*
- 3rd Offense - bus suspension
- Repeated Offenses* - Consideration of permanent exclusion
- *Including exclusion from the bus for the balance of the school year. Complete copies of the Transportation Policy are available upon request and for all new incoming students.

The Rochester School District has established rules and policies regarding bus discipline. Bus drivers report violations of rules to administration. Parents receive a written notice of the incident and its consequences. School buses are equipped with videotape equipment. Taped incidents may be used in the process of dealing with infractions of school bus rules.

Copies of the Rochester School District Bus Policy are available at the RMS office.

Student Behavior Expectations

Student Behavior Expectations

Old Rochester Regional School District's school discipline philosophy recognizes and respects the rights and dignity of others. As a community of educators, we believe that building relationships with students is paramount. This includes collaboration with students and their families, so together we can partner to ensure student success. We need the support of all stakeholders, especially our families, to make this goal a reality.

The ultimate goal of our school discipline philosophy, including restorative practices, is to build inclusive school communities that allow students to remain actively engaged in learning and minimize time taken from instruction and learning.

Rules for behavior in school are necessary to protect the educational rights and privileges of all students. It is essential that all students accept personal responsibility for maintaining high standards of conduct, including the observance of all school rules. The purpose of the Rochester Memorial School discipline policy is corrective; it is to encourage students to improve their conduct.

The school's discipline code is designed to assist students to show respect for others and their property, as well as for themselves. We ask our students to take a look at themselves and their actions. Being respectful is defined as having common courtesy, treating others kindly, saying please and thank you, etc. Students are reminded of these goals throughout their school day. Students are expected to comply with school rules and accept the leadership of teachers and school staff. Students should fully understand that any staff member in the building has the authority to address behavior at any time. Students must adhere to school rules not only on school grounds, but also on the way to and from school, on school buses, during after school activities, field trips and any other time when they are under school supervision. All students must also comply with state and federal laws as they apply to the conduct of minors and juveniles

Our intentions for school discipline are aligned with the following objectives:

- Students, parents/guardians/caregivers, and school personnel, are provided with a clear understanding of the various administrative responses to discipline as described in the student handbook.
- Utilization of discipline practices that are progressive and tiered by design.
- The exercise of any of a student's rights ceases when it impacts the rights of another individual or group.
- No student has the right to disrupt the educational process within a school or designated learning environment.
- Provide students with ample restorative opportunities to change behavior and nurture relationships when possible.
- Provide professional learning and support to employ strategies and actions that align with the principles of restorative practices.
- Every reasonable effort will be made to keep students actively engaged in their learning environment as much as possible.
- An office visit, detention, suspensions, and/or expulsions are used judiciously in alignment with the expectations of student behavior.

Each day in our schools, we support our students' social emotional learning and development, while employing practices to help strengthen our learning community. We are focused on building healthy, positive relationships, preventing harmful behavior, productively resolving conflict with individuals and groups, and fostering a positive and inclusive learning environment. We value open dialogue to repair relationships, and we remain committed to the idea that harmful and disruptive behavior shall not be permitted to interfere with other students' access to learning. Families are encouraged to reach out to classroom teachers, school social workers or school administration with any questions or concerns.

Student Conduct and Discipline

The School Committee believes that all students deserve every opportunity to achieve academic success in a safe, secure learning environment. Good citizenship in schools is based on respect and consideration for the rights of others. Students will be expected to conduct themselves in a way that the rights and privileges of others are not violated. They will be required to respect constituted authority, to conform to school rules and to those provisions of law that apply to their conduct.

Each Principal shall include prohibited actions in the student handbook or other publication to be made available to students and parents/guardians.



Principals and staff shall not use academic punishment of any form as a consequence to inappropriate behaviors/actions by students.

The Principal may, as a disciplinary measure, remove a student from privileges, such as extracurricular activities and attendance at school-sponsored events, based on the student's misconduct. Such a removal is not subject to the remainder of this policy, law, or regulation.

The Superintendent shall provide each Principal with a copy of the regulations promulgated by DESE and shall have each Principal sign a document acknowledging receipt thereof, which shall be placed in their personnel file.

Student Code of Conduct: (Standards for due process, as set forth in M.G.L. c. 71, §§ 37H, 37H½ and 37H¾.)

In addition to providing students with academic rigor and educational opportunities, the staff and community of the Old Rochester Regional School District & MA Superintendency Union #55 strive to support students' conduct and discipline toward becoming contributing members of society and achievement of their individual and collective goals. Students are expected (a) to arrive at school and at classes promptly, (b) to be in attendance every day except for illness or family emergencies, (c) to be prepared for classroom work, (d) to contribute in positive ways to the activities of each class, and (e) to accept responsibility for any inappropriate actions while working to be sure they are not repeated.

Our Code of Student Conduct provides guidelines for students to maintain a positive and supportive environment where students and staff are able to work collaboratively. It establishes every individual's responsibility to respect the rights of others. Finally, it identifies possible consequences for misconduct, ensuring that students know in advance of their actions what obligations may be due.

Conduct expectations are based on a system of progressive discipline, where an administrator has the discretion to significantly increase penalties in cases of second or subsequent offenses, or in cases where the severity of the infraction requires it. In addition, student discipline might be provided not only to hold students accountable for inappropriate behaviors but also to teach students about their responsibilities for good citizenship. Students may participate in a community service project or other alternative remedy as a means of accountability. Alternative remedies may include (but are not limited to): lunch detention, structured school day, collaborative problem solving, removal of privileges, referral to outside support (e.g. counseling).

The principal or designee will consider ways to re-engage the student in the learning process and shall not suspend the student until alternative remedies have been employed and their use and results documented. Alternative remedies may include, but shall not be limited to: (i) mediation; (ii) conflict resolution; (iii) restorative justice; and (iv) collaborative problem solving. Principals or designees will document the use and results of alternative remedies. Principals or designees do not have to utilize alternative remedies in the following situations: 1) if the alternatives are unsuitable or counter-productive, and 2) in cases where the student's continued presence in school would pose a specific, documentable concern about the infliction of serious bodily injury or other serious harm upon another person while in school.

Disciplining of Students with IEPs

State and federal regulations provide eligible students with certain procedural rights and protections in the context of student discipline. The Individual Education Program (IEP) for a student must indicate whether the student can be expected to meet the regular discipline code of the school or whether the code should be modified due to the student's disability. Such modifications will be described in the student's IEP.

As provided for in state and federal regulations:

- Any eligible child may be suspended up to 10 school days in any school year.

- After a student with special needs has been suspended for 10 school days in any school year, during subsequent removal, the school district must provide sufficient services for the student to continue to receive a free and appropriate public education.
- A suspension of longer than 10 consecutive school days or a series of suspensions that constitute a pattern are considered to represent a change of placement.
- Prior to a suspension that constitutes a change of placement, district personnel, the parent/guardian and other relevant members of the team will convene a “Manifestation Determination” meeting to review all relevant information to determine whether the behavior was caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the disability or was the direct result of the district’s failure to implement the IEP.
- If the Manifestation Team determines that the behavior was not a manifestation of the disability, then the district may suspend or expel the student consistent with the policies applied to any student without disabilities. The district will, however, provide services to enable the student, although in another setting, to continue to participate in the general education curriculum and to progress towards IEP goals. A functional behavioral assessment and appropriate behavioral intervention services will be provided to lessen the likelihood of the behavior reoccurring.
- If the Manifestation Determination determines that the behavior is a manifestation of the disability, then the team will complete a functional behavioral assessment and behavioral intervention plan. Except when the student is placed in an interim alternative education setting, the student will return to their original placement unless the parents and district agree otherwise
- Regardless of the manifestation determination, the student may be placed in an interim alternative education setting (as determined by the team) for up to 45 school days if the behavior involves weapons or illegal drugs, another controlled substance, or the infliction of serious bodily injury on another person at school or school function; or, considered case by case, unique circumstance; or on the authority of a hearing officer if the district provides evidence the student is “substantially likely” to injure himself or others.
- These procedural requirements apply to students not yet determined to be eligible for special education if the Parent/Guardian has expressed concern in writing or requested an evaluation, or if staff had expressed concerns about the student’s behavior directly to the director of student service or other supervisory personnel.

Protections for children not yet eligible for special education and related services

- A child who has not been determined to be eligible for special education and related services under this subchapter and who has engaged in behavior that violates a code of student conduct, may assert any of the protections provided for in this subchapter if the local educational agency had knowledge (as determined in accordance with this paragraph) that the child was a child with a disability before the behavior that precipitated the disciplinary action occurred.
- Rochester Memorial School shall be deemed to have knowledge that a child is a child with a disability if, before the behavior that precipitated the disciplinary action occurred:

- the parent of the child has expressed concern in writing to the administration, or a teacher of the child, that the child is in need of special education and related services;
- the parent of the child has requested an evaluation of the child; or
- the teacher of the child, or other personnel of the District, has expressed specific concerns about a pattern of behavior demonstrated by the child, directly to the director of special education or to other supervisory personnel of the District.
- Rochester Memorial School shall not be deemed to have knowledge that the child is a child with a disability if the parent of the child has not allowed an evaluation of the child or has refused services or the child has been evaluated and it was determined that the child was not a child with a disability.
- Conditions that apply if no basis of knowledge
 - In general, if the District does not have knowledge that a child is a child with a disability prior to taking disciplinary measures against the child, the child may be subjected to disciplinary measures applied to children without disabilities who engaged in comparable behaviors.
 - Limitations: If a request is made for an evaluation of a child during the time period in which the child is subjected to disciplinary measures, the evaluation shall be conducted in an expedited manner. If the child is determined to be a child with a disability, taking into consideration information from the evaluation conducted by the District and information provided by the parents, the District shall provide special education and related services, except that, pending the results of the evaluation, the child shall remain in the educational placement determined by school authorities.

Disciplining of Students with 504s

The code of conduct applies to students with and without disabilities; however, students on 504 plans must have an equal opportunity to be successful with classroom rules and behavioral regulations. Section 504 prohibits districts from disciplining students more severely than non-disabled students on the basis of disability. The free and appropriate education (FAPE) requirement of Section 504 provides that appropriate procedures for discipline are designed to meet individual educational needs of students with disabilities as adequately as the needs of non-disabled students are met.

Students with 504 plans may be excluded from their programs, as can students without disabilities. If students are suspended or expelled, they are entitled to oral or written notice of charges and an appeal for the opportunity to tell their side. Expulsion or suspensions of 10 or more days are considered a change of placement and must follow the procedures designated by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

When students with 504 plans are excluded from their program for more than 10 school days in the school year, it must be determined if the behavior was a result of the students'

disability (manifestation determination). If it is determined that the behavior was related to the disability, students may not be excluded from the current educational placement until a new plan is written. The behavioral intervention services and modifications in the plan should address the behavior violation so that it does not recur.

If the student's misconduct is determined not related to their disability then the district may discipline in the same way as other students would be disciplined. 504 students do not have to be provided with a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) during expulsion or suspension for behavior not related to the disability. Students currently engaged in drug or alcohol abuse are not protected under Section 504.

When the placement of students with disabilities is changed for disciplinary reasons, the students and parents are entitled to the procedural protections required by Section 504 and the ADA. A school district may employ due process procedures that meet the requirements of IDEA to comply with the Section 504 and ADA requirements for procedural safeguards. These protections include appropriate notice to parents or guardians, an opportunity for their examination of records, an impartial hearing with the participation of parents or guardians and an opportunity for their representation by counsel and a review procedure. Thus, if, after a reevaluation of an initial placement decision, the parents disagree with the determination regarding the relationship of the behavior to the disability or with the subsequent placement proposal in those cases where the behavior is determined to be caused by the disability, they may request an impartial hearing.

A school district is not prohibited from employing its normal, reasonable procedures short of a significant change in placement for dealing with 504 students who are endangering themselves or others. When students present an immediate threat to the safety of others, school officials may promptly adjust the placement or suspend the students for up to 10 school days, in accordance with rules that are applied evenhandedly to all children.

Disciplinary Investigations

Nothing shall prevent a school administrator from conducting an investigation, including student interviews, of a school-related disciplinary incident. After a behavior complaint is made, an investigation will take place. This investigation, in accordance with M.G.L Ch 76, Section 5, will be nondiscriminatory, and will take into account explanations from involved parties and witnesses. Student discipline shall be addressed on an individual basis with each student, and may range from a conversation with the student to an expulsion, depending on the infraction. Individual student discipline will only be discussed with the family/guardians of the child directly involved. No information regarding students or their discipline will be given to anyone who is not a parent or guardian of that child. If the disciplinary procedures herein have been implemented and have been unsuccessful in changing the unacceptable behavior of a student, the parents/guardians will be contacted by the administration and may be asked to come into school to meet with their child's team of teachers and/or the administration.

Suspension

In-School Suspension: removal of a student from regular classroom activities, but not from

the school premises, for no more than 10 consecutive school days, or no more than 10 school days cumulatively for multiple infractions during the school year.

Short-Term Suspension: removal of a student from the school premises and regular classroom activities for 10 consecutive school days or less. May be served in school, at the Principal's discretion.

Long-Term Suspension: removal cumulatively 10 to 90 days from the school premises and regular classroom activities. A Principal may, in his or her discretion, allow a student to serve a long-term suspension in school.

- Long-term suspension may not exceed 90 days (becomes expulsion)
- Suspension may not extend beyond the end of the school year in which the suspension is imposed

Suspension and Extracurricular Activities

Students, who are suspended from school, whether that suspension is an in-school or out-of-school suspension, are ineligible to participate in or to attend any extracurricular activity until the first day they return to school. For example, if a student's suspension runs through close of school on Friday, that student is not eligible to participate or to attend any school-sponsored activities, whether they are on or off school property, until the student has re-entered school on Monday. Furthermore, if a student's suspension runs through the close of school on Friday and a vacation period or school cancellation follows, the student is not eligible to participate in or to attend any school-sponsored activities, on or off campus, until the student has re-entered school.

Emergency Removal

Emergency Removal: temporary removal from school, not more than 2 school days following date of removal, when student is charged with offense, and where continued presence poses danger or presents material and substantial disruption, and in the principal's judgment there is no alternative.

SOURCE: MASC - August 2022

LEGAL REF: M.G.L. 71:37H; 71:37H ½; 71:37H ¾; 76:17; 76:21

603 CMR 53.00

603 CMR 53.10(3) through (5)

603 CMR 53.13(1)Chapter 222 An Act Relative to Student Access to Educational Services and Exclusion from School

Supporting Students with Disabilities and Avoiding the Discriminatory Use of Student Discipline under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and

Questions and Answers Addressing the Needs of Children with Disabilities and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act's (IDEA's) Discipline Provisions.

Suspension

In every case of student misconduct for which suspension may be imposed , a Principal shall consider ways to re-engage the student in learning. Unless specific reasons are documented as to why such alternative remedies are unsuitable or counter-productive, and/or in cases where the student's continued presence in school would pose a specific, documentable concern about the infliction of serious bodily injury or other serious harm upon another person while in school, the principal shall not suspend or exclude a student until alternatives have been employed and their use and results documented. Alternatives may include but shall not be limited to the use of evidence-based strategies and programs such as mediation, conflict resolution, restorative justice, and collaborative problem-solving.

The superintendent and/or principal shall also implement district/school-wide models to re-engage students in the learning process which shall include but not be limited to positive behavioral interventions and support models, and trauma sensitive learning models.

Notice of Suspension

Except for emergency removal or an in-school suspension of less than 10 days, a Principal must provide the student and the parent/guardian oral and written notice, and provide the student an opportunity for a hearing and the parent/guardian an opportunity to participate in such hearing before imposing suspension as a consequence for misconduct. The Principal shall provide both oral and written notice to student and parent/guardian in English and in the primary language of the home if other than English. The notice shall include the rights enumerated in law and regulation. To conduct a hearing without a parent/guardian present, the Principal must be able to document reasonable efforts to include the parent/guardian.

The principal or a designee shall notify the superintendent in writing, including by electronic means, of any out-of-school suspension imposed on a student enrolled in kindergarten through grade 3 prior to such suspension taking effect. That notification shall describe the student's alleged misconduct and the reasons for suspending the student out-of-school. For the purposes of this section, the term "out-of-school suspension" shall mean a disciplinary action imposed by school officials to remove a student from participation in school activities for 1 day or more.

For any suspension or exclusion under this section, the principal or designee of a school in which the student is enrolled, shall provide to the student and parent/guardian, notice of the charges and the reason for the suspension or exclusion in English and in the primary language spoken in the home of the student. The student shall receive the written notification and shall have the opportunity to meet with the principal, or a designee, to discuss the

charges and reasons for the suspension or exclusion prior to the suspension or exclusion taking effect. The principal, or a designee, shall ensure that the parent or guardian of the student is included in the meeting, provided that such meeting may take place without the parent or guardian only if the principal, or a designee, can document reasonable efforts to include the parent or guardian in that meeting.

Emergency Removal

A Principal may remove a student from school temporarily when a student is charged with a disciplinary offense and the continued presence of the student poses a danger to persons or property, or materially and substantially disrupts the order of the school, and, in the Principal's judgment, there is no alternative available to alleviate the danger or disruption. The Principal shall immediately notify the Superintendent in writing of the removal including a description of the danger presented by the student.

The temporary removal shall not exceed two (2) school days following the day of the emergency removal, during which time the Principal shall:

1. Make immediate and reasonable efforts to orally notify the student and the student's parent/guardian of the emergency removal, the reason for the need for emergency removal, and the other matters required in the notice as referenced in the applicable regulation;
2. Provide written notice to the student and parent/guardian as required above. The notice shall include the rights enumerated in law and regulation;
3. Provide the student an opportunity for a hearing with the Principal that complies with applicable regulations, and the parent/guardian an opportunity to attend the hearing, before the expiration of the two (2) school days, unless an extension of time for hearing is otherwise agreed to by the Principal, student, and parent/guardian;
4. Render a decision orally on the same day as the hearing, and in writing no later than the following school day, which meets the requirements of applicable law and regulation.

A Principal shall also ensure adequate provisions have been made for the student's safety and transportation prior to removal.

In School Suspension- Not more than 10 days consecutively or cumulatively

In-school suspension is a disciplinary action that the Rochester School District utilizes as an alternative to short-term suspension and to restore acceptable student behavior. Situations and/or circumstances related to Student Discipline may result in the disciplinary action that includes in-school suspension. When applicable, restorative practices are utilized. Procedures have been developed to ensure that parent(s)/guardian(s) and students have due process afforded to them through a discipline hearing:

- It is the responsibility of the Principal to immediately notify the student of the disciplinary charge and to provide the opportunity to the student to dispute the allegations and to explain any circumstances prior to the decision to suspend in-house. If the Principal determines that the student did commit the disciplinary action, the student's in-house suspension must not exceed ten days cumulatively or consecutively in a school year. The student must be notified of the length of in-house suspension.
- The Principal must orally notify the parent(s) and/or guardian(s) of the disciplinary action, consequence, duration and reasons for concluding such consequence. Furthermore, the Principal should notify (at least two attempts) the parent(s) and/or guardian(s) of their right to meet and discuss the student's academic performance and behavior and ways to prevent further discipline, as soon as possible.
- The Principal will notify in writing, a notice of in-house suspension and offer a meeting to discuss the event and decision on the day of the suspension or as soon as possible.
- Educational services will be provided throughout the duration of any in-house suspension to ensure that a student can make academic progress, compared to all other students.

Principal's Hearing - Short Term Suspension of up to 10 days

The hearing with the Principal shall be to hear and consider information regarding the alleged incident for which the student may be suspended, provide the student an opportunity to dispute the charges and explain the circumstances surrounding the alleged incident, determine if the student committed the disciplinary offense, and if so, the consequences for the infraction.

At a minimum, the Principal shall discuss the disciplinary offense, the basis for the charge, and any other pertinent information.

The student also shall have an opportunity to present information, including mitigating facts, that the Principal should consider in determining whether other remedies and consequences may be appropriate as set forth in law and regulation.

The Principal shall provide the parent/guardian, if present, an opportunity to discuss the student's conduct and offer information, including mitigating circumstances, that the Principal should consider in determining consequences for the student.

The Principal shall, based on the available information, including mitigating circumstances, determine whether the student committed the disciplinary offense, and, if so, what remedy or consequence will be imposed.

The Principal shall notify the student and parent/guardian of the determination and the reasons for it, and, if the student is suspended, the type and duration of suspension and the opportunity to make up assignments and such other school work as needed to make academic progress during the period of removal, as required by law and regulation. The determination shall be in writing and may be in the form of an update to the original written notice.

If the student is in a public preschool program or in grades K through 3, the Principal shall send a copy of the written determination to the Superintendent and explain the reasons for imposing an out-of-school suspension, before the short-term suspension takes effect.

Principal's Hearing - Long Term Suspension of more than 10 days but less than 90 days (consecutive or cumulative)

The hearing with the Principal shall be to hear and consider information regarding the alleged incident for which the student may be suspended, provide the student an opportunity to dispute the charges and explain the circumstances surrounding the alleged incident, determine if the student committed the disciplinary offense, and if so, the consequences for the infraction.

At a minimum, in addition to the rights afforded a student in a short-term suspension hearing, the student shall have the following rights: In advance of the hearing, the opportunity to review the student's record and the documents upon which the Principal may rely in making a determination to suspend the student or not; The right to be represented by counsel or a lay person of the student's choice, at the student's/parent's/guardian's expense; The right to produce witnesses on his or her behalf and to present the student's explanation of the alleged incident, but the student may not be compelled to do so; The right to cross-examine witnesses presented by the school district; The right to request that the hearing be recorded by the Principal, and to receive a copy of the audio recording upon request. If the student or parent/guardian requests an audio recording, the Principal shall inform all participants before the hearing that an audio record will be made and a copy will be provided to the student and parent/guardian upon request.

The Principal shall provide the parent/guardian, if present, an opportunity to discuss the student's conduct and offer information, including mitigating circumstances, that the Principal should consider in determining consequences for the student.

The Principal shall, based on the evidence, determine whether the student committed the disciplinary offense, and, if so, after considering mitigating circumstances and alternatives to suspension as required by law and regulation, what remedy or consequence will be imposed, in place of or in addition to a long-term suspension. The Principal shall send the written determination to the student and parent/guardian by hand-delivery, certified mail, first-class

mail, email to an address provided by the parent/guardian for school communications, or any other method of delivery agreed to by the Principal and the parent/guardian.

If the Principal decides to suspend the student, the written determination shall: Identify the disciplinary offense, the date on which the hearing took place, and the participants at the hearing; Set out the key facts and conclusions reached by the Principal; Identify the length and effective date of the suspension, as well as a date of return to school; Include notice of the student's opportunity to receive education services to make academic progress during the period of removal from school as required by law and regulation; Inform the student of the right to appeal the Principal's decision to the Superintendent or designee, but only if the Principal has imposed a long-term suspension. Notice of the right of appeal shall be in English and the primary language of the home if other than English, or other means of communication where appropriate, and shall include the following information: The process for appealing the decision, including that the student or parent/guardian must file a written notice of appeal with the Superintendent within five (5) calendar days of the effective date of the long-term suspension; provided that within the five (5) calendar days, the student or parent/guardian may request and receive from the Superintendent an extension of time for filing the written notice for up to seven (7) additional calendar days; and that the long-term suspension will remain in effect unless and until the Superintendent decides to reverse the Principal's determination on appeal.

If the student is in a public preschool program or in grades K through 3, the Principal shall send a copy of the written determination to the Superintendent and explain the reasons for imposing an out-of-school suspension before the suspension takes effect.

Superintendent's Hearing

A student who is placed on long-term suspension following a hearing with the Principal shall have the right to appeal the Principal's decision to the Superintendent.

The student or parent/guardian shall file a notice of appeal with the Superintendent within the time period noted above (see Principal's hearing - Suspension of more than 10 days). If the appeal is not timely filed, the Superintendent may deny the appeal, or may allow the appeal in his or her discretion, for good cause.

The Superintendent shall hold the hearing within three (3) school days of the student's request, unless the student or parent/guardian requests an extension of up to seven (7) additional calendar days, in which case the Superintendent shall grant the extension.

The Superintendent shall make a good faith effort to include the parent/guardian in the hearing. The Superintendent shall be presumed to have made a good faith effort if he or she has made efforts to find a day and time for the hearing that would allow the parent/guardian

and Superintendent to participate. The Superintendent shall send written notice to the parent/guardian of the date, time, and location of the hearing.

The Superintendent shall conduct a hearing to determine whether the student committed the disciplinary offense of which the student is accused, and if so, what the consequence shall be. The Superintendent shall arrange for an audio recording of the hearing, a copy of which shall be provided to the student or parent/guardian upon request. The Superintendent shall inform all participants before the hearing that an audio record will be made of the hearing and a copy will be provided to the student and parent/guardian upon request. The student shall have all the rights afforded the student at the Principal's hearing for long-term suspension.

The Superintendent shall issue a written decision within five (5) calendar days of the hearing which meets the requirements of law and regulation. If the Superintendent determines that the student committed the disciplinary offense, the Superintendent may impose the same or a lesser consequence than the Principal, but shall not impose a suspension greater than that imposed by the Principal's decision. The decision of the Superintendent shall be the final decision of the school district with regard to the suspension.

Expulsion

Expulsion is defined as the removal of a student from school for more than ninety (90) school days, indefinitely, or permanently as allowed by law for possession of a dangerous weapon; possession of a controlled substance; assault on a member of the educational staff; or a felony charge or felony delinquency complaint or conviction, or adjudication or admission of guilt with respect to such felony, if a Principal determines that the student's continued presence in school would have a substantial detrimental effect on the general welfare of the school.

Any student expelled from school for such an offense shall be afforded an opportunity to receive educational services and make academic progress.

Academic Progress

Any student who is suspended or expelled shall have the opportunity to earn credits, make up assignments, tests, papers, and other schoolwork as needed to make academic progress during the period of his or her removal from the classroom or school. The Principal shall inform the student and parent/guardian of this opportunity in writing, in English and in the primary language of the home, when such suspension or expulsion is imposed.

Any student who is expelled or suspended from school for more than ten (10) consecutive days, whether in school or out of school, shall have an opportunity to receive education

services and make academic progress toward meeting state and local requirements, through the school-wide education service plan.

The Principal shall develop a school-wide education service plan describing the education services that the school district will make available to students who are expelled or suspended from school for more than ten (10) consecutive days. The plan shall include the process for notifying such students and their parents/guardians of the services and arranging such services. Education services shall be based on, and be provided in a manner consistent with, the academic standards and curriculum frameworks established for all students under the law.

The Principal shall notify the parent/guardian and student of the opportunity to receive education services at the time the student is expelled or placed on long-term suspension. Notice shall be provided in English and in the primary language spoken in the student's home if other than English, or other means of communication where appropriate. The notice shall include a list of the specific education services that are available to the student and contact information for a school district staff member who can provide more detailed information.

For each student expelled or suspended from school for more than ten (10) consecutive days, whether in-school or out-of-school, the school district shall document the student's enrollment in education services. For data reporting purposes, the school shall track and report attendance, academic progress, and such other data as directed by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Reporting

The school district shall collect and annually report data to the DESE regarding in-school suspensions, short- and long-term suspensions, expulsions, emergency removals, access to education services, and such other information as may be required by the DESE.

The Principal of each school shall periodically review discipline data by selected student populations, including but not limited to race and ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, English language learner status, and student with a disability status in accordance with law and regulation.

Special Offenses

Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 71, Section 37H

G.L. Chapter 71, §37H

Offenses:

On school premises or at school-sponsored events or activities:

- Possession of a dangerous weapon
- Possession of a controlled substance

- Assault on a member of the educational staff

Consequence:

- Exclusion for amount of time up to expulsion;
- Principal may suspend and not expel as he or she deems appropriate

Due Process:

- Constitutional due process;
- Prior notice to student of charge and written notice of right to hearing;
- Right to representation at hearing; and to present evidence and witnesses at hearing.

Appeal from Principal's Decision:

- Right to appeal expulsion decision to superintendent
- Timeline for requesting appeal: ten days from date of expulsion
- Right to counsel at hearing
- Superintendent can make factual determinations as well as determine consequence.

Provision of Education Services:

Provide every student an opportunity to make academic progress during the period of suspension (whether in-school or out-of-school) or expulsion, to makeup assignments, and earn credits missed. A district that suspends or expels a student for more than 10 consecutive days must provide the student and the parent with a list of alternative educational services.

See G.L. c. 76, §21 and 603 CMR 53.13 for details, including required notice.

Discipline Collection and Reporting:

- Collect and report to the Department data concerning the types and lengths of removals, suspensions, and expulsions, and access to education services
- Periodically review discipline data by selected student populations; determine
- extent of disciplinary removals and the impact on such populations; adjust practice as appropriate
- The Department will provide assistance to school(s) if the Commissioner identifies school(s) in districts that have the highest percentage of suspensions or expulsions in Massachusetts for more than 10 cumulative days in a school year.

See 603 CMR 53.14 for details.

G.L. Chapter 71, §37H ½**Offenses:**

1. A felony charge or felony delinquency complaint against a student.
2. Conviction, adjudication, or admission of guilt with respect to such felony.

Consequence:

1. Felony charge or felony delinquency complaint: suspension for a period of time deemed appropriate by principal if the principal determines the student's continued presence would have a substantial detriment on the general welfare of the school.
2. Felony or felony delinquency conviction or adjudication or admission of guilt with respect to such felony: removal for a period of time up to expulsion (i.e. permanent exclusion) if the principal determines that the student's continued presence would have a substantial detriment on the general welfare of the school.

Due Process (for either suspension or expulsion):

- Constitutional due process;
- Written notice of the charges and of the reasons before the suspension takes effect;
- Principal may determine the appropriate amount of time for suspension;
- Written notice of the right to appeal to the superintendent;
- Suspension remains in effect pending appeal to the superintendent.

Appeal from Principal's Decision to Suspend or to Expel:

- Timeline for requesting appeal: no later than 5 calendar days following the effective date of the suspension/expulsion
- The superintendent must hold a hearing within 3 calendar days of receipt of request and issue a decision within 5 calendar days.
- The superintendent may overturn or alter the decision.

A student may appeal a suspension decision and the subsequent expulsion decision (following the conviction, adjudication or admission of guilt) regarding the same offense.

Provision of Education Services: Same as above

Discipline Collection and Reporting: Same as above

G.L. Chapter 71, §37H ¾

Offenses: Any offense that is not addressed in 37H or 37H ½.

Consequence:

- May not suspend a student from school long-term (i.e. more than 10 days) until other remedies and consequences have been considered; consider ways to re-engage the student in learning.
- Consequences other than suspension may draw from evidence- based strategies and programs such as mediation, conflict resolution, restorative justice, and behavioral interventions and supports.
- No student may be suspended for more than 90 school days in a school year.

Due Process:

- Except for in-school suspension and emergency removals, prior oral and written notice of the charge to the student, and to the student's parent, and the opportunity for a meeting/hearing with the principal before suspension takes effect.
- Consult 603 CMR 53:08 for details on notices.
- Consult 603 CMR 53:07 for emergency removal process and 603 CMR 53:10 for in-school suspension process
- Explicit requirement to translate notice of the charges and the reasons in primary language of the home if other than English, or other means of communication where appropriate.
- Principal must make and document reasonable efforts to include the parent in meeting/hearing with the student.
- Principal must audiotape the hearing if requested by the parent and all those attending the hearing must be informed of the taping.
- Following hearing, principal must provide a written decision; and if a long-term suspension imposed, must inform student and parent in writing of the right to appeal to the superintendent and the process to be followed; translate notice of appeal rights in primary language of the home, or other means of communication where appropriate.
- Before any out-of-school suspension of a student in preschool or grades K – 3, the principal must notify the superintendent in writing of the alleged misconduct and the reasons for suspending the student out-of-school.

Appeal from Principal's Decision:

- Timeline for requesting appeal: written request not later than 5 calendar days following effective date of suspension; parent can request extension for up to 7 calendar days, which must be granted.
- The superintendent must hold a hearing within 3 calendar days of the parent's request for a hearing. The student or parent may request up to 7 additional calendar days. If

so, the superintendent must allow the extension. The superintendent may have the hearing without the parent if the superintendent has made a good faith effort to include the parent.

- The student has the right to present oral and written testimony, to cross examine witnesses, and to counsel at his or her expense at the hearing.
- The superintendent must audiotape the hearing and notify hearing participants that the hearing will be taped.
- The superintendent determines the facts and consequences, if any, but cannot impose a consequence greater than the principal decided. A written decision is due within 5 calendar days of the hearing.

Provision of Education Services: Same as above

Discipline Collection and Reporting: Same as above

Discrimination

The Rochester School District adheres to the following Anti-Racism Resolution:

WHEREAS, as schools have the responsibility to equip students with their civil right of obtaining a free and appropriate public education, it is the responsibility of each school to ensure we create a welcoming community for ALL students.

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility that every district provides to all district staff, including:

School Committee members annual professional development on diversity, anti-racism, equity and inclusion; WHEREAS, every district will commit to recruiting and retaining a diverse and culturally responsive teaching workforce.

WHEREAS, every district will examine their policies for institutional and systemic racialized practices and implement change with sustainable policies that are evidence based.

WHEREAS, every district will incorporate into their curriculum the history of racial oppression and works by diverse authors and works from diverse perspectives.

WHEREAS, we as school district leaders can no longer remain silent to the issues of racism and hate that continue to impact our public and private institutions.

RESOLVED: that the Rochester School District and all the school districts in the Commonwealth must guarantee that racist practices are eradicated, and diversity, equity and inclusion is embedded and practiced for our students, families, faculty and staff. We

must ensure our own school culture and that every district in the Commonwealth is actively anti-racist.

Treating people differently, or interfering with or preventing a person from enjoying the advantages, privileges or courses of study in a public school because of an individual's actual or perceived race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, or disability (i.e., protected status). A person may not be subjected to discipline or more severe punishment for wrongdoing, nor denied the same rights as other students, because of their membership in a protected class.

The Rochester School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, homelessness or disability in admission to, access to, treatment in or employment in its programs and activities.

Bullying Prevention

The Old Rochester/MA School Superintendency Union #55 School Districts are committed to providing a safe, positive and productive educational environment where students can achieve the highest academic standards. No student shall be subjected to harassment, intimidation, bullying, or cyberbullying.

"Bullying" is the repeated use by one or more students or school staff members of a written, verbal, or electronic expression, or a physical act or gesture, or any combination thereof, directed at a target that:

- causes physical or emotional harm to the target or damage to the target's property;
- places the target in reasonable fear of harm to themselves, or of damage to their property;
- creates a hostile environment at school for the target;
- infringes on the rights of the target at school; or
- materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school.

"Cyber-bullying" means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data or intelligence of any nature.

Cyber-bullying shall also include the creation of an electronic medium in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or knowingly impersonates another person as author of posted content or messages, if the creation or impersonation creates any of the conditions enumerated in the definition of bullying.

Cyber-bullying shall also include the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be

accessed by one or more persons, if the distribution or posting creates any of the conditions enumerated in the definition of bullying.

Bullying and cyber-bullying may occur in and out of school, during and after school hours, at home and in locations outside of the home. When bullying and cyber-bullying are alleged, the full cooperation and assistance of parents and families are expected.

For the purpose of this policy, whenever the term bullying is used it is to denote either bullying, or cyber-bullying.

Bullying is prohibited:

- On school grounds;
- On property immediately adjacent to school grounds;
- At school-sponsored or school-related activities;
- At functions or programs whether on or off school grounds
- At school bus stops;
- On school buses or other vehicles owned, leased or used by the school district; or,
- Through the use of technology or an electronic device owned, leased or used by the schools;

Bullying and cyber-bullying are prohibited at a location, activity, function or program that is not school-related or through the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased or used by the school district if the act or acts in question:

- create a hostile environment at school for the target;
- infringe on the rights of the target at school; and/or
- materially and substantially disrupt the education process or the orderly operation of a school.

Prevention and Intervention Plan

The Superintendent and/or their designee shall oversee the development of a prevention and intervention plan, in consultation with all district stakeholders, which may include teachers, school staff, professional support personnel, school volunteers, administrators, community representatives, local law enforcement agencies, students, parents and guardians, consistent with the requirements of this policy, as well as state and federal laws. The bullying prevention and intervention plan shall be reviewed and updated at least biennially.

The Principal is responsible for the implementation and oversight of the bullying prevention and implementation plan within their school.

Reporting

Students, who believe that they are a target of bullying, observe an act of bullying, or who have reasonable grounds to believe that these behaviors are taking place, are obligated to report incidents to a member of the school staff. The target shall, however, not be subject to discipline for failing to report bullying.

Each school shall have a means for anonymous reporting by students of incidents of bullying. No formal disciplinary action shall be taken solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

Any student who knowingly makes a false accusation of bullying shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Parents or guardians, or members of the community, are encouraged to report an incident of bullying as soon as possible.

A member of a school staff shall immediately report any instance of bullying the staff member has witnessed or become aware of to the school Principal or their designee.

Investigation Procedures

The Principal or their designee, upon receipt of a viable report, shall promptly contact the parents or guardians of a student who has been the alleged target or alleged perpetrator of bullying. The actions being taken to prevent further acts of bullying shall be discussed.

The school Principal or a designee shall promptly investigate the report of bullying, using a Bullying/Cyber-bullying Report Form which may include interviewing the alleged target, alleged perpetrator, staff members, students and/or witnesses.

Support staff shall assess an alleged target's needs for protection and create and implement a safety plan that shall restore a sense of safety for that student.

Confidentiality shall be used to protect a person who reports bullying, provides information during an investigation of bullying, or is witness to or has reliable information about an act of bullying.

If the school Principal or a designee determines that bullying has occurred they shall take appropriate disciplinary action and if it is believed that criminal charges may be pursued against the perpetrator, the Principal shall consult with the school's resource officer and the Superintendent to determine if criminal charges are warranted. If it is determined that criminal charges are warranted, the local law enforcement agency shall be notified.

The investigation shall be completed within fourteen school days from the date of the report. The parents or guardians shall be contacted upon completion of the investigation and informed of the results, including whether the allegations were found to be factual, whether a violation of this policy was found, and whether disciplinary action has or shall be taken. At a minimum the Principal or their designee shall contact the parents or guardians as to the status of the investigation on a weekly basis.

Disciplinary actions for students who have committed an act of bullying or retaliation shall be in accordance with district disciplinary policies.

Each school shall document any incident of bullying that is reported per this policy and a file shall be maintained by the Principal or designee. A monthly report shall be provided to the Superintendent.

Confidentiality shall be maintained to the extent consistent with the school's obligations under law.

Retaliation

Retaliation against a person who reports bullying, provides information during an investigation of bullying, or witnesses or has reliable information about bullying, shall be prohibited.

Target Assistance

The Schools shall provide counseling or referral to appropriate services, including guidance, academic intervention, and protection to students, both targets and perpetrators, affected by bullying, as necessary.

Training and Assessment

Annual training shall be provided for school employees and volunteers who have significant contact with students in preventing, identifying, responding to, and reporting incidents of bullying.

Age-appropriate, evidence-based instruction on bullying prevention shall be incorporated into the curriculum for all K to 12 students.

Publication and Notice

Annual written notice of the relevant sections of the bullying prevention and intervention plan shall be provided to students and their parents or guardians, in age-appropriate terms.

Annual written notice of the bullying prevention and intervention plan shall be provided to all school staff. The faculty and staff at each school shall be trained annually on the bullying prevention and intervention plan applicable to the school.

Relevant sections of the bullying prevention and intervention plan relating to the duties of faculty and staff shall be included in the school employee handbook.

The bullying prevention and intervention plan shall be posted on the Schools website.

LEGAL REFS.: Title VII, Section 703, Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended

Federal Regulation 74676 issued by EEO Commission

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

603 CMR 26.00

M.G.L. 71:37Q; 265:43, 43A; 268:13B; 269:14A

REFERENCES: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Model Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan

CROSS REFS.: AC, Nondiscrimination

ACAB, Sexual Harassment

JIC, Student Discipline
JICFA, Prohibition of Hazing
JK, Student Discipline Regulations
SOURCE: MASC Updated 2023

Approved by the Joint School Committee on September 28, 2023.

School Contacts:

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heidiletendre@oldrochester.org
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charleswest@oldrochester.org
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sharoncruz@oldrochester.org
Jamie Pacheco, School Social Worker ext.1116
jamiepacheco@oldrochester.org

Harassment

Harassment is oral, written, graphic, electronic or physical conduct on school property or at a school related event, function or activity relating to an individual's action or perceived race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, or disability (i.e., protected status), that is sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent so as to interfere with or limit a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the district's programs or activities, by creating a hostile, humiliating, intimidating, or offensive educational environment. For purposes of this policy, harassment shall also mean conduct, if it persists, that will likely create such a hostile, humiliating, intimidating or offensive educational environment.

Retaliation

Any form of intimidation, reprisal, or harassment by a student directed against any student, staff or other individual for reporting or filing a complaint, for aiding or encouraging the filing of a report or complaint, for cooperating in an investigation under the district's Comprehensive Civil Rights Policy, or for taking action consistent with the policy.

Hate Crime

A hate crime is a crime motivated by hatred, bias, or prejudice, or where the victim is targeted or selected for the crime at least in part because of their actual or perceived race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, age, disability or sex. A hate crime may involve a physical attack, threat of bodily harm, physical intimidation, or damage to another's property.

Sexual Harassment

We are committed to providing an educational environment that is free of sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in any form at any level of the school system. Any student or employee found to have condoned or engaged in sexual harassment may, depending upon the extent of the student's participation, be subject to disciplinary sanctions, up to and including suspension, in or out of school, or permanent exclusion from school in the case of a student, and up to and including termination of employment, in the case of an employee.

If a student or employee believes that they have been subjected to sexual harassment, whether by a student, a school employee, or any other person who comes on school property with permission, or that they have witnessed the sexual harassment of another, the student or employee should report the incident promptly to the Principal, the Assistant Principal, the Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendent, or any other administrator with whom the student or employee feels comfortable. A complaint of sexual harassment by a student, or by a parent on the student's behalf, may also be made to any counselor or teacher. A counselor or teacher who receives such a complaint will notify the appropriate administrator to initiate an investigation.

It is the policy of the school committee to have all complaints of sexual harassment promptly and fully investigated and to take any steps necessary to remedy the situation. Normally, the Principal/Assistant Principal will conduct the investigation of a complaint of sexual harassment or a designee selected by the Principal and will include separate private interviews with the complainant, each person accused of harassment and each of the witnesses, if any. The administrator conducting the investigation will ordinarily document the interview, but those interviewed may also be asked to provide a written statement. All students and employees are expected to cooperate fully with any investigation of sexual harassment. Information provided during an investigation of sexual harassment will be accurate and may be informed of the identity of the complainant or witnesses, but, in those circumstances, the accused will be cautioned against reprisals or recriminations or any attempted intimidation or coercion of the complainant or witnesses. At the conclusion of the investigation, the administrator will prepare a report, which will be shared with both the complainant and the person or persons accused of harassment. If the complainant or the accused is dissatisfied with the results of the investigation, either may discuss the issue directly with the superintendent.

Conflict of Interest Law and Gifts for Teachers

The Commonwealth's conflict of interest law, G.L. c. 268A, and the financial disclosure law, G.L.c.268B, restrict gifts and gratuities that school staff may receive. All teachers and school volunteers must be made aware of the content of these laws, specifically sections 3 and 23 of 268A, and section 6 of 268B. Section 3(b) prohibits a public employee from requesting or receiving anything of 'substantial value'* which is given for or because of an official act or act within the public employee's official responsibility. Similarly, under section 3(a), no one may give or offer such gifts to public employees.

In addition, G.L.c. 268B, section 6, specifically prohibits public employees or members of their immediate families from soliciting or accepting gifts with an aggregate value of \$100.00 or more in a calendar year. Next, under G.L.c. 268A, section 23(b)(2), public (school) employees are prohibited from using or attempting to use their position to obtain for themselves or others unwarranted privileges of substantial value that are not properly available to similarly situated individuals. Finally, even if a gift or gratuity is not of substantial value or does not fall within the prohibitions discussed above, G.L.c. 268A, section 23(b)(3) will, in many situations, require public (school) employees to disclose to their appointing authority, the gift and their relationship with the giver.

All school volunteers are required to be aware of the state's general laws and language surrounding gifts.

****Anything worth \$50.00 or more is considered to be "of substantial value" for the purposes of the conflict of interest law.***

The full content of the State Ethics Commission law is available from the school office or online at <http://www.mass.gov>.

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT **MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENCY UNION #55**

135 Marion Road, Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Tel. (508) 758 -2772 FAX (508) 758-2802

www.oldrochester.org

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Old Rochester Regional School District and the Massachusetts School Superintendency Union No. 55, Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester, Massachusetts are committed to equal employment and educational opportunity for all members of the school community. Students and employees are protected from discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender identity, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, pregnancy, homelessness, or disability in admission to, access to, treatment in or employment in its programs and activities.

The schools are also committed to maintaining a school and work environment that is free of harassment based on race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, pregnancy, homelessness, and disability. Harassment includes physical or verbal conduct that is derogatory; this may include jokes, gestures, unsolicited remarks, or other behavior that creates an intimidating or offensive working or learning environment.

A student or employee who has a concern about discrimination or harassment should inform the Principal or the Superintendent of Schools, who will take appropriate steps to attempt to resolve the situation, such as discussion with involved persons, identifying and questioning of witnesses, and other appropriate steps. In most cases, a resolution will be achieved. However, if it is determined that a hearing is warranted, a hearing will be held before the Superintendent of Schools or a person that they may designate.

The goals of the above grievance procedures are to resolve complaints in a fair and timely manner and to ensure compliance with nondiscriminatory practices. Additionally, reprisals or retaliation against any individual who reports on, or files a discrimination or harassment complaint is strictly prohibited.

If you wish to discuss your rights, would like further information, or want to obtain help in filing a complaint, you may contact the Superintendent of Schools. The telephone number is (508) 758-2772 x1956. Any person having inquiries concerning the School District's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, ADA, or Chapter 622 is directed to contact the superintendent of schools, who has been designated by the School District to coordinate the District's efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, ADA, and Chapter 622, or write to:

Office for Civil Rights
John W. McCormack Post Office and Courthouse
Room 222
Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02109

**OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENCY UNION #55
Marion – Mattapoisett – Rochester, Massachusetts**

August 1, 2024

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;

3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.



US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202

S358A251370

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

1	RECIPIENT NAME Rochester 135 Marion Rd Mattapoisett, MA 02739	2	AWARD INFORMATION PR/AWARD NUMBER S358A251370 ACTION NUMBER 1 ACTION TYPE New AWARD TYPE Formula						
3	PROJECT STAFF RECIPIENT STATE DIRECTOR Michael Nelson (508) 758-2772 mikenelson@oldrochester.org EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTACT Eric L Schulz (202) 260-7349 eric.schulz@ed.gov EDUCATION PAYMENT HOTLINE G5 PAYEE HELPDESK 888-336-8930 obsseed@servicenowservices.com	4	PROJECT DESCRIPTION 84.358A Small, Rural School Achievement Program						
5	KEY PERSONNEL N/A								
6	AWARD PERIODS BUDGET PERIOD 07/01/2025 - 09/30/2026 FEDERAL FUNDING PERIOD 07/01/2025 - 09/30/2026 FUTURE BUDGET PERIODS N/A								
7	AUTHORIZED FUNDING CURRENT AWARD AMOUNT \$55,317.00 PREVIOUS CUMULATIVE AMOUNT \$0.00 CUMULATIVE AMOUNT \$55,317.00								
8	ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION UEI SGP6MML1MM85 REGULATIONS CFR PART 76 EDGAR AS APPLICABLE 2 CFR AS APPLICABLE ATTACHMENTS F072025A , s								
9	LEGISLATIVE AND FISCAL DATA AUTHORITY: PL 107-110 X ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF 1965, AS AMENDED 2001 PROGRAM TITLE: RURAL EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM CFDA/SUBPROGRAM NO: 84.358A FUND FUNDING AWARD ORG. CODE CATEGORY LIMITATION ACTIVITY CFDA OBJECT AMOUNT CODE YEAR YEAR 1000M 2025 2025 ES000000 B QJ5 000 358 4101A \$55,317.00								



Superintendent's Newsletter

August 2025

Message of the Month

Dear School Community,

We are thrilled to welcome our students and families back to school on August 27th!

Besides enjoying the sunshine this summer - our team has been busy preparing our schools for the 2025-2026 school year.

The school buildings look great and the classrooms are ready!



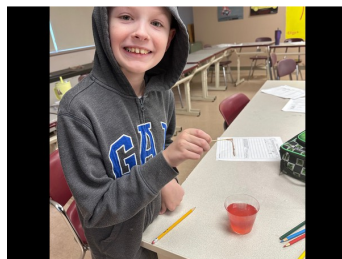
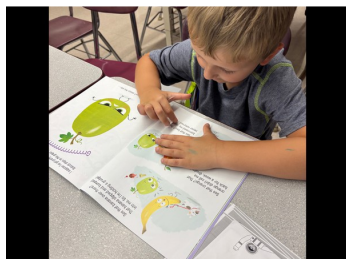
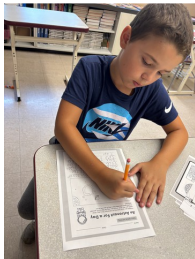
A new school year brings with it opportunities for our students to set new academic goals, develop new friendships, and experience new adventures. I know that this school year will be filled with student successes and accomplishments.

Our students are fortunate to attend school in communities that value education and student development.

I hope the information in this month's Superintendent's Newsletter is helpful as we start a new year of learning together.

With all respect,

Summer Adventures in Learning (SAIL)



Office of Teaching and Learning

From Dr. Fedorowicz
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

Welcome Back to a New School Year!

We're excited to begin another year of learning and growth together. Our educators and staff play such an important role in inspiring curiosity, building confidence, and supporting every child's success. We're grateful for their dedication—and for the partnership we share with families to help students thrive. Here's to a wonderful year ahead!

Constitution Day – September 17, 2025

On September 17, we celebrate Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, marking the signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787. This day reminds us of the importance of understanding our government and the rights and responsibilities of being a citizen.

Students will have opportunities to explore the Constitution through lessons, discussions, and activities that make learning about our nation's founding principles engaging and meaningful. Families can join in by reading the Preamble together, talking about the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, or exploring online resources like [U.S. Courts Constitution Day](#) and [iCivics](#).

It's a wonderful chance to spark conversations about government, history, and what it means to be an active, informed citizen.

New Teacher Induction – Thursday, August 21

On Thursday, August 21, our new teachers came together for New Teacher Induction, a day filled with learning about curriculum, instruction, assessment, technology, and student services. Later in the day, mentors and administrators joined them in their buildings to provide hands-on support and guidance as they prepared for the school year. We're excited to welcome our new teachers and support them as they begin their journey with us!

International Literacy Day – September 8

On September 8, we celebrate International Literacy Day, a United Nations observance that highlights the importance of reading and writing. Around the world, millions of adults and children still face challenges with literacy, making this day a reminder of why education matters. You can join in by reading a new book, writing a story or poem, or exploring other ways to strengthen literacy skills. Even small actions help build stronger learners and communities!

Exciting News: Piloting the OpenArchitect Data Dashboard

This year, we're piloting the OpenArchitect Data Dashboard, a new tool designed to help teachers access important student information all in one place. Over the spring, teachers had the chance to share their thoughts through a survey, helping us create a dashboard that really meets the needs of our schools.

The dashboard includes a wide range of student data, such as MCAS results, DIBELS assessments, AP scores, SAT performance, and more. By having this information at their fingertips, teachers can better understand student progress, spot trends, and make decisions that support every learner. We're excited about the ways this tool will make it easier for teachers and administrators to support students and help every child succeed.

New Elementary Math Program – enVision Math

This school year, we are excited to fully implement the enVision Math program for all K–6 students! Teachers will receive ongoing support throughout the year from Looney Math Consultants, a DESE-approved professional development provider.

We want to thank our Elementary Math Committee and all the dedicated K–6 teachers who spent months reviewing and piloting programs to find the best fit for our students. Their hard work ensures that students across all three towns receive clear, consistent instruction that prepares them for success in grade 7 and beyond.

A special thank you also goes to our towns and community members for supporting our schools and this new math program. Your investment helps provide high-quality education and opportunities for every student to thrive.

Curriculum Highlights for 2025–2026

This year, students will continue to engage with OpenSciEd for science, Investigating History and Melrose Units for elementary social studies, and IntoReading for elementary ELA. We are also excited to be fully implementing Amplify Desmos math at the Junior High. One of our next projects is exploring writing instruction at the elementary level to strengthen student skills. In addition, we have a draft of our Portrait of a Graduate and will be gathering staff input throughout the year to ensure it reflects the skills and qualities we want for our students. All of these efforts are aligned with our Strategic Plan 2028 to support consistent learning across classrooms.



Office of Student Services

From Dr. Curley

Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

Welcome Back!

I hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer. It's hard to believe that we're already halfway through August! September is just around the corner, and with it comes the excitement of a new school year. I hope your children are looking forward to the year ahead as much as our teachers are eager to welcome them back! We are excited to begin a new school year and look forward to partnering with you to support your child's growth and success.

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) launched an update to the [Special Education webpages](#) during the summer. This update has been carefully designed with families in mind, reflecting DESE's strong commitment to accessibility, equity, and user-centered design. You will find:

- Family-friendly navigation to help you quickly locate topics like the IEP process, student rights, and available services
- Clearer pathways to information about your rights, options, and ways to be an active partner in your child's education

Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)

The mission of the Marion, Mattapoisett, Rochester and Old Rochester Regional Special Education Parent Advisory Council (ORR SEPAC) is to work for understanding of, respect for and support of all children with special needs in our community. To that end, the ORR SEPAC will work to promote a network of parents of children with and without special needs, and provide a forum to share information and:

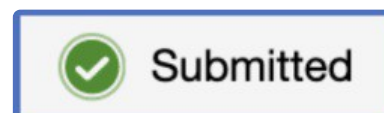
- Advise the Districts on development of special education programs;

- Promote communication and programs within the community to encourage understanding, acceptance and inclusion;
- Provide informational forums to families, educators, students and professionals.

If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact 508-758-2772, ext. 1942 to learn more!

PowerSchool Forms

Annual forms (in the General tab) are now available in PowerSchool for all families to complete for each student(s), including information for the nurse's office. The information in these forms is populated from information you have previously provided, so in most cases it's a quick review and update as needed. Please login to PowerSchool using your parent account and click on Forms in the left menu. The 'General' tab should open with the annual forms for you to review and update as needed.



- After reviewing and/or updating, *please be sure to **submit*** the form so we know everything is up-to-date!
- Forms are mobile friendly, but for the best experience, please utilize a computer.
- Annual forms are required by all families, even those that may have recently registered and completed enrollment forms.

[Click here to login to PowerSchool.](#)

If you have any questions, please contact your student's school.

Communication Plan

The Communication Plan will be utilized to ensure that all communications align with the District's strategic goals. The plan will be evaluated and updated as needed. Our goal is to effectively communicate with all stakeholders and create an environment of cooperation, collaboration and sense of community. [Click here to view our communication plan.](#)



ORRconnect Mobile App

This mobile app allows families to receive targeted, real-time updates right at their fingertips regarding school happenings. Families can filter content, calendars and settings unique to one building or all.

Search ORRconnect in the app store!



Early Literacy Screening Information

Please review the attached letter regarding Early Literacy Screening Information for elementary students in grades K-3.



Fall Intro Letter K-3.pdf

Download

252.1 KB

Bus Routes

[2025-2026 Bus Routes](#) are available on our website. Please allow for a 10 minute variance before and after the times indicated on this link for at least the first five (5) to seven (7) school days. This will ensure that our students will be at their bus stops at the time of pick up. [Click here to review safety tips.](#)



School Device Coverage

This school year parents and caregivers will have the option to secure an insurance policy through School Device Coverage (SDC) to protect their student's school issued Chromebook for \$26. The decision to enroll in the program is voluntary and at your discretion. To obtain coverage, please [apply online here](#).





Old Rochester - English Flyer SY25-26

Download

1.3 MB



Old Rochester - Spanish Flyer SY25-26

Download

1.3 MB

Food Service

All students will continue to receive 1 FREE Breakfast and 1 FREE Lunch per day, during the school year. Additional meals are available for a fee. Free and reduced applications are available [online here](#). Only one application is necessary per family. You will be notified via email or U.S. postal mail of your child's status. *This information may be shared, only with your consent, and used for other school benefits.* Lunch menus are available in the ORRconnect app, on the website in the Families & Students menu and on the [Food and Nutrition Services website](#).



Visiting Schools

All of our schools continue to use Raptor Technology for all visitors entering our buildings. All visitors and volunteers are required to have a valid driver's license or Massachusetts issued identification card to be scanned-in upon entering the building for any reason. CORI checks are required for any parent/guardian volunteers and are available in the main office of your student's school.



Student Insurance

Additional insurance is available for students. [Learn more here](#).



2025-2026 School Calendar

School Committee Happenings

Did you know that our districts are served by five regular school committees? Marion, Mattapoissett, Rochester and ORR all have a school committee established along with the Joint School Committee which is a combination of the main four committees. There are also subcommittees established for budget, policy, facilities, negotiations and more. [Click here for the complete schedule, meeting resources and minutes.](#)

Upcoming meetings (subject to change):

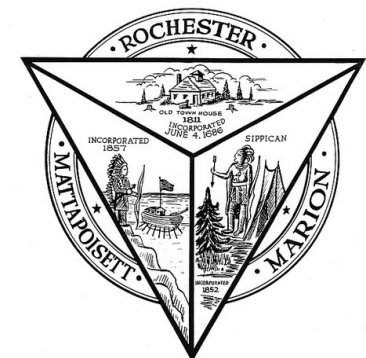
September 11th - Mattapoissett School Committee

September 18th - Marion School Committee

September 25th - Rochester School Committee

October 2nd - ORR School Committee

October 9th - Joint School Committee



Guidance for Parents with Uncertain Immigration Status

In recent months, we in the Attorney General's Office have heard that parents and guardians with uncertain immigration status are worried about who will care for their young children if they are arrested or detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). To help families plan, we have created a simple fact sheet and a detailed guidance document which lay out options that parents and guardians have in case of such an emergency: [Fact Sheet for Parents with Uncertain Immigration Status](#) and [Guide for Parents with Uncertain Immigration Status](#). We hope that by planning ahead, parents will have some peace of mind that their children will be cared for in case

of an emergency. For more information, go to [Resources for Immigrants in Massachusetts | Mass.gov](#).



English - Emergency Planning Fact Sheet for Parents

Download
336.2 KB



English - Emergency Planning Guide for Parents

Download
219.8 KB



Haitian Creole - Emergency Planning Fact Sheet for Parents

Download
529.0 KB



Haitian Creole - Emergency Planning Guide for Parents

Download
302.6 KB



Portuguese - Emergency Planning Fact Sheet for Parents

Download
400.3 KB



Portuguese - Emergency Planning Guide for Parents

Download
492.9 KB



Simplified Chinese-Emergency Planning Fact Sheet for Parents

Download
1.1 MB



Simplified Chinese - Emergency Planning Guide for Parents

Download
744.2 KB



Spanish - Emergency Planning Fact Sheet for Parents

Download

537.6 KB



Spanish - Emergency Planning Guide for Parents

Download

295.1 KB

[Click here to view all the news across our schools!](#)

ORRconnect on Facebook

ORRconnect is also on Facebook!

[Like us on Facebook](#) to stay up-to-date with school happenings.



You can follow all of our schools on Facebook too!

[Center School](#)

[Old Hammondtown School](#)

[Rochester Memorial School](#)

[Sippican School](#)

[ORR Junior High School](#)

[ORR High School](#)

Community Information and Flyers

Flyers from throughout the Tri-Town are shared with families on our website on the Community page.



Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent

www.oldrochester.org



Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 proudly serves the students from Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester. The mission of our school system is to inspire all students to





Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts School Superintendency Union 55

Memo

To: School Committee Members of Rochester

From: Howard G. Barber, Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations

Cc: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools

Date: September 24, 2025

Re: Financial Report – Fiscal Year 2025 - Final

Financial Reports:

Please find the following financial reports in relation to the general funds of Rochester School District:

- Final Budget Report – Detail Based as of June 30, 2025

Note:

The Rochester School District closed out the 2025 Fiscal Year with \$2,677 available of the general funds. Per the attached Year to Date Budget Report by Department, all amounts that were obligated and expended are clearly indicated. This report recognizes the activity of the total \$7,173,464 budget that was appropriated to the Rochester School District.

The Rochester School Department greatly appreciates the financial resources that the Town of Rochester and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has provided to us.

Rochester Public Schools

FY24-25 APPROVED BUDGET

Fiscal Year: 2024-2025

☐ Subtotal by Collapse Mask

☐ Include pre encumbrance

☐ Print accounts with zero balance

☒ Filter Encumbrance Detail by Date Range

☐ Exclude Inactive Accounts with zero balance

From Date: 7/1/2024

To Date: 6/30/2025

Account Number	Description	GL Budget	Range To Date	YTD	Balance	Encumbrance	Budget Balance	% Bud
01.305.001.1110.02.02	School Committee Clerical	\$2,600.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	46.15%
01.305.001.1110.04.35	LEGAL COUNSEL	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	100.00%
01.305.001.1110.04.36	MASC	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	100.00%
01.305.001.1110.05.36	MISCELLANEOUS	\$1,700.00	\$339.27	\$339.27	\$1,360.73	\$0.00	\$1,360.73	80.04%
01.305.001.1110.06.36	ADVERTISING	\$1,200.00	\$1,313.54	\$1,313.54	(\$113.54)	\$0.00	(\$113.54)	-9.46%
01.305.001.1110.06.37	CONFERENCE EXPENSE	\$300.00	\$515.00	\$515.00	(\$215.00)	\$0.00	(\$215.00)	-71.67%
01.305.001.1125.06.36	ADVERTISING	\$0.00	\$170.00	\$170.00	(\$170.00)	\$0.00	(\$170.00)	0.00%
01.305.001.1430.04.36	LEGAL COUNSEL	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	100.00%
	Dept: SCHOOL COMMITTEE - 001	\$10,300.00	\$3,737.81	\$3,737.81	\$6,562.19	\$0.00	\$6,562.19	63.71%
01.305.004.1110.04.35	CENSUS	\$875.00	\$875.00	\$875.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
01.305.004.1207.06.37	TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$0.00	\$1,485.81	\$1,485.81	(\$1,485.81)	\$0.00	(\$1,485.81)	0.00%
01.305.004.1210.01.02	SUPERINTENDENT	\$36,785.49	\$36,638.95	\$36,638.95	\$146.54	\$0.00	\$146.54	0.40%
01.305.004.1210.02.02	EXEC ASST TO SUPT	\$11,393.57	\$11,424.26	\$11,424.26	(\$30.69)	\$0.00	(\$30.69)	-0.27%
01.305.004.1210.04.33	ASSOCIATIONS & DUES	\$1,400.00	\$3,842.71	\$3,842.71	(\$2,442.71)	\$0.00	(\$2,442.71)	-174.48%
01.305.004.1210.05.21	POSTAGE	\$600.00	\$162.42	\$162.42	\$437.58	\$0.00	\$437.58	72.93%
01.305.004.1210.06.36	MISCELLANEOUS	\$800.00	\$1,584.17	\$1,584.17	(\$784.17)	\$0.00	(\$784.17)	-98.02%
01.305.004.1210.06.37	TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$2,660.00	\$322.01	\$322.01	\$2,337.99	\$0.00	\$2,337.99	87.89%
01.305.004.1220.01.02	ASST SUPT OF CURRICULUM	\$22,037.93	\$24,564.23	\$24,564.23	(\$2,526.30)	\$0.00	(\$2,526.30)	-11.46%
01.305.004.1220.02.02	CLERICAL	\$8,711.72	\$8,741.20	\$8,741.20	(\$29.48)	\$0.00	(\$29.48)	-0.34%
01.305.004.1230.05.21	SUPPLIES	\$900.00	\$11,171.58	\$11,171.58	(\$10,271.58)	\$0.00	(\$10,271.58)	-1141.29%
01.305.004.1410.01.02	ASST SUPT FINANCE & OPERATIONS	\$28,243.44	\$27,889.21	\$27,889.21	\$354.23	\$0.00	\$354.23	1.25%
01.305.004.1410.03.02	FINANCE OFFICE	\$31,631.86	\$31,704.78	\$31,704.78	(\$72.92)	\$0.00	(\$72.92)	-0.23%
01.305.004.1420.03.02	HUMAN RESOURCES	\$13,164.31	\$13,869.65	\$13,869.65	(\$705.34)	\$0.00	(\$705.34)	-5.36%
01.305.004.1450.04.02	SOFTWARE CONSULTANT	\$250.00	\$77.22	\$77.22	\$172.78	\$0.00	\$172.78	69.11%
01.305.004.1450.04.27	COMPUTER SERVICES	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	100.00%
01.305.004.2356.06.37	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	100.00%
01.305.004.4130.04.15	TELEPHONE	\$2,000.00	\$2,208.56	\$2,208.56	(\$208.56)	\$0.00	(\$208.56)	-10.43%
01.305.004.5300.04.21	COPIER RENTAL	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	100.00%
	Dept: SUPERINTENDENTS OFFICE - 004	\$167,453.32	\$176,561.76	\$176,561.76	(\$9,108.44)	\$0.00	(\$9,108.44)	-5.44%
01.305.007.2210.01.02	PRINCIPAL	\$132,627.24	\$130,500.00	\$130,500.00	\$2,127.24	\$0.00	\$2,127.24	1.60%
01.305.007.2210.01.06	ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	\$118,073.34	\$117,384.12	\$117,384.12	\$689.22	\$0.00	\$689.22	0.58%
01.305.007.2210.02.09	CLERICAL	\$46,828.80	\$40,415.97	\$40,415.97	\$6,412.83	\$0.00	\$6,412.83	13.69%
01.305.007.2210.03.08	CAFE AIDES SUPERVISORY	\$22,202.89	\$18,044.88	\$18,044.88	\$4,158.01	\$3,382.61	\$775.40	3.49%
01.305.007.2210.04.33	ASSOCIATION DUES	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	100.00%
01.305.007.2210.05.22	SUPPLIES ADMINISTRATION	\$500.00	\$2,569.83	\$2,569.83	(\$2,069.83)	\$0.00	(\$2,069.83)	-413.97%
01.305.007.2210.05.23	SUPPLIES COPYING	\$3,500.00	\$6,964.62	\$6,964.62	(\$3,464.62)	\$0.00	(\$3,464.62)	-98.99%
01.305.007.2210.05.24	SUPPLIES GENERAL SCHOOL	\$10,000.00	\$24,303.95	\$24,303.95	(\$14,303.95)	\$0.00	(\$14,303.95)	-143.04%
01.305.007.2210.05.25	POSTAGE	\$1,950.00	\$88.39	\$88.39	\$1,861.61	\$0.00	\$1,861.61	95.47%
01.305.007.2210.06.37	TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$250.00	\$545.00	\$545.00	(\$295.00)	\$0.00	(\$295.00)	-118.00%
01.305.007.2211.04.33	PROFESSIONAL BOOKS	\$0.00	\$2,316.48	\$2,316.48	(\$2,316.48)	\$0.00	(\$2,316.48)	0.00%
01.305.007.2250.05.22	PRINCIPALS TECHNOLOGY	\$0.00	\$1,933.30	\$1,933.30	(\$1,933.30)	\$0.00	(\$1,933.30)	0.00%
01.305.007.2356.06.37	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$2,000.00	\$695.00	\$695.00	\$1,305.00	\$0.00	\$1,305.00	65.25%
01.305.007.4230.04.28	MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	100.00%
01.305.007.5204.06.38	POSITION BONDS	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	100.00%
01.305.007.5300.04.28	COPIER RENTAL	\$10,250.00	\$7,708.80	\$7,708.80	\$2,541.20	\$0.00	\$2,541.20	24.79%
	Dept: ADMINISTRATION REG DAY - 007	\$350,282.27	\$353,470.34	\$353,470.34	(\$3,188.07)	\$3,382.61	(\$6,570.68)	-1.88%
01.305.010.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$1,994,221.99	\$1,581,737.50	\$1,581,737.50	\$412,484.49	\$278,154.82	\$134,329.67	6.74%
01.305.010.2324.01.34	LONG TERM SUB- PROFESSIONAL	\$0.00	\$19,870.00	\$19,870.00	(\$19,870.00)	\$0.00	(\$19,870.00)	0.00%

Rochester Public Schools

FY24-25 APPROVED BUDGET

Fiscal Year: 2024-2025

☐ Subtotal by Collapse Mask

☐ Include pre encumbrance

☐ Print accounts with zero balance

☒ Filter Encumbrance Detail by Date Range

☐ Exclude Inactive Accounts with zero balance

From Date: 7/1/2024

To Date: 6/30/2025

Account Number	Description	GL Budget	Range To Date	YTD	Balance	Encumbrance	Budget Balance	% Bud
01.305.010.2324.03.34	LONG TERM SUB - OTHER	\$0.00	\$2,692.80	\$2,692.80	(\$2,692.80)	\$749.09	(\$3,441.89)	0.00%
01.305.010.2325.03.34	SUBSTITUTES	\$55,000.00	\$72,683.47	\$72,683.47	(\$17,683.47)	\$0.00	(\$17,683.47)	-32.15%
01.305.010.2350.04.03	TUITION REIMBURSEMENT PROF DEV	\$0.00	\$10,245.20	\$10,245.20	(\$10,245.20)	\$0.00	(\$10,245.20)	0.00%
01.305.010.2350.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,500.00	\$3,479.42	\$3,479.42	(\$979.42)	\$0.00	(\$979.42)	-39.18%
01.305.010.2350.06.37	TRAVEL,TRANS,CONFERENCES	\$5,000.00	\$1,028.30	\$1,028.30	\$3,971.70	\$0.00	\$3,971.70	79.43%
01.305.010.2356.01.03	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$12,000.00	\$540.00	\$540.00	\$11,460.00	\$0.00	\$11,460.00	95.50%
01.305.010.2356.04.03	TUITION REIMBURSEMENT	\$10,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,500.00	\$0.00	\$10,500.00	100.00%
	Dept: CLASSROOM TEACHERS - 010	\$2,079,221.99	\$1,692,276.69	\$1,692,276.69	\$386,945.30	\$278,903.91	\$108,041.39	5.20%
01.305.013.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$263,317.44	\$223,790.58	\$223,790.58	\$39,526.86	\$40,215.42	(\$688.56)	-0.26%
01.305.013.2330.03.08	PARAPROFESSIONALS	\$62,262.71	\$81,798.85	\$81,798.85	(\$19,536.14)	\$14,803.72	(\$34,339.86)	-55.15%
01.305.013.2400.05.23	TEXTBOOKS	\$0.00	\$811.54	\$811.54	(\$811.54)	\$0.00	(\$811.54)	0.00%
01.305.013.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES - KINDERGARTEN	\$2,350.00	\$645.35	\$645.35	\$1,704.65	\$0.00	\$1,704.65	72.54%
	Dept: KINDERGARTEN - 013	\$327,930.15	\$307,046.32	\$307,046.32	\$20,883.83	\$55,019.14	(\$34,135.31)	-10.41%
01.305.016.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$101,099.47	\$85,657.94	\$85,657.94	\$15,441.53	\$15,235.06	\$206.47	0.20%
01.305.016.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	\$2,050.00	\$3,552.61	\$3,552.61	(\$1,502.61)	\$0.00	(\$1,502.61)	-73.30%
	Dept: ART PROGRAM - 016	\$103,149.47	\$89,210.55	\$89,210.55	\$13,938.92	\$15,235.06	(\$1,296.14)	-1.26%
01.305.022.2300.04.35	READING	\$0.00	\$1,690.00	\$1,690.00	(\$1,690.00)	\$0.00	(\$1,690.00)	0.00%
01.305.022.2303.02.08	AIDES CLASSROOM	\$0.00	\$980.00	\$980.00	(\$980.00)	\$0.00	(\$980.00)	0.00%
01.305.022.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$127,242.77	\$77,048.18	\$77,048.18	\$50,194.59	\$17,354.79	\$32,839.80	25.81%
01.305.022.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$1,445.98	\$1,445.98	\$604.02	\$0.00	\$604.02	29.46%
	Dept: READING - 022	\$129,292.77	\$81,164.16	\$81,164.16	\$48,128.61	\$17,354.79	\$30,773.82	23.80%
01.305.024.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$21,163.00	\$13,967.68	\$13,967.68	\$7,195.32	\$0.00	\$7,195.32	34.00%
01.305.024.2356.06.37	TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$0.00	\$42.99	\$42.99	(\$42.99)	\$0.00	(\$42.99)	0.00%
01.305.024.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,050.00	\$0.00	\$2,050.00	100.00%
	Dept: ELL PROGRAM - 024	\$23,213.00	\$14,010.67	\$14,010.67	\$9,202.33	\$0.00	\$9,202.33	39.64%
01.305.025.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,050.00	\$0.00	\$2,050.00	100.00%
	Dept: ENGLISH - 025	\$2,050.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,050.00	\$0.00	\$2,050.00	100.00%
01.305.037.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,050.00	\$0.00	\$2,050.00	100.00%
	Dept: MATHEMATICS - 037	\$2,050.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,050.00	\$0.00	\$2,050.00	100.00%
01.305.040.2340.01.03	LIBRARIAN	\$107,927.49	\$91,577.34	\$91,577.34	\$16,350.15	\$16,495.66	(\$145.51)	-0.13%
01.305.040.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$2,666.85	\$2,666.85	(\$616.85)	\$0.00	(\$616.85)	-30.09%
01.305.040.2501.05.23	BOOKS & MAGAZINES	\$0.00	\$1,141.19	\$1,141.19	(\$1,141.19)	\$0.00	(\$1,141.19)	0.00%
	Dept: MEDIA SERVICES - 040	\$109,977.49	\$95,385.38	\$95,385.38	\$14,592.11	\$16,495.66	(\$1,903.55)	-1.73%
01.305.043.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$144,721.41	\$123,285.26	\$123,285.26	\$21,436.15	\$21,897.34	(\$461.19)	-0.32%
01.305.043.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$634.19	\$634.19	\$1,415.81	\$0.00	\$1,415.81	69.06%
01.305.043.4230.04.29	MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	\$0.00	\$904.99	\$904.99	(\$904.99)	\$0.00	(\$904.99)	0.00%
	Dept: MUSIC - 043	\$146,771.41	\$124,824.44	\$124,824.44	\$21,946.97	\$21,897.34	\$49.63	0.03%
01.305.049.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$131,748.56	\$110,748.54	\$110,748.54	\$21,000.02	\$19,804.06	\$1,195.96	0.91%
01.305.049.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$3,444.03	\$3,444.03	(\$1,394.03)	\$0.00	(\$1,394.03)	-68.00%
	Dept: PHYSICAL EDUCATION - 049	\$133,798.56	\$114,192.57	\$114,192.57	\$19,605.99	\$19,804.06	(\$198.07)	-0.15%
01.305.052.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$108,382.49	\$92,492.34	\$92,492.34	\$15,890.15	\$16,495.66	(\$605.51)	-0.56%

Rochester Public Schools

FY24-25 APPROVED BUDGET

Fiscal Year: 2024-2025

☐ Subtotal by Collapse Mask

☐ Include pre encumbrance

☐ Print accounts with zero balance

☒ Filter Encumbrance Detail by Date Range

☐ Exclude Inactive Accounts with zero balance

From Date: 7/1/2024

To Date: 6/30/2025

Account Number	Description	GL Budget	Range To Date	YTD	Balance	Encumbrance	Budget Balance	% Bud
01.305.052.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$6,156.41	\$6,156.41	(\$4,106.41)	\$0.00	(\$4,106.41)	-200.31%
	Dept: SCIENCE - 052	\$110,432.49	\$98,648.75	\$98,648.75	\$11,783.74	\$16,495.66	(\$4,711.92)	-4.27%
01.305.055.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$4,196.78	\$4,196.78	(\$2,146.78)	\$0.00	(\$2,146.78)	-104.72%
	Dept: SOCIAL STUDIES - 055	\$2,050.00	\$4,196.78	\$4,196.78	(\$2,146.78)	\$0.00	(\$2,146.78)	-104.72%
01.305.061.2351.04.03	CURRICULUM - PROGRAMING & DEVE	\$27,500.00	\$2,885.91	\$2,885.91	\$24,614.09	\$0.00	\$24,614.09	89.51%
01.305.061.2351.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$5,000.00	\$946.67	\$946.67	\$4,053.33	\$0.00	\$4,053.33	81.07%
01.305.061.2356.01.03	PD Stipends - Curriculum	\$7,500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$7,000.00	\$0.00	\$7,000.00	93.33%
01.305.061.2358.04.35	CURRICULUM - PROFESSIONAL DEVE	\$0.00	\$5,822.03	\$5,822.03	(\$5,822.03)	\$0.00	(\$5,822.03)	0.00%
01.305.061.2415.06.37	CURRICULUM - TRAVEL	\$3,000.00	\$499.11	\$499.11	\$2,500.89	\$0.00	\$2,500.89	83.36%
01.305.061.2430.05.23	ACADEMIC SUPPLIES	\$0.00	\$35,028.71	\$35,028.71	(\$35,028.71)	\$0.00	(\$35,028.71)	0.00%
01.305.061.2455.04.23	Academic Instructional Softwar	\$0.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	(\$1,250.00)	\$0.00	(\$1,250.00)	0.00%
	Dept: CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT - 061	\$43,000.00	\$46,932.43	\$46,932.43	(\$3,932.43)	\$0.00	(\$3,932.43)	-9.15%
01.305.076.3200.01.11	NURSE	\$85,290.18	\$72,770.00	\$72,770.00	\$12,520.18	\$13,026.00	(\$505.82)	-0.59%
01.305.076.3200.03.34	SUBSTITUTES - NURSES	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	100.00%
01.305.076.3200.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$3,497.28	\$3,497.28	(\$1,447.28)	\$0.00	(\$1,447.28)	-70.60%
	Dept: HEALTH SERVICES - 076	\$88,340.18	\$76,267.28	\$76,267.28	\$12,072.90	\$13,026.00	(\$953.10)	-1.08%
01.305.079.3300.06.40	REGULAR EDUCATION - PUPIL K-6	\$460,000.00	\$435,538.98	\$435,538.98	\$24,461.02	\$0.00	\$24,461.02	5.32%
	Dept: TRANSPORTATION REG DAY - 079	\$460,000.00	\$435,538.98	\$435,538.98	\$24,461.02	\$0.00	\$24,461.02	5.32%
01.305.085.3520.05.23	SUPPLIES - STUDENT ACTIVITY BA	\$2,200.00	\$898.66	\$898.66	\$1,301.34	\$0.00	\$1,301.34	59.15%
01.305.085.3520.06.36	STUDENT ACTIVITIES - OTHER	\$0.00	\$4,464.00	\$4,464.00	(\$4,464.00)	\$0.00	(\$4,464.00)	0.00%
	Dept: MISCELLANEOUS - 085	\$2,200.00	\$5,362.66	\$5,362.66	(\$3,162.66)	\$0.00	(\$3,162.66)	-143.76%
01.305.088.4110.01.02	DISTRICT FACILITIES MANAGER	\$17,531.69	\$17,486.04	\$17,486.04	\$45.65	\$0.00	\$45.65	0.26%
01.305.088.4110.03.10	CUSTODIAL SUPERVISOR	\$58,773.86	\$58,770.28	\$58,770.28	\$3.58	\$0.00	\$3.58	0.01%
01.305.088.4110.04.10	CUSTODIAL CONTRACT SVCS	\$161,953.00	\$127,910.72	\$127,910.72	\$34,042.28	\$0.00	\$34,042.28	21.02%
01.305.088.4115.03.34	SUB/OVERTIME CUSTODIAL	\$0.00	\$4,940.33	\$4,940.33	(\$4,940.33)	\$211.15	(\$5,151.48)	0.00%
01.305.088.4120.04.17	HEAT	\$72,250.00	\$81,207.79	\$81,207.79	(\$8,957.79)	\$0.00	(\$8,957.79)	-12.40%
01.305.088.4130.04.15	TELEPHONE	\$9,000.00	\$6,183.48	\$6,183.48	\$2,816.52	\$0.00	\$2,816.52	31.29%
01.305.088.4130.04.16	ELECTRICITY	\$134,000.00	\$185,658.56	\$185,658.56	(\$51,658.56)	\$0.00	(\$51,658.56)	-38.55%
01.305.088.4130.04.19	MAINTENANCE OF WATER SYSTEM	\$8,600.00	\$15,898.34	\$15,898.34	(\$7,298.34)	\$0.00	(\$7,298.34)	-84.86%
01.305.088.4210.04.32	MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS	\$9,200.00	\$11,801.06	\$11,801.06	(\$2,601.06)	\$0.00	(\$2,601.06)	-28.27%
01.305.088.4220.04.32	MAINTENANCE OF BLDG ONGOING	\$20,000.00	\$123,613.68	\$123,613.68	(\$103,613.68)	\$0.00	(\$103,613.68)	-518.07%
01.305.088.4220.05.26	CHEMICALS	\$9,350.00	\$2,123.07	\$2,123.07	\$7,226.93	\$0.00	\$7,226.93	77.29%
01.305.088.4220.05.27	PAPER	\$9,300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,300.00	\$0.00	\$9,300.00	100.00%
01.305.088.4220.05.28	SUPPLIES	\$0.00	\$38,647.92	\$38,647.92	(\$38,647.92)	\$0.00	(\$38,647.92)	0.00%
01.305.088.4230.04.32	MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	\$10,000.00	\$2,812.09	\$2,812.09	\$7,187.91	\$0.00	\$7,187.91	71.88%
	Dept: OPERATION & MAINTENANCE - 088	\$519,958.55	\$677,053.36	\$677,053.36	(\$157,094.81)	\$211.15	(\$157,305.96)	-30.25%
01.305.093.2130.01.04	BUILDING TECH COORDINATOR	\$0.00	\$19,417.36	\$19,417.36	(\$19,417.36)	\$0.00	(\$19,417.36)	0.00%
01.305.093.2130.03.04	NETWORK TECHNICIANS	\$65,403.30	\$43,689.10	\$43,689.10	\$21,714.20	\$0.00	\$21,714.20	33.20%
01.305.093.2204.04.33	IN SERVICE TRAINING	\$0.00	\$164.67	\$164.67	(\$164.67)	\$0.00	(\$164.67)	0.00%
01.305.093.2300.05.23	SUPPLIES SOFTWARE	\$0.00	\$3,301.45	\$3,301.45	(\$3,301.45)	\$0.00	(\$3,301.45)	0.00%
01.305.093.2430.05.05	TECHNOLOGY GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$0.00	\$15,917.27	\$15,917.27	(\$15,917.27)	\$0.00	(\$15,917.27)	0.00%
01.305.093.2430.05.23	SOFTWARE	\$15,000.00	\$53,297.71	\$53,297.71	(\$38,297.71)	\$0.00	(\$38,297.71)	-255.32%
01.305.093.2450.05.23	EDUCATIONAL EQUIPMENT	\$0.00	\$95,435.74	\$95,435.74	(\$95,435.74)	\$0.00	(\$95,435.74)	0.00%
01.305.093.2451.05.23	EDUCATIONAL EQUIPT	\$5,000.00	\$70,320.00	\$70,320.00	(\$65,320.00)	\$0.00	(\$65,320.00)	-1306.40%

Rochester Public Schools

FY24-25 APPROVED BUDGET

Fiscal Year: 2024-2025

☐ Subtotal by Collapse Mask

☐ Include pre encumbrance

☐ Print accounts with zero balance

☒ Filter Encumbrance Detail by Date Range

☐ Exclude Inactive Accounts with zero balance

From Date: 7/1/2024

To Date: 6/30/2025

Account Number	Description	GL Budget	Range To Date	YTD	Balance	Encumbrance	Budget Balance	% Bud
01.305.093.4130.04.15	TELEPHONE	\$14,500.00	\$13,594.40	\$13,594.40	\$905.60	\$0.00	\$905.60	6.25%
01.305.093.4230.04.28	ACQUISITION OF EQUIPT	\$0.00	\$18,768.00	\$18,768.00	(\$18,768.00)	\$0.00	(\$18,768.00)	0.00%
01.305.093.4230.04.29	MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT/WEB	\$0.00	\$27,390.52	\$27,390.52	(\$27,390.52)	\$0.00	(\$27,390.52)	0.00%
	Dept: COMPUTER PROGRAM - 093	\$99,903.30	\$361,296.22	\$361,296.22	(\$261,392.92)	\$0.00	(\$261,392.92)	-261.65%
01.305.100.1435.04.36	LEGAL EXPENSE - SPEC ED	\$15,000.00	\$150.50	\$150.50	\$14,849.50	\$0.00	\$14,849.50	99.00%
01.305.100.2105.04.33	ASSOCIATION DUES	\$0.00	\$917.90	\$917.90	(\$917.90)	\$0.00	(\$917.90)	0.00%
01.305.100.2106.06.37	CONFERENCES	\$0.00	\$394.93	\$394.93	(\$394.93)	\$0.00	(\$394.93)	0.00%
01.305.100.2107.06.37	TRAVEL	\$0.00	\$304.25	\$304.25	(\$304.25)	\$0.00	(\$304.25)	0.00%
01.305.100.2110.01.02	DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES	\$22,238.32	\$21,175.19	\$21,175.19	\$1,063.13	\$0.00	\$1,063.13	4.78%
01.305.100.2110.02.09	ADMIN ASST STUDENT SVCS	\$11,597.56	\$11,629.85	\$11,629.85	(\$32.29)	\$0.00	(\$32.29)	-0.28%
01.305.100.2110.06.37	TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$6,500.00	\$1,494.26	\$1,494.26	\$5,005.74	\$0.00	\$5,005.74	77.01%
01.305.100.2415.04.33	ASSOCIATION DUES	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	100.00%
01.305.100.4130.04.15	TELEPHONE	\$150.00	\$92.40	\$92.40	\$57.60	\$0.00	\$57.60	38.40%
01.305.100.4230.04.31	SOFTWARE LICENSE	\$3,000.00	\$2,087.99	\$2,087.99	\$912.01	\$0.00	\$912.01	30.40%
	Dept: SPECIAL NEEDS ADMINISTRATION - 100	\$58,635.88	\$38,247.27	\$38,247.27	\$20,388.61	\$0.00	\$20,388.61	34.77%
01.305.102.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$30,654.78	\$25,743.06	\$25,743.06	\$4,911.72	\$4,466.97	\$444.75	1.45%
01.305.102.2330.03.08	PARAPROFESSIONALS	\$67,169.20	\$6,917.29	\$6,917.29	\$60,251.91	\$57.71	\$60,194.20	89.62%
01.305.102.2351.06.37	PROJECT GROW TRAVEL	\$200.00	\$51.14	\$51.14	\$148.86	\$0.00	\$148.86	74.43%
01.305.102.2356.01.03	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	100.00%
01.305.102.2430.05.24	SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	\$1,000.00	\$412.49	\$412.49	\$587.51	\$0.00	\$587.51	58.75%
	Dept: PROJECT GROW - 102	\$99,323.98	\$33,123.98	\$33,123.98	\$66,200.00	\$4,524.68	\$61,675.32	62.10%
01.305.103.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$532,575.45	\$444,505.76	\$444,505.76	\$88,069.69	\$81,180.74	\$6,888.95	1.29%
01.305.103.2330.03.08	PARAPROFESSIONALS	\$176,497.76	\$133,351.03	\$133,351.03	\$43,146.73	\$27,560.24	\$15,586.49	8.83%
01.305.103.2356.01.03	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$300.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	33.33%
01.305.103.2420.05.24	LEARNING SUPPORT ED EQUIPMENT	\$3,500.00	\$1,355.45	\$1,355.45	\$2,144.55	\$0.00	\$2,144.55	61.27%
01.305.103.2430.05.24	SUPPLIES	\$2,500.00	\$37.95	\$37.95	\$2,462.05	\$0.00	\$2,462.05	98.48%
01.305.103.3300.02.08	BUS MONITORS	\$32,000.00	\$18,939.73	\$18,939.73	\$13,060.27	\$0.00	\$13,060.27	40.81%
01.305.103.4230.04.31	MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	\$0.00	\$1,761.80	\$1,761.80	(\$1,761.80)	\$0.00	(\$1,761.80)	0.00%
	Dept: LEARNING SUPPORT CENTER - 103	\$747,373.21	\$600,151.72	\$600,151.72	\$147,221.49	\$108,740.98	\$38,480.51	5.15%
01.305.118.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$216,689.98	\$183,989.68	\$183,989.68	\$32,700.30	\$45,611.32	(\$12,911.02)	-5.96%
01.305.118.2356.01.03	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$750.00	\$225.00	\$225.00	\$525.00	\$0.00	\$525.00	70.00%
01.305.118.2420.05.24	SPEECH THERAPY ED EQUIPMENT	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	100.00%
01.305.118.2430.05.24	SUPPLIES	\$2,000.00	\$295.34	\$295.34	\$1,704.66	\$0.00	\$1,704.66	85.23%
01.305.118.2800.04.35	SPEECH THERAPY	\$52,000.00	\$55,682.00	\$55,682.00	(\$3,682.00)	\$0.00	(\$3,682.00)	-7.08%
	Dept: SPEECH - 118	\$272,439.98	\$240,192.02	\$240,192.02	\$32,247.96	\$45,611.32	(\$13,363.36)	-4.91%
01.305.121.2100.02.09	CLERICAL	\$0.00	\$39,406.65	\$39,406.65	(\$39,406.65)	\$5,139.98	(\$44,546.63)	0.00%
01.305.121.2110.02.09	CLERICAL	\$39,502.34	\$610.00	\$610.00	\$38,892.34	\$0.00	\$38,892.34	98.46%
01.305.121.2305.01.03	TEACHER VISUALLY IMPAIRED	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	100.00%
01.305.121.2415.05.24	SUPPLIES	\$2,000.00	\$438.77	\$438.77	\$1,561.23	\$0.00	\$1,561.23	78.06%
01.305.121.2440.04.35	EXTENDED YEAR SERVICES	\$70,000.00	\$76,079.07	\$76,079.07	(\$6,079.07)	\$0.00	(\$6,079.07)	-8.68%
01.305.121.2710.04.03	SPECIALIZED INSTRUCTION	\$25,000.00	\$46,765.32	\$46,765.32	(\$21,765.32)	\$0.00	(\$21,765.32)	-87.06%
01.305.121.2800.04.35	THERAPY	\$118,000.00	\$103,478.55	\$103,478.55	\$14,521.45	\$0.00	\$14,521.45	12.31%
	Dept: SUPPORT SERVICES - 121	\$260,502.34	\$266,778.36	\$266,778.36	(\$6,276.02)	\$5,139.98	(\$11,416.00)	-4.38%
01.305.127.2356.01.03	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$900.00	\$425.00	\$425.00	\$475.00	\$0.00	\$475.00	52.78%
01.305.127.2450.05.24	EDUCATIONAL EQUIPMENT	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	100.00%

Rochester Public Schools

FY24-25 APPROVED BUDGET

From Date: 7/1/2024

To Date: 6/30/2025

Fiscal Year: 2024-2025

☐ Subtotal by Collapse Mask

☐ Include pre encumbrance

☐ Print accounts with zero balance

☒ Filter Encumbrance Detail by Date Range

☐ Exclude Inactive Accounts with zero balance

Account Number	Description	GL Budget	Range To Date	YTD	Balance	Encumbrance	Budget Balance	% Bud
01.305.127.2710.01.03	ADJUSTMENT COUNSELOR	\$204,361.46	\$174,837.22	\$174,837.22	\$29,524.24	\$31,203.78	(\$1,679.54)	-0.82%
01.305.127.2800.01.03	PSYCHOLOGY	\$73,371.02	\$42,685.96	\$42,685.96	\$30,685.06	\$6,827.73	\$23,857.33	32.52%
01.305.127.2800.04.35	PSYCHOLOGICAL/CONTRACT SERVIC	\$0.00	\$28,312.50	\$28,312.50	(\$28,312.50)	\$0.00	(\$28,312.50)	0.00%
01.305.127.2800.05.24	SUPPLIES	\$2,000.00	\$17.40	\$17.40	\$1,982.60	\$0.00	\$1,982.60	99.13%
01.305.127.2800.06.13	PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATIONS	\$9,000.00	\$14,566.00	\$14,566.00	(\$5,566.00)	\$0.00	(\$5,566.00)	-61.84%
01.305.127.2800.06.37	TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	100.00%
	Dept: PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES - 127	\$291,132.48	\$260,844.08	\$260,844.08	\$30,288.40	\$38,031.51	(\$7,743.11)	-2.66%
01.305.130.3300.06.43	TRANSPORTATION - COLLABORATIVE	\$146,305.00	\$97,745.03	\$97,745.03	\$48,559.97	\$0.00	\$48,559.97	33.19%
01.305.130.3300.06.44	TRANSPORTATION - DAY PROGRAMS	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	100.00%
01.305.130.3300.06.45	TRANSPORTATION - PRESCHOOL	\$29,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$29,000.00	\$0.00	\$29,000.00	100.00%
01.305.130.3300.06.46	TRANSPORTATION - MCKINNEY VENT	\$10,000.00	(\$213.25)	(\$213.25)	\$10,213.25	\$0.00	\$10,213.25	102.13%
	Dept: SPED TRANSPORTATION - 130	\$235,305.00	\$97,531.78	\$97,531.78	\$137,773.22	\$0.00	\$137,773.22	58.55%
01.305.133.9300.04.13	TUITION - RESIDENTIAL	\$201,674.00	\$153,640.58	\$153,640.58	\$48,033.42	\$0.00	\$48,033.42	23.82%
01.305.133.9300.06.13	TUITION - DAY SCHOOLS	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	100.00%
01.305.133.9400.06.13	TUITION - COLLABORATIVES	\$45,702.18	\$63,226.15	\$63,226.15	(\$17,523.97)	\$0.00	(\$17,523.97)	-38.34%
	Dept: PROGRAMS W/OTHERS SPED - 133	\$297,376.18	\$216,866.73	\$216,866.73	\$80,509.45	\$0.00	\$80,509.45	27.07%
Grand Total:		\$7,173,464.00	\$6,510,913.09	\$6,510,913.09	\$662,550.91	\$659,873.85	\$2,677.06	0.04%

End of Report

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5502

Voucher Date: 06/04/2025

Prepared By:

Michelle Charrette

Printed: 06/04/2025 11:29:29 AM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$95,717.19 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Barker

Katherine Duggan

Katherine Duggan

School Committee Chairperson

Mrs. Robin Rounseville

School Committee Member Vice Chairperson

Ms. Anne Fernandes

School Committee Member

Mr. Joshua Trombly

School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$76,638.19
40	ON BEHALF OF TOWN	\$19,079.00
		\$95,717.19

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5503

Voucher Date: 06/17/2025

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 06/17/2025 02:26:54 PM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$170,516.13 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Barber

[Signature]

Katherine Duggan

School Committee Chairperson

Mr. Joshua Trombly

School Committee Member Vice
Chairperson

Mrs. Robin Rounseville

School Committee Member

Ms. Anne Fernandes

School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$169,281.13
11	CIRCUIT BREAKER	\$0.00
24	FY24 FEDERAL GRANTS	\$1,235.00
		\$170,516.13

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5504

Voucher Date: 06/27/2025

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 06/27/2025 10:17:00 AM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$210,417.45 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Barber

Katherine Duggan

Katherine Duggan

6/30/25

School Committee Chairperson

Mr. Joshua Trombly

School Committee Member Vice Chairperson

Mrs. Robin Rounseville

School Committee Member

Ms. Anne Fernandes

School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$186,122.05
25	FY25 GRANTS	\$324.00
35	FY25 STATE GRANTS	\$5,252.40
40	ON BEHALF OF TOWN	\$18,719.00
		\$210,417.45

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5505

Voucher Date: 06/30/2025

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 07/08/2025 09:23:24 AM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$66,679.75 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Barber

[Signature]

Katherine Duggan

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School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$63,660.13
35	FY25 STATE GRANTS	\$2,382.70
40	ON BEHALF OF TOWN	\$301.00
45	FY25 PRIVATE GRANTS	\$335.92
		\$66,679.75

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5506

Voucher Date: 06/30/2025

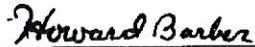
Prepared By:



Printed: 07/08/2025 10:51:33 AM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$9,982.60 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.



Katherine Duggan

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School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund	Amount
24	\$9,982.60
FY24 FEDERAL GRANTS	
	\$9,982.60

ENCUMBRANCES

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5507

Voucher Date: 07/30/2025

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 07/30/2025 11:23:03 AM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$106,966.55 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Baul

Katherine Duggan

Katherine Duggan

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Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$37,338.89
25	FY25 GRANTS	\$482.00
35	FY25 STATE GRANTS	\$68,792.28
45	FY25 PRIVATE GRANTS	\$353.38
		\$106,966.55

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5508

Voucher Date: 07/30/2025

Prepared By:


Printed: 07/30/2025 12:44:49 PM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$15,604.42 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.





Katherine Duggan

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Chairperson

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Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$8,285.99
11	CIRCUIT BREAKER	\$5,424.00
24	FY24 FEDERAL GRANTS	\$1,894.43
		\$15,604.42

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5509

Voucher Date: 08/22/2025

Prepared By:

Michelle Charrette
Printed: 08/22/2025 08:17:44 AM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$68,187.14 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Barber

[Signature]
Katherine Duggan

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Mr. Joshua Trombly

School Committee Vice
Chairperson

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School Committee Member

Ms. Anne Fernandes

School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$43,561.39
40	ON BEHALF OF TOWN	\$24,625.75
		\$68,187.14

ENCUMBRANCES

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5510

Voucher Date: 08/22/2025

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 08/22/2025 10:40:08 AM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$10,633.40 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Barber

[Signature]

Katherine Duggan

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School Committee Vice
Chairperson

Mrs. Robin Rounseville

School Committee Member

Ms. Anne Fernandes

School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$9,664.27
45	FY25 PRIVATE GRANTS	\$969.13
		\$10,633.40

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5511

Voucher Date: 09/04/2025

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 09/04/2025 11:52:17 AM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$50,239.98 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Bailey

[Signature]

Katherine Duggan

School Committee Chairperson

Mr. Joshua Trombly

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Chairperson

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School Committee Member

Ms. Anne Fernandes

School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$33,009.02
11	CIRCUIT BREAKER	\$4,566.32
25	FY25 GRANTS	\$4,505.00
40	ON BEHALF OF TOWN	\$8,159.64
		\$50,239.98

ENCUMBRANCES
ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5512

Voucher Date: 09/05/2025

Prepared By:

Michelle Charrette
Printed: 09/05/2025 09:48:41 AM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$40,451.73 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Barber

[Signature]
Katherine Duggan

School Committee Chairperson

Mr. Joshua Trombly

School Committee Vice
Chairperson

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School Committee Member

Ms. Anne Fernandes

School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$3,802.73
35	FY25 STATE GRANTS	\$36,649.00
		\$40,451.73

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5513

Voucher Date: 09/18/2025

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 09/18/2025 01:48:48 PM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$33,709.92 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Heed B...

Katherine Duggan

Katherine Duggan

School Committee Chairperson

Mr. Joshua Trombly

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Ms. Anne Fernandes

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Kirstin Jimenez

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ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$25,092.43
11	CIRCUIT BREAKER	\$8,617.49
		\$33,709.92

ENCUMBRANCES

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5514

Voucher Date: 09/18/2025

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 09/18/2025 03:13:14 PM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$87,684.68 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Heard B...

Katherine Duggan

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Mrs. Robin Rounseville

School Committee Member

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School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$72,356.68
35	FY25 STATE GRANTS	\$15,328.00
		\$87,684.68



Facilities Director's Report: September 2025

Rochester Memorial Elementary School

- Solar Canopies 80% completed.
- Back Playground 100% completed.
- All firefighting systems have been inspected/tested including the ANSUL (kitchen fire suppression system), fire pump, fire sprinkler, kitchen hoods and stationary fire extinguishers.
- Building Inspector/Fire Marshall inspection completed and permit issued.
- Boilers and Roof Top Units inspected and permitted.
- Hosted Senator Rodrigues luncheon.
- Phased replaced well #2 pump.
- Conducted minor preventative maintenance on facility, ground support equipment and machinery.

Sincerely,

Gene Jones

District Facilities Director

Office: 508-758-2772 x1954

Cell: 508-509-6763

E-Mail: eugenejones@oldrochester.org





Old Rochester Regional School District Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

"Serving the towns of Marion, Mattapoisett, & Rochester"

Food Service Director's Report: September 2025
Rochester Memorial Elementary

Directors Update:

- Meals continue to be free for all students. Each student will receive one free breakfast and one free lunch, per day.
- Second meals, a la carte drinks, snacks and milk only are available for purchase.
- The Food service team participated in a full day of professional development training on 08/26.
- Café has a part-time 3-hour per day position available
- Fun Facts: in SY 24/25 RMS Cafe served : **23,371 School Breakfast & 48,030 School Lunches**

Students Receiving Free and Reduced Meals:								
Free:					93		20 %	
Reduced:					13		3 %	
Student Meal Participation								
SY 24/25					SY 25/26			
	Breakfast Counts	%	Lunch Counts	%	Breakfast Counts	%	Lunch Counts	%
August	305	23%	650	49%	346	28 %	622	49 %
September	2,530	28%	5,090	57%				
October	2,954	30%	5,986	61%				
November	2,235	30 %	4,589	61 %				
December	1,858	28 %	4,197	63 %				
January	2,569	28 %	5,633	62 %				
February	1,894	29 %	3,983	61 %				
March	2,863	31 %	5,741	62 %				
April	2,395	32 %	4,586	61 %				
May	2,866	30 %	5,812	62 %				
June	902	25 %	1,763	49 %				

Jill Henesey
Director of Food and Nutrition Services
Office: 508-758-2772 x1543
Mobile: 774-320-0801
Email: jillhenesey@oldrochester.org
<https://www.facebook.com/ORRnutrition4kids>



Rochester Memorial School

16 Pine Street
Rochester, MA 02770
(508) 763-2049



Heidi J. Letendre, Principal
heidiletendre@oldrochester.org

Charles West, Assistant Principal
charleswest@oldrochester.org

To: Superintendent Michael Nelson
Members of the Rochester Memorial School Committee
Administrative Team Members
From: Heidi Letendre, Principal
Re: Principal's Report-Meeting September 25, 2025
Date: September 22, 2025

Opening of School:

- The opening of school went smoothly. Our students transitioned with ease during the first week of school. The two Open House nights went well and families and staff did like the layout. The staff discussed options for next year at their staff meeting on Wednesday, September 17th and agreed to having Open House on the same night.
- Kindergarten orientation was well attended and each student with their family took a short bus ride for the first time.
- Preschoolers transitioned happily to school the week of September 2nd.
- The Kindergarten BBQ was held on Tuesday, August 26th and was well attended. We are grateful to our PTO and Rochester Fire Department for their support and cooking for our families.

Staffing Updates:

Rochester Memorial School has welcomed new staff members to our team over the summer months.

Our new faculty includes:

- Meghan Craig, Paraprofessional
- Jennifer Rosati, Paraprofessional
- Bailey Sweet, 6th Grade Special Education
- Debra Smith, 4th Grade Special Education
- Emily Lacasse, Speech Language Pathologist
- Lisa Russello, Administrative Assistant

Educator Milestones:

Congratulations to ...

- 10 Years of Service
Kathryn St. Yves - Kindergarten Teacher
- 20 Years of Service
Darbi Lambert-Matos - Special Education Teacher (Speech/Language)
Tara Nelson - Grade 1 Teacher



Rochester Memorial School

16 Pine Street
Rochester, MA 02770
(508) 763-2049



Heidi J. Letendre, Principal
heidiletendre@oldrochester.org

Charles West, Assistant Principal
charleswest@oldrochester.org

- 25 Years of Service
Beth Hemenway - Art Teacher

Curriculum and Instruction Updates:

- Envisions Math is new to RMS this year and we will be meeting with Susan Looney each month within grade level teams. Mrs. Looney is a math consultant and will assist with the navigation of Envisions and implementation of best math practices throughout the year.
- Beginning of year assessments are underway for both reading and math. Faculty will meet with administrators and interventionists to review data and make recommendations for instructional focus areas.
- RMS will continue with School Literacy Leadership Team meetings as well as hosting data meetings throughout the school year.

Additional Updates:

- Through Capital Planning, the kindergarten playground is getting two new pieces of play equipment-the fire truck and train will be replaced. The students are very excited about the new equipment coming.
- RMS will continue with The Feinstein Foundation and tickets went home. This year the school donation award for the winning ticket will be \$2,000.00 and \$500.00 to a charity of the student's choosing.
- ALICE: Mrs. Letendre and Mr. West met with Rochester Police to plan for ALICE training with staff, which took place on Wednesday, September 24th during the half day PD Day.
- Grade Level Meetings: Mr. West has been running grade level meetings to review school expectations, along with a review of what bullying means and action steps, as well as bus safety and more.

Shout Outs:

~A big thank you to Mrs. Lisa Russello and Mrs. Kim Amato, our Administrative Assistants, for their work preparing for a successful start to the new school year.

~Thank you to our custodian team, led by Mr. Gilly Leonardo, who worked all summer to prepare our classrooms from top to bottom. The floors are so shiny.

~We would like to thank Mr. Bill Simmons and the technology team, for their dedicated work in setting up our iPads, Chromebooks, and phone extensions. This year, our kindergarten and first graders received new iPads.

Upcoming Dates:

- Wednesday, October 8th: Staff Meeting 3:15-4:15 PM



Rochester Memorial School

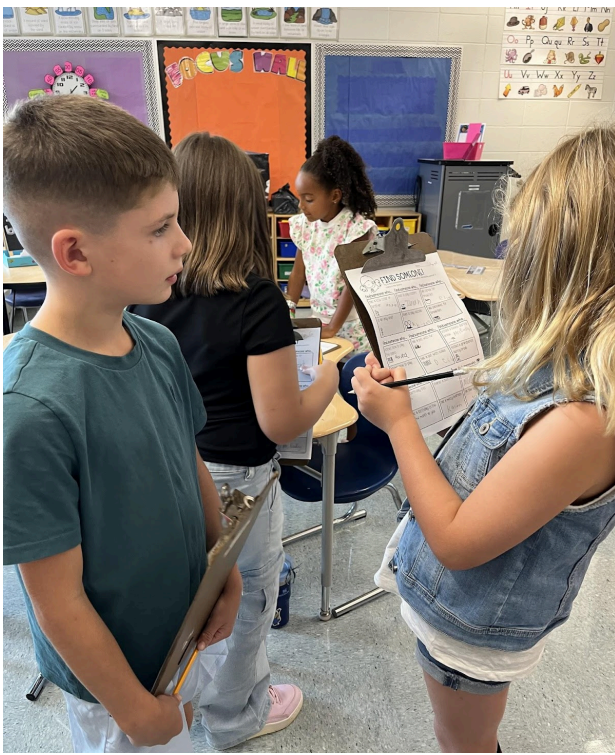
16 Pine Street
Rochester, MA 02770
(508) 763-2049



Heidi J. Letendre, Principal
heidiletendre@oldrochester.org

Charles West, Assistant Principal
charleswest@oldrochester.org

- Wednesday, October 8th: SLLT Meeting
- Thursday, October 9th and 30th: PLC Meeting Dates
- Wednesday, Oct. 15th: Celebrations Committee at 3:10 PM
- Wednesday, Oct. 22nd: Project 351 Students go to High School
- Friday, October 17th: Susan Looney will be at RMS for grades K-2 teacher meetings
- Tuesday, October 21st: Susan Looney is meeting with grades 3-6 teachers
- Thursday, October 23, 2025: Make-up Picture Day
- Parent-Teacher Conferences:
 - Thursday, October 23, 2025: Students begin dismissal at 12:25 pm
 - Friday, October 24, 2025: Students begin dismissal at 12:25 pm





READS Collaborative - www.readscollab.org
Quarterly Report Overview - June 2025

- READS Strategic Plan Priorities: 2024 - 2029 ([READS Strategic Plan 24 - 29](#))
 - Implement Programs that Prioritize the Health, Safety, and Sense of Belonging for All Students and Staff
 - READS Collaborative has contracted with CrisisGo for implementation of an emergency system to alert Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) staff and students within the DHH Program starting in August 2025.
 - CrisisGo management system for screening visitors will also be implemented for both of the READS Collaborative school buildings (44 Bedford Street, Middleborough and 399 Old Colony Road, Norton). There will be a CrisisGo visitor check-in screener system set up at both Suite A and B entrances located at 44 Bedford Street, Middleborough and the main entrance at the 399 Old Colony Road, Norton location.
 - READS Academy has notified families and students of the new “No Cell Phone Use Policy” for the beginning of the 25-26 school year. Yondr pouches will be used to allow students to safely secure their cell phones while in their possession. Parents/Guardians were offered an informational question and answer session scheduled for June 11th, 2025.
 - Develop a 5 Year Plan for Recruiting and Retaining Diverse Highly Qualified Staff that Provides for the development of their Skills in Educating High Needs Students from All Backgrounds
 - Dr. Beth Estrella, Director of District Services, and Mrs. Rebekah Marchilena, DHH Program Director, updated the READS Collaborative Mentoring Program and onboarding process.
 - Review and Strengthen Curriculum and Improve the Fidelity of Specialized Supports
 - The Executive Director has collected a master list of the current curriculum used and current needs for both the READS Academy and DHH Programs.
 - Provide Programs and Services that are Cost-Effective, as well as High Quality and Evidence-Based, to ensure that READS is the Preferred Provider for its 20 Member Districts.
 - READS Collaborative has purchased the building located at 399 Old Colony Road, Norton effective June 3rd, 2025 to address DHH Program space needs.
 - Planning for necessary renovations to the building located at 399 Old Colony Road, Norton have already been initiated with implementation beginning immediately after purchase is official.
- Fiscal Update
 - The most recent financial projection update to close out FY25 budget was presented at the June 5th Board meeting. This updated budget includes anticipated one-time expenditures for the renovations needed for 399 Old Colony Road, Norton.
- Legislation/Compliance
 - READS FY25 Annual Report and FY25 Financial Audit were approved by the DESE. Both documents are posted on the website.
 - The Executive Director has begun the application process for the new DHH School building located at 399 Old Colony Road, Norton.
- Programmatic Information
 - Ms. Amy Saraiva was hired as the new READS Academy Program Director effective July 1, 2025, replacing Mrs. Erinn Fauteux who resigned effective June 30th, 2025.
 - Mrs. Kyla Couture was hired as the new READS DHH Program Assistant Director effective July 1, 2025. She is filling a position that has been open since Ms. Shannon Allen resigned in July 2023.
 - READS Academy proudly graduated 9 students from both campuses, Middleboro and West Bridgewater.
 - READS DHH Program proudly graduated 3 students from both campuses, Norton Public Schools and Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School.



READS Collaborative - www.readscollab.org
Quarterly Report Overview - September 2025

- READS Strategic Plan Priorities: 2024 - 2029 ([READS Strategic Plan 24 - 29](#))
 - Implement Programs that Prioritize the Health, Safety, and Sense of Belonging for All Students and Staff
 - READS Academy has successfully implemented the new “No Cell Phone Use Policy” for the beginning of the 25-26 school year. Yondr pouches are used to allow students to safely secure their cell phones while in their possession.
 - Develop a 5 Year Plan for Recruiting and Retaining Diverse Highly Qualified Staff that Provides for the development of their Skills in Educating High Needs Students from All Backgrounds.
 - There were 20 new staff members who participated in the New Staff Orientation Day held on Friday, August 22nd. All new staff, both licensed and support staff, have been assigned a mentor within their respective fields for the school year.
 - Both the Academy and the DHH Program began the school year with all licensed educator positions filled.
 - Review and Strengthen Curriculum and Improve the Fidelity of Specialized Supports
 - An internal posting has gone out to all staff for 3 Curriculum PLC Leader stipend positions. One each for Suite A and Suite B at the Academy and one for the DHH Program.
 - Provide Programs and Services that are Cost-Effective, as well as High Quality and Evidence-Based, to ensure that READS is the Preferred Provider for its 20 Member Districts.
 - READS Collaborative entered into a 3-year contract with Norton Public Schools on August 12th as the host district for the READS Collaborative Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) Program ensuring continuity of services and inclusive opportunities for DHH students.
 - The Executive Director provided a half day of professional development to Carver Public Schools and a full day of professional development to East Bridgewater Public Schools.
- Fiscal Update
 - The most recent financial projection update to close out FY25 budget was presented at the June 5th Board meeting. This updated budget includes anticipated one-time expenditures for the renovations needed for 399 Old Colony Road, Norton. The Business Manager will provide a final update on the FY25 budget at the November 6, 2025 Board meeting, including any updates from the new building renovation.
- Legislation/Compliance
 - There are no current updates to report in this area.
- Programmatic Information
 - Both the READS Academy and DHH Programs provided successful ESY programming to their students for 5 weeks during the summer break.
 - Due to delays in acquiring necessary permits earlier in the summer, the DHH Program in collaboration with Norton Public Schools implemented the contingency plan for grades PreK-3 to be provided classroom spaces until the new DHH building completes its current renovations.
 - Mrs. Carrie Smith, Clinical Director for READS Academy Suite A, was selected as the Employee of the Year for FY25.
 - Mr Dylan Mallach, Specialized Educational Assistant for DHH, was selected as recipient for the John Carty “Hidden Heroes Award”.



July 14, 2025

Michael Nelson, Superintendent
Old Rochester Regional School District
135 Marion Rd
Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Re: Office of Public School Monitoring Integrated Monitoring Review Report

Dear Superintendent Nelson:

The Office of Public School Monitoring (PSM) recently conducted an Integrated Monitoring Review (IMR) in your district. During this review, the Department monitored selected special education and civil rights criteria to determine your district's compliance with laws and regulations.

We are pleased to tell you that the Department has found your district to be in compliance with all Group B Universal Standards monitored during the PSM Review, and no corrective action is required at this time.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Integrated Monitoring Review Report. To access the IMR Report on the Department's website, please visit <http://www.doe.mass.edu> and select *Security Portal* then *PQA WebMonitoring*. Continue by selecting *Home > PSM Integrated Monitoring Review (IMR) > Proposed Findings/IMR Reports > Integrated Monitoring Review Report (IMR) > View FMR Report*.

In closing, we would like to thank the administration and staff who shared their time and thoughts so generously during the preparation and onsite phases of the review, and we commend you on your commitment and diligence in the areas reviewed. Special thanks are given to Jaime Curley for coordinating this visit for the district. Should you need any additional information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Winnie Koko at (781) 338-3736.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Winnie Koko".

Winnie Koko
Office of Public School Integrated Monitoring Review Chairperson

Jessee Kihiko

Jessee Kihiko, Supervisor
Office of Public School Monitoring

cc: Michelle Smith, School Committee Chairperson
Jaime Curley, Local Monitoring Review Coordinator
Amy Paulin, Assistant Director, Office of Public School Monitoring
Vani Rastogi-Kelly, Director, Office of Public School Monitoring



Old Rochester Regional School District

**INTEGRATED MONITORING REVIEW
REPORT**

Office of Public School Monitoring

For Group B Universal Standards

Date of Onsite Visit: May 13, 2025
Date of Report: July 14, 2025

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Onsite Team Members:
Winnie Koko, Chairperson
Henry Ndakalu



Pedro Martinez
Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education

**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
INTEGRATED MONITORING REVIEW REPORT**

Old Rochester Regional School District

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**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
OFFICE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL MONITORING
INTEGRATED MONITORING REVIEW REPORT INTRODUCTION**

During the 2024-2025 school year, Old Rochester Regional School District participated in an Integrated Monitoring Review (IMR) conducted by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE or Department) Office of Public School Monitoring (PSM). The purpose of the Integrated Monitoring Review is to monitor compliance with regulatory requirements focusing on special education and civil rights. **The Department is pleased to report that the district was found to be in compliance with all criteria reviewed; no corrective action is required at this time.**

Components of the Integrated Monitoring Review



Integrated Monitoring is one of eight components of a state's general supervision system. One aspect of Integrated Monitoring is the Integrated Monitoring Review. Each school district, charter school, vocational school, and virtual school undergoes an Integrated Monitoring Review every three years. The Department's Office of Public School Monitoring (PSM) is responsible for conducting these reviews and works closely with offices throughout the Department including, but not limited to, the Office of Special Education Planning and Policy (SEPP), Problem Resolution System Office (PRS), and the Office of Approved Special Education Schools (OASES) to promote cohesion and collaboration across the Department's general supervision system. As set forth in the diagram above, Integrated Monitoring Review is one of the multilayered, cohesive, and formal processes employed by the Department to examine and evaluate all LEAs' implementation of IDEA with a particular emphasis on educational results, functional outcomes, and compliance.

The monitoring cycle is posted at [Integrated Monitoring Review Three Year Cycle](#).

Regularly monitored standards are divided into two groups, known as Group A Universal Standards and Group B Universal Standards. Districts and schools are monitored on an alternate set of Universal Standards every three years.

Group A Universal Standards address:

- Student identification
- IEP development
- Programming and support services
- Equal opportunity

Template Version 250331

Group B Universal Standards address:

- Licensure and professional development
- Parent/student/community engagement
- Facilities and classroom observations
- Oversight
- Time and learning
- Equal access

The Department has also reserved a specific set of criteria, collectively known as Focused Standards, which are reviewed if the Department deems appropriate due to concerns with those particular standards. In those circumstances, the identified Focused Standards are assessed in addition to the Universal Standards.

Universal Standards and Focused Standards are aligned with the following regulations:

Special Education (SE)

- Selected requirements from the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. § 1400 *et seq* and accompanying regulations at 34 CFR Part 300.
- Massachusetts General Law Chapter 71B, and the Massachusetts Special Education regulations (603 CMR 28.00).

Civil Rights Methods of Administration and Other General Education Requirements (CR)

- Specific federal civil rights requirements, including requirements under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA); Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, together with select state requirements under M.G.L. c. 76, § 5 and M.G.L. c. 269 §§ 17 through 19.
- Specific requirements from the Massachusetts Physical Restraint regulations (603 CMR 46.00).
- Specific requirements from the Massachusetts Student Learning Time regulations (603 CMR 27.00).
- Specific requirements from the Massachusetts Student Records regulations (603 CMR 23.00).
- Various requirements under other federal and state laws and regulations.

Integrated Monitoring Review Process:

Discovery: During the Discovery stage, the PSM chairperson analyzes data and information to prepare for the onsite visit. The chairperson also reviews documents submitted by the district/school.

Engagement: The Engagement stage of the Integrated Monitoring Review includes all activities conducted onsite and/or virtually through the issuance of the Integrated Monitoring Review Report. Such activities may include record review, interviews, and observations.

Close-out: Once the Report is issued, the Close-out stage begins for the schools and districts with any identified findings of noncompliance. The Close-out stage includes the development of the Correction Action Plan and completion of subsequent progress reports to ensure all instances of noncompliance are resolved within one year of the issuance of the Integrated Monitoring Review Report.

PSM Team:

Depending upon the size of a school district and the number of special education programs to be reviewed, a team of one to four Department staff members conducts onsite activities over one to five days in a school district or charter school.

Report for Integrated Monitoring Reviews:

The Integrated Monitoring Review Report will be issued within approximately 30 days of the conclusion of the onsite visit.

Pre-finding Corrections:

During the Discovery and Engagement stages of the review, PSM staff may find that the district/school violated an IDEA requirement prior to the issuance of a finding in the Integrated Monitoring Review Report. In such cases, PSM staff may implement the pre-finding correction protocol. If PSM staff verify that the identified noncompliance is resolved prior to the issuance of the report, no finding is made. However, a list of any pre-finding corrections will be included in the Integrated Monitoring Review Report. More information regarding the pre-finding correction protocol can be found in the PSM procedures at <https://www.doe.mass.edu/psm/procedures.docx>.

Ratings: In the Integrated Monitoring Review Report, the onsite team gives a rating for each compliance criterion it has reviewed; those ratings are “Commendable,” “Implemented,” “Implementation in Progress,” “Partially Implemented,” “Not Implemented,” “Not Applicable,” and “Prior Noncompliance - Corrective Action Under Review.”

The onsite team includes a comment in the Integrated Monitoring Review Report for each criterion that it rates “Commendable,” “Partially Implemented,” “Not Implemented,” or “Prior Noncompliance - Corrective Action Under Review,” explaining the basis for the rating.

Corrective Action: Where criteria are found “Partially Implemented” or “Not Implemented,” a corrective action plan (CAP) is developed to bring those areas into compliance with the relevant statutes and regulations. Department staff work with districts and charter schools on the development of an appropriate CAP.

PSM staff also provide ongoing technical assistance as the school or district is implementing the approved CAP. **School districts and charter schools must demonstrate effective resolution of noncompliance identified by the Department as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from the issuance of the Department’s Final Monitoring Report.**

Where criteria are rated “Prior Noncompliance - Corrective Action Under Review,” the district/charter school will work with staff from the specific Department office that identified the noncompliance to develop a corrective action plan.

For more information regarding the Integrated Monitoring Review Process, including district and parent resources, please visit < <https://www.doe.mass.edu/psm/integrated/default.html> >.

INTEGRATED MONITORING REVIEW DETAILS for Old Rochester Regional School District

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education conducted an Integrated Monitoring Review in Old Rochester Regional School District during the week of May 12, 2025, to evaluate the implementation of Group B Universal Standards in the program areas of special education, civil rights, and other related general education requirements. The team appreciated the opportunity to interview staff and parents, to observe classroom facilities, and to review the programs underway in the district.

In preparing this report, the team reviewed extensive written documentation regarding the operation of the district's programs, together with information gathered by means of the following Department program review methods:

District Civil Rights Self-Assessment Phase:

- Review of civil rights documentation for required elements including document uploads.
- Upon completion, the civil rights self-assessment was submitted to the Department for review.

Discovery Phase:

- Review of key data points focused on educational results and functional outcomes. For more details regarding the data review, please see the PSM procedures at <https://www.doe.mass.edu/psm/procedures.docx>.

Engagement Phase:

- Interviews of administrative, instructional, and support staff consistent with those criteria selected for onsite verification.
- Interviews of special education parent advisory council (SEPAC) representatives and other telephone interviews, as requested by other parents or members of the general public.
- Review of additional documents for special education and civil rights.
- Surveys of parents of students in special education: Parents of students in special education were sent a survey that solicited information regarding their experiences with the district's implementation of special education programs, related services, and procedural requirements.
- Observations of classrooms and other facilities: The onsite team visited a sample of classrooms and other school facilities used in the delivery of programs and services to determine general levels of compliance with program requirements.

The Integrated Monitoring Review Report typically includes those criteria that were found by the team to be implemented in a "Commendable" manner, as well as for criteria receiving a rating of "Partially Implemented," "Not Implemented," "Implementation in Progress", or "Prior Noncompliance - Corrective Action Under Review." (Refer to the "Definition of Compliance Ratings" section of the report.) Reports do not include criteria receiving a rating of "Implemented" or "Not Applicable." **Therefore, the district will not receive a report that includes ratings and findings, as the team found the district to be in compliance with all criteria reviewed.**

DEFINITION OF COMPLIANCE RATINGS

Commendable	Any requirement or aspect of a requirement implemented in an exemplary manner significantly beyond the requirements of law or regulation.
Implemented	The requirement is substantially met in all important aspects.
Implementation in Progress	This rating is used for criteria containing new or updated legal requirements; the district has implemented any old requirements contained in the criterion and is training staff or beginning to implement the new requirements in such a way that the onsite team anticipates that the new requirements will be implemented by the end of the school year.
Partially Implemented	The requirement, in one or several important aspects, is not entirely met.
Not Implemented	The requirement is totally or substantially not met.
Prior Noncompliance - Corrective Action Under Review	A finding of noncompliance was made by another office in the Department and the school/district is currently undergoing corrective action activities.
Not Applicable	The requirement does not apply to the school district or charter school.

Old Rochester Regional School District

SUMMARY OF COMPLIANCE CRITERIA RATINGS

	Universal Standards Special Education	Universal Standards Civil Rights and Other General Education Requirements
IMPLEMENTED	SE 15, SE 32, SE 35, SE 36, SE 50, SE 51, SE 52, SE 52A, SE 54, SE 55, SE 56	CR 3, CR 7, CR 7A, CR 7B, CR 7C, CR 8, CR 10A, CR 10B, CR 10C, CR 12A, CR 16, CR 17A, CR 20, CR 21, CR 22, CR 23, CR 24, CR 25
PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED	None	
NOT IMPLEMENTED	None	
NOT APPLICABLE	None	

The full list of criteria and information regarding the requirements can be found in Appendix B of the Tiered Focused Monitoring Toolkit available at < <https://www.doe.mass.edu/psm/resources/tfm-toolkit.docx> >.

This Integrated Monitoring Review Final Report is also available at:
<https://www.doe.mass.edu/psm/tfm/reports/>.
Profile information supplied by each charter school and school district, including information for
individual schools within districts, is available at
<http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/>.

WBMS Final Report 07/14/2025

File Name: Old Rochester Regional School District
Last Revised on: 07/14/2025
Prepared by: JK/WK/AP

Fiscal Crisis Sign on Letter (Fall 2025)

The public school fiscal crisis is impacting communities across Massachusetts. Today, we ask you to sign on to the letter below to publicly urge that the governor and Legislature take decisive action to address it in the FY27 state budget. For more information, please email fiscalcrisis@massteacher.org.

Dear Governor Healey and members of the Legislature,

We, the undersigned, write to you on behalf of the thousands of students, educators and community members who we collectively represent. We are writing to demand decisive state action in the FY2027 budget and using available Fair Share surplus funds to address the fiscal crisis facing our public school districts. It is increasingly clear that public schools across our state are facing significant fiscal challenges caused by severe flaws in our school funding policies that are rapidly undermining our students' constitutional right to a high-quality and fully funded public education. Funding from all sources has not kept pace with growing demands for programs, services and staffing to adequately meet students' academic, social-emotional and mental health needs. Federal ESSER funds have been spent and actions in Washington threaten our budgets. Proposition 2½ has stalled many communities' ability to raise revenues locally, and state aid under Chapter 70, while increasing overall thanks to the Student Opportunity Act, has proven inadequate for a majority of school districts for a variety of structural reasons. The result has been devastating cuts to programs and staff that are touching classrooms throughout Massachusetts. This must be addressed.

We cannot accept this situation as an unavoidable reality that our students, educators and local communities must navigate on their own, even in light of a difficult fiscal environment. Given the Commonwealth's proud tradition of supporting public education and an understanding of solutions that can begin to address the fiscal challenges facing our schools, we believe that you can take steps at the state level to solve this crisis. It is essential that you act with urgency and in ways that deliver resources to school districts of all types – from Gateway cities and minimum aid communities to rural and regional schools.

Specifically, we urge you to focus on advancing the following priorities that would provide relief to the school districts we collectively represent:

- Strengthening the Special Education Circuit Breaker Program.
- Fixing the Chapter 70 inflation cap.
- Fully reimbursing regional and non-regional school districts for student transportation costs.
- Significantly increasing rural school aid.
- Further mitigating the financial impact of charter schools on traditional public schools.
- Making targeted investments in the staffing and programs needed to best support student mental health.

While addressing these issues would not solve the entirety of the fiscal challenges in public education, doing so would bring urgently needed resources to Massachusetts districts. We are counting on you to take meaningful steps in the coming months to deliver the funds that we need to succeed and that adequately

reflect the Commonwealth's historical commitment to public education.

Thank you for your consideration.

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

1. Your First and Last Name *

Enter your answer

2. Your Email Address *

Enter your answer

3. Your Hometown *

Enter your answer

4. Your Title (select all that apply) *

☐ Local Association President

☐ School Committee Member

☐ School Committee Chair

☐ Superintendent

- ☐ City Council Member
- ☐ Town Council Member
- ☐ Select Board Member
- ☐ Other

5. Name of Your Organization (no acronyms please) *

Enter your answer

6. By submitting this form, you authorize the Massachusetts Teachers Association to add your name to this letter, which will be released publicly. If you have questions, please email fiscalcrisis@massteacher.org. *

☐ Yes

You can print a copy of your answer after you submit

Never give out your password. [Report abuse](#)



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