

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**

May 7, 2026 at 4:00 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. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comment

Public comment is governed by approved school committee policy.

IV. Recognition

That the School Committee recognize first grader students for their recent “Save the Animals” show.

V. Approval of Minutes (VOTE)

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

- a. **Regular Session Minutes: April 9, 2026 Budget Hearing and April 9, 2026 School Choice Hearing**
- b. **Executive Session Minutes: April 9, 2026**

VI. General

a. Approval of Donation(s) (VOTE)

That the School Committee review the following:

- A donation of the following recess supplies from the Binder family; two full size soccer nets, four kickballs, twelve soccer balls, chalk, twelve jump ropes and ten footballs.
- A donation of the following books from the Plumb Library; *News from Me*, *Lucy McGee* by Mary Amato, *Starla Jean Take the Cake* by Elana Arnold, *Pine Island Visitors* by Polly Horvath, *Two Friends*, *One Dog and a Very Unusual Week* by Sarah Thomson, *Make a Difference* by Sarah Dillard, *Eugenia Lincoln and the Unexpected Package* by Kate DiCamillo, *The Smartest Kid in the Universe* by Chris Grabenstein, *Home Away from Home* by Cynthia Lord, *Save Me a Seat* by Sarah Weeks, *Happily Ever After Rescue Team* by Sam Hay, *Have a Slice Day* by Nancy Krulik, *The Greatest Kid in the World* by John Anderson, *The Secret Explorers and the Missing Scientist* by SJ King, *The Secret Explorers and the Jurassic Rescue* by SJ King, *The Secret Explorers and the Tomb Raiders* by SJ King, *The Secret Explorers and the Lost Whales* by SJ King, *By the Light of Fireflies: A Novel of Ware Hero Sybil Ludington* by Jenni Walsh, *Dumplings by Day* by Grace Lin, *Charlie & Mouse Outdoors Book 4* by Laurel Snyder, *Bear in the Family* by Eric Walters, *Amelia Bedelia Road Trip!* By Herman Parish, *Pahua and the Soul Stealer* by Lori Lee and *Fly Monarch! Fly!* By Nancy Elizaeth Wallace.

b. Approval of 2026-2027 Leases (VOTE)

That the School Committee review the leases with Countryside and SMEC for the 2026-2027 school year.

VII. 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 April 15, 2026.
- v. Facilities

That the School Committee review this month's update from Facilities Director Eugene Jones.
- vi. Food Service

That the School Committee review this month's update from Food Service Director Jill Henesey.

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.

VIII. School Committee Reports

View agendas, resources and minutes online: <https://www.oldrochester.org/district/sc>.

- 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

IX. Information and Future Agenda Items

a. Information

- i. Letter from Senator Rodrigues regarding Line Item Earmark – Rochester Public Schools

b. Timeline

- i. Next Rochester School Committee: *Wednesday, June 3, 2026
- ii. Next Joint School Committee: *Tuesday, June 9, 2026

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.olderochester.org/district-calendar>

X. 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.olderochester.org/district/sc>

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

April 9, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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

I. Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:06pm by Chairperson Duggan. 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.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. FY2027 Budget Public Hearing

That the School Committee open a public hearing for a presentation of the FY2027 Budget for Rochester Memorial School. Public comment is available during the hearing.

Superintendent Nelson and Chairperson Duggan welcomed those present.

Motion to open the Budget Public Hearing at 6:08pm by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Kirstin Jimenez

Motion Carries 5-0

Mr. Barber presented the proposed FY2027 Superintendent's Budget.

Our Vision

- 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

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.

Budget Priorities

A budget that supports the following priorities:

- 1) Alignment to the Five Year Strategic Plan
- 2) Ensuring High Expectations of Teaching and Learning for All Students
- 3) Efficiency and Cost-Effectiveness Measures
- 4) Data-Driven Decision-Making

Budget Development Process

Preparation and Planning:

Superintendent, school administrators and other stakeholders analyze past budgets, assess current financial status and set budgetary goals for the upcoming fiscal year.

Budget Proposal Creation:

Based on the planning stage, a preliminary budget proposal is developed. This proposal outlines anticipated revenues, expenditures and allocations for different programs and departments.

The budget proposal may include funding for personnel salaries, benefits, instructional materials, technology, facilities maintenance, transportation and other operational costs.

Budget Review and Revision:

The preliminary budget proposal(s) undergoes a thorough review by school administrators and budget subcommittee.

Adjustments and revisions are made based on feedback, financial constraints and any changes in priorities or mandates.

Input and Hearings:

Superintendent holds meetings where the school's Budget Subcommittee, Town Administrator and Town Representatives can provide input, ask questions and provide feedback about the budget proposal.

Feedback from the attendees may influence further revisions to the budget.

School Committee Budget Approval:

After incorporating feedback and making necessary adjustments, the final Superintendent's Budget proposal is presented to the School Committee and community at a Budget Public Hearing for approval.

The School Committee reviews the budget, conducts discussions and may vote to approve or make additional changes before finalizing the budget.

Final Budget Approval:

Once the budget is approved by the School Committee, the School Committee's Proposed Budget is presented at the Annual Town Meeting.

The Superintendent or designated representative attends the Annual Town Meeting to offer any additional information in support of the School Committee's Proposed Budget.

Next, Mr. Barber provided information on the different parts of the budget.

Financial Overview

- Bristol County Agricultural High School
- Grants and Other Special Revenues
- General Funds

Bristol County Agricultural High School

- Placement of Students Enrolled in Out of District Vocational School
- Ten (10) Rochester Resident Students

➤ **Bristol County Agricultural High School "BCAHS"**

Expenditure	Fiscal Year 2026	Fiscal Year 2027	Changes	Notes
Tuition - Enrollment	\$ 190,634	\$ 245,443	\$ 54,809	Ten (10) Students Enrolled
Debt Service	\$ 47,837	\$ 59,810	\$ 11,973	Long Term Debt - Student Count Based
Transportation - Contracted Busing	\$ 46,440	\$ 51,940	\$ 5,500	Bus Contract Allocated Between Two (2) Districts
Total BCAHS Costs	\$ 284,911	\$ 357,193	\$ 72,282	

- Tuition – Total Cost of Student Placement
- Debt Service – Total Cost of BCAHS Building Construction by Student Assessment
- Transportation – Total Contracted Transportation to Transport from Rochester to BCAHS

Grants and Other Special Revenues
Funding Offsets

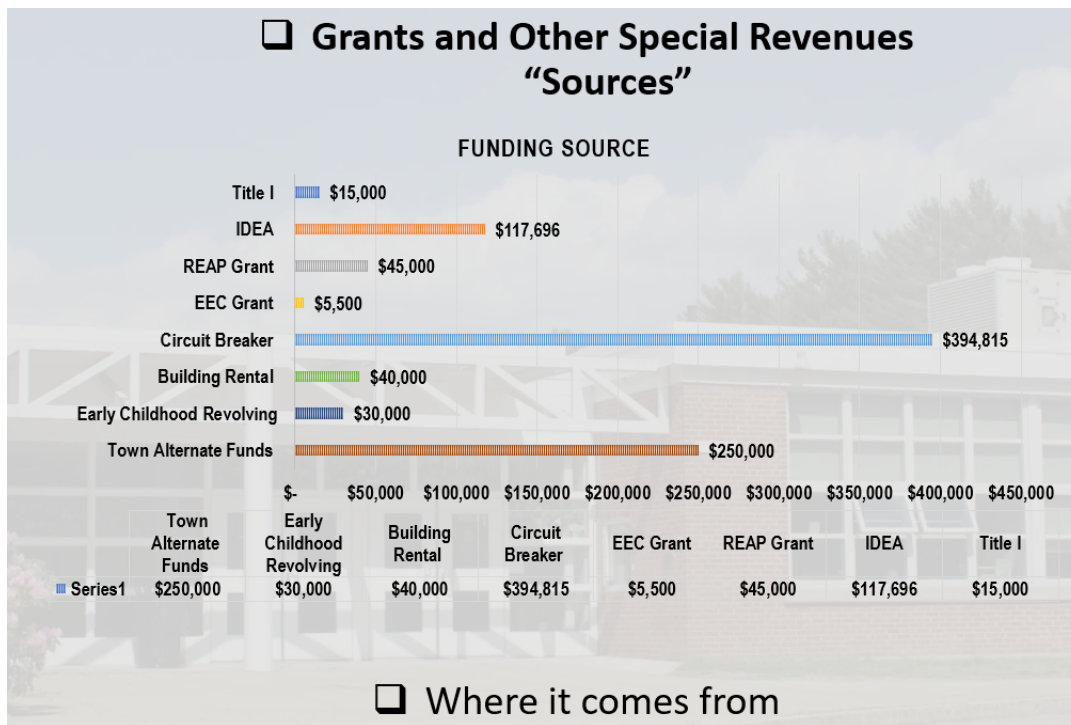
☐ **Grants and Other Special Revenues "Funding Offsets"**

Rochester Public Schools Superintendent's Proposed Budget for June 30, 2027

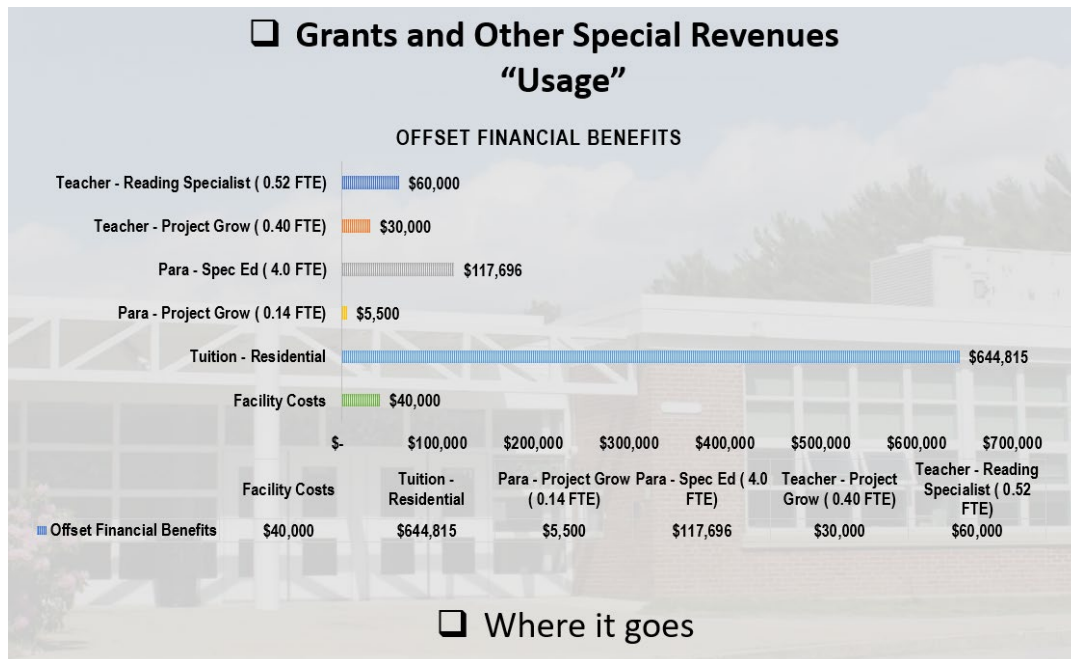
Building or Department	Funding Offsets
Rochester Memorial School	\$ 213,196
Student Services	\$ 644,815
Facilities	\$ 40,000
Total FY27 Funding Offsets	\$ 898,011

- ☐ Buildings and Departments Supplemented by Alternate Funding

Grants and Others Special Revenues
Sources



Grants and Other Special Revenues
Usage



Then, Mr. Barber provided a financial overview.

- General Funds
 - Primary Source of Funding for:
 - Academics
 - Student Services
 - Facilities
 - Technology
 - Transportation

Proposed Operating Budget

**Rochester Public Schools
Superintendent's Proposed Budget
for June 30, 2027**

Building or Department	Budget Amounts
Rochester Memorial School	\$ 5,069,584
Central Office	\$ 265,485
Student Services	\$ 822,755
Facilities	\$ 606,584
Technology	\$ 108,761
Transportation	\$ 765,000
Total FY27 Proposed Budget	\$ 7,638,169
Total FY26 Approved Budget	\$ 7,351,882
	\$ 286,287
	3.894%

General Funds

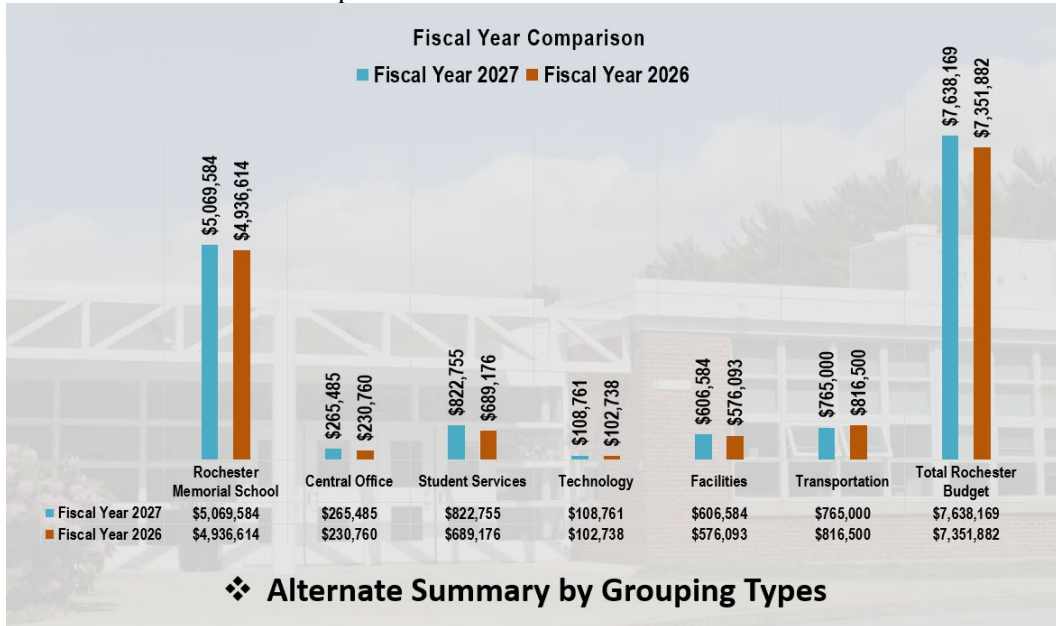
❖ General Funds

**Rochester Public Schools
Superintendent's Proposed Budget
for June 30, 2027**

Building or Department	Fiscal Year 2027	Fiscal Year 2026	Fiscal Year 2026
Rochester Memorial School	\$ 5,069,584	\$ 4,936,614	\$ 132,970
Central Office	\$ 265,485	\$ 230,760	\$ 34,725
Student Services	\$ 822,755	\$ 689,176	\$ 133,578
Technology	\$ 108,761	\$ 102,738	\$ 6,024
Facilities	\$ 606,584	\$ 576,093	\$ 30,491
Transportation	\$ 765,000	\$ 816,500	\$ (51,500)
Total Rochester Budget	\$ 7,638,169	\$ 7,351,882	\$ 286,287

❖ Comparison Summary by Grouping

General Funds Comparison between FY2026 and FY2027



Then, Mr. Barber presented the significant changes to the FY2027 budget.

Cost Drivers Rochester Public Schools Superintendent's Proposed Budget for June 30, 2027				
Building or Department	Fiscal Year 2027	Fiscal Year 2026	Department Changes	Notes
Rochester Memorial School	\$ 5,069,584	\$ 4,936,614	\$ 132,970	Staff Reduction - 4 FTE(s), Union Contract Compensation
Central Office	\$ 265,485	\$ 230,760	\$ 34,725	Immaterial - No Changes
Student Services	\$ 822,755	\$ 689,176	\$ 133,578	Special Education Costs - Supplemental
Technology	\$ 108,761	\$ 102,738	\$ 6,024	Immaterial - No Changes
Facilities	\$ 606,584	\$ 576,093	\$ 30,491	Contract Costs of Utilities
Transportation	\$ 765,000	\$ 816,500	\$ (51,500)	Contracted Regular and Special Education Busing
Total Rochester Budget	\$ 7,638,169	\$ 7,351,882	\$ 286,287	3.894%
Student Services	\$ 250,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 50,000	Special Education Costs - Free Cash Supplement
Total Alternative Funds Budget	\$ 250,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 50,000	25.000%
Total Rochester Budget Obligations	\$ 7,888,169	\$ 7,551,882	\$ 336,287	4.453%

\$250,000 of Fiscal Year 2027 Special Education costs are to be supplemented by a warrant article.

Building Based Costs Professional Staff

- Staff Reduction
- Four (4) Classroom Teachers
- Net \$311,000 Decrease

Student Services

- Tuition Based Student Programs
 - Placement Programs Less Supplemental Funding
 - \$92,000 Increase
 - Supplemental Funding
 - \$50,000
 - Circuit Breaker FY2026 to Fy2027 Change
 - \$394,000 Increase
 - Net \$536,000 Increase

Facilities and Operations

- Building Based Utilities
 - PPA Electricity Costs
 - Net \$15,00 Increase
- Contracted Custodial Costs
 - Net \$15, 000 Increase
- Estimated \$30,000 Increase

Transportation

- Regular Day Transportation
 - Bus Contract
 - Estimated \$61,000 Increase
- Special Needs Transportation
 - Placement and Route Changes
 - Estimated \$114,000 Decrease
- Net \$53,000 Decrease

Mr. Barber further explained information related the Governor's budget.
Governor's Proposed Budget Chapter 70 Aid

Governor's Proposed Budget Chapter 70 Aid

Comparison to FY26

Description	FY26	FY27	Change	Pct Chg
Enrollment	473	452	-21	-4.44%
Foundation budget	6,154,033	6,139,467	-14,566	-0.24%
Required district contribution	4,242,497	4,486,494	243,997	5.75%
Chapter 70 aid	2,537,232	2,571,132	33,900	1.34%
Required net school spending (NSS)	6,779,729	7,057,626	277,897	4.10%
Target aid share	20.74%	19.34%		
C70 % of foundation	41.23%	41.88%		
Required NSS % of foundation	110.17%	114.96%		

**Note: Fiscal Year 2027 has a state Chapter 70 aid increase of
\$33,900 or 1.34% above Fiscal Year 2026**

The proposed FY2027 budget is \$7,638,169, an increase of 3.894% from FY2026.

Superintendent's Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Operating Budget

✓ Fiscal Year 2027 Proposed Budget	\$ 7,638,169
✓ Fiscal Year 2026 Approved Budget	<u>\$ 7,351,882</u>
✓ Net Increase:	<u>\$ 286,287</u>
✓ Net Percentage Increase	3.894%

School Committee Comments:

Chairperson Duggan shared the following: *Tonight, we are voting to forward a budget to Town Meeting, and I want to be transparent with everyone in this room about what that means. The role of the School Committee in budgeting is to allocate resources that the town provides to us. This year, unfortunately, RMS needed more funding to preserve existing services than in years past. This is due in large part to a substantial and unforeseeable increase in out-of-district special education costs. The town simply does not have the funds to absorb these increases and support our operating budget at the level that I, at least, feel would be best for educating our children. Rochester is not unique in this—a majority of towns statewide are facing similar challenges as costs increase across the board. Therefore, the budget we are looking at sending forward to the town includes the reduction of four educator positions and requests \$250,000 in one-time funding to help address extraordinary special education costs. While we could forward a budget without these reductions, doing so would undermine our collaborative working relationship with town officials. We are all on the same team, team Rochester, and I am truly thankful for the many meetings and phone calls we've had over the past few months to discuss what is at stake and to talk through ideas. Along those lines, I want to share the extensive list of ideas we've explored over the past few months to prevent the position reductions included in this proposed budget. A special thank you to the many parents who wrote to us suggesting some of these.*

Revenue generation ideas we explored include:

1. *Privatizing food services*
2. *Charging for bus transportation, band/chorus participation, and facility use*
3. *Finding summer rental opportunities for the school building*
4. *Raising rent for the Countryside afterschool program*
5. *Adopting school choice to bring in tuition revenue*

Town-side options we discussed include:

6. *Charging for trash pickup to generate town revenue*
7. *Selling portions of the town Fairgrounds*
8. *Applying for Representative Keating's grant for capital costs*
9. *Providing additional one-time funding beyond \$250K*

Special education cost mitigation strategies explored include:

10. *Building out the special ed stabilization fund*
11. *Applying for Circuit Breaker Extraordinary Relief*
12. *Billing Medicaid for RBT/OT/PT services*

Internal budget adjustments explored include:

13. *Analyzing Rural Aid impact*
14. *Offering early retirement to senior staff*
15. *Moving line items to one-time funds/capital*
16. *Decreasing teacher raises*

17. Factoring solar array savings into the budget
 18. Revisiting vocational school transportation charges
- State advocacy we've undertaken includes:
19. Testifying at Chapter 70 study sessions and Ways and Means hearings
 20. Ongoing letters, emails, and calls to state legislators
 21. Requesting \$300,000 in an earmark from Senator Rodrigues

Some of these ideas were not possible due to state laws or contractual obligations. Others would take too long to implement for FY27, or wouldn't provide reliable enough revenue for an operating budget. However, many of these options remain on the table as we begin planning for FY28. Additionally, if circumstances change between now and Town Meeting, we can and will amend this operating budget. The budget is not set in stone until Town Meeting votes. We remain open to every possibility that could restore these positions. I also want to acknowledge that the RMS budget was not the only one in town that had to be trimmed back. Police, fire, town hall, and all other departments are either losing staff, cutting hours, pausing new hires, or otherwise doing without the resources they would like in this difficult budget year. That brings us to something many of you have asked about: the possibility of an override vote to increase taxes in town to fund services at RMS and elsewhere in town at higher levels. I understand and applaud your desire to have a voice and a vote in this decision. From my view, the reality is that we don't have enough time to properly prepare for an override vote this spring. An override requires careful planning, community education, accurate long-term projections, and broad support. Rushing into one without that foundation would be unfair to voters and unlikely to succeed, and would very likely set us back for any future override votes as well. However, town leadership is working with a municipal financial consultant this spring, and that consultant's recommendations and five-year projections will inform discussions about an override for FY28. I fully expect the School Committee to be a part of that conversation starting this summer. Having spent untold hours these past few months listening, researching, discussing, and advocating, I can tell you: this budget is not what I want for RMS, and I know I'm not alone in that. But I believe it is the most responsible path available to us right now—causing the least possible disruption to school operations and student learning that any half-million-dollar reduction can, while keeping the door open to better outcomes if circumstances change.

With all that in mind, I can promise you that we are committed to working with town leadership, with our legislators, and with this community to do everything we can to avoid being in this same position next year. That means advocating for state funding reforms, pursuing every available revenue option, and building toward sustainable solutions. The next critical step is for all of us to show up at Town Meeting on Monday, May 18 at 7 pm, right here in this room. We need the community to show up and demonstrate support for our school by approving the FY27 RMS budget. The budget presented that night will likely be the same one approved by the school committee here tonight, and while we may find this budget inadequate, not supporting it at Town Meeting would likely result in even greater cuts. What is more, we want to show the people in town who may not have any current ties to RMS that this school and everyone in it are a critical and worthwhile investment and that Rochester's future depends on it. A strong school attracts young families, sustains property values, and keeps our town vital. Your presence at Town Meeting helps every resident understand that investing in RMS benefits all of us, not just those with children in the building today. To the teachers and parents here tonight: I see you. I hear you. I am an RMS parent too, and this hurts. But I believe that by being honest about our constraints and working together—not just as a school community but as a town—we can find a path forward that protects what matters most—the education and future of Rochester's children. Thank you for being here, and for showing how much you care about the RMS community.

Robin Rounseville shared the following: I also want to thank everyone for being here tonight. As some of you may know, I've been on the school committee for 26 years. And this has been, by far the toughest budget season that I've experienced. Just a few short months ago, we were discussing in the hope that we could add some items that had long been on our wish list, things like bus monitors, updated technology, maybe even a school resource officer. Fast forward to our annual budget hearing tonight, and we are dealing with the reality of educator layoffs. Our current budget shortfall is, in my opinion, the result of a perfect storm of factors, including rising costs in general, but particularly in utilities, transportation, and supplies, contractual obligations. Our declining enrollment contributes to a decrease in funding, and extraordinary special needs costs have wreaked havoc on an already precarious school, and by extension, town budget. On the funding side, our town's very limited resources are stretched thin at a time when costs and expenses are rising. The inability to raise funds has never been more apparent or more detrimental to town services, including RMS. In terms of state funding, outdated and inadequate funding formulas pose huge challenges to our budget process. Chapter 70, Rural Aid, and Circuit Breaker Funds are great unknowns as we begin to plan our budget each year. And when these revenues are finalized, up to 12 to 18 months in the case of Circuit Breaker, they fall woefully short of our needs. To our staff, I am not arguing that educator positions will be eliminated. As the parent of an educator, I believe teaching is more than a

profession, it is truly a calling. And our nest has had many of the best answer that call. As a grandparent to three students at RMS, I know they will not escape the impact of these staff reductions. The void that these eliminated positions will leave will be immense in their own right, and will have a ripple effect on our school community that we have all worked so hard to build. To say this is unfair is a huge understatement. I urge all of you here tonight to stay engaged, for there is much more work to be done. Whatever concerns and challenges motivated you to get involved will remain for the foreseeable future. We must continue to advocate to our town and state for adequate funding. We must urge officials, including those at DESE, to rewrite formulas that govern aid, particularly rural aid, Chapter 70, and special education funding. We must think longer term, should an override be adoption we're pursuing, and prepare to educate our community. To be clear, this is not a mismanagement problem. This is not a case of budgeting outside of our needs. We know what we need to educate all of our students. This is not a spending problem.

Kirstin Jimenez shared the following: *Well, this wasn't exactly how I had planned to spend my first year on the school committee. I was hoping to be able to say, hey, guess what? Unfortunately, that's not how it's working, but I think we have a good group, and we're going to work as hard as possible to make sure you get back what we need to help our kids be the best.*

Josh Trombly shared the following: *I hate that we're in this situation. I've said before, RMS is not RMS without the staff. Given the current budget restraints, it seems to be, unfortunately, the only viable path forward that complies with the collective bargaining agreement while avoiding further tax increases for Rochester residents. That being said, during this process, I feel that many more people have now become aware of the broken special education funding system in this state. I sincerely hope that our state and our representatives will take a much closer look at where our tax dollars are going, and move to reallocate those dollars to where they belong, so that we don't continue to be placed in these impossible situations. I'm encouraged to see people here tonight who care about our school and our town. I recognize that everybody, well, many people, are here for different reasons. But whether you're here advocating on behalf of the great teachers that we have, if you're concerned about fiscal constraints. Or if you're parents that are just curious about the process. If we can be on the same page about anything, please continue to be involved. Please continue to advocate at the state level for the students. Because in the end, that's why we're all here, and that's what really matters. Thank you for all being here and being involved.*

Public Comments:

Please view the recording of this meeting for full conversation starting around 1:02: <https://vimeo.com/1182745324>

Michelle of Rochester inquired about the downside of at least trying for an override. Chairperson Duggan shared in her opinion that it is typically harder for an override to fail and then to try to go back again the following year and ask again. Ms. Rounseville agreed and shared her experiences with overrides in the town in the past and the amount of planning and forecasting that goes into it. Town Administrator Cameron Durant expanded on the town's current budget process and the potentiality of an override and how that works per Proposition 2.5, the town approximately having about \$900,000 in new growth and revenue, minimum contribution required by the state to the school, mandated expenses and that the town starts off each year in the negative. He continued that the town is working on a five year projection of revenue to expenditures to share out to and discuss what could bring the town out of this situation.

Nicole of Rochester inquired about class sizes based on the proposed cuts in faculty. Principal Letendre reviewed each grade level in which currently the sizes range from 15 to 23 and next year would be 17 to 21. Nicole asked what ideas have been committed to in order to help the situation next year. Chairperson Duggan explained that some of the ideas were dead ends and some are regulated by state law. She suggested ideas such as charging for bus transportation, band or chorus participation and use of facilities. All ideas are on the table. Nicole asked about fundraising etc, but Chairperson Duggan explained one time funding such as that cannot be built into the ongoing operating budget.

Select Board Chair Adam Murphy added that the town and school department have discussed specials needs for the last few years and had the separate articles to support this outside of the operating budget. The town is looking into adding it into the operating or adding money into the stabilization account for these expenses.

Jordan Latham inquired about school choice. Chairperson Duggan responded: *School Choice is a program in which a school district can go to open up seats to kids who don't go to town. Children are selected through a lottery process. If they say, oh, there's 10 spots in our masks, I want to send my child there, they can go to the lottery, and if they get*

selected, they can enroll their child. If we have 10 kindergarten slots, that would be 10 new kindergarteners from different towns. They would stay at RMS through 6th grade, and then they would either be able to school choice into a different district, different school, or stay at their home district. For each child that comes in through that program, the district receives \$5,000 which sounds attractive. But once those children graduate out, that money goes away. We could keep replacing the students and keep those 20 slots open to maintain that level of funding, but I'm sure you can kind of figure out by the numbers, \$5,000 does not cover the cost of an education at Rochester Memorial School, or really, I think, any school. So that is sort of the concern there, is that the finances are... are not in our favor in that respect, in that it's... the children, coming in with the \$5,000 is really not offsetting the cost. If they have any specialized needs, then Rochester covers some of the expenses. And in this kind of financial environment, it's a risk. It's a kind of a bit of a gamble and I don't know whether this is the best environment to take that risk. Ms. Rounseville agreed with Chairperson Duggan as there are a lot of unknowns.

Motion to close the Budget Public Hearing at 7:29pm by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Kirstin Jimenez

Motion Carries 5-0

IV. General

a. Approval of FY2027 Budget

That the School Committee review for approval the FY2027 Budget for Rochester Memorial School.

Motion to approve the Superintendent's Proposed Fiscal Year June 30, 2027 Budget in the total amount of \$7,995,362 for the Rochester School District. The total amount of \$7,995,362 recognizes the two (2) segments of its funding: 1) Rochester Elementary Schools General Operating in the amount of \$7,638,169, and 2. Bristol County Agricultural School District in the amount of \$357,193 by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Kirstin Jimenez

Motion Carries 5-0

Motion to approve the total amount of \$250,000 is to be authorized from Free-Cash or other Town Funding to supplement Special Education costs recognized outside of the General Operating Budget by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Kirstin Jimenez

Motion Carries 5-0

Chairperson Duggan closed the meeting with the following: *I want to close this budget hearing with some encouraging news. About 3 hours ago I received a phone call from Senator Michael Rodrigues, who represents Rochester and 6 other communities in the South Coast. He has included in amendment 334 of Senate Bill S.3041, passed by the Senate today, "that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to Rochester public schools to offset special education costs at the Rochester Memorial school in the town of Rochester." Because this is one-time funding and it still has to go through reconciliation procedures and be signed by the Governor to be official, it is not part of the operating budget we just voted on. Once the bill is signed, we very much look forward to communicating to you all more about how that money will be utilized. But please know that this earmark funding is Senator Rodrigues's recognition of all the amazing work that is happening at RMS and all of the advocacy that teachers and parents in this community have undertaken these past few months. We are so grateful to Senator Rodrigues and his staff for their support of RMS - if you are so inclined, please join me in writing a note of thanks to the Senator.*

V. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:38 by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Kirstin Jimenez

Motion Carries 5-0

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

April 9, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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

I. Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:43pm by Chairperson Duggan. 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.

II. Pledge of Allegiance – The school committee pledged during the 6:00pm meeting this evening.

III. Recognition

That the School Committee recognize 4th grader Thomas Cahill for winning a Golden Ticket winner from the Feinstein Foundation.

The School Committee, Superintendent Nelson and Principal Heidi Letendre recognized Thomas and thanked him for his generosity to the Forever1111 Foundation in honor of his classmate Madelyn Eitas.

IV. Public Comment

Public comment is governed by approved school committee policy.
There were no public comments.

V. FY2027 School Choice Public Hearing

That the School Committee open a public hearing for discussion of School Choice for Rochester Memorial School. Public comment is available during the hearing.

Motion to open the public hearing at 7:50pm by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Kirstin Jimenez

Motion Carries 5-0

Superintendent Nelson explained that reviewing school choice participation is an annual obligation that must be completed by all districts in the State. He reviewed the School Committee previously discussed school choice at the last meeting in preparation for this public hearing. If Rochester elected to be a school choice district, the school committee may also set parameters on the amount of school choice students along with the grades they may be accepted into. The District would receive a reimbursement of \$5,000 per student, which is a non-negotiable rate set by the State, and has been such for many years. He continued that there is also a reimbursement of special education expenses for school choice students also set by the State and is a percentage of the expenses. Historically, Rochester has not participated in school choice.

There were no public comments.

Motion to close the public hearing at 7:54pm by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Josh Trombly
Motion Carries 5-0

VI. Approval of Minutes

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

- a. **Regular Session Minutes: January 8, 2026**
- b. **Executive Session Minutes: January 8, 2026**
- c. **Budget Subcommittee Minutes: January 8, January 15 and February 12, 2026**

Motion to approve the regular session minutes of January 8, 2026, executive session minutes of January 8, 2026, budget subcommittee minutes of January 8, and February 12, 2026 as presented by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Josh Trombly

Motion Carries 5-0

Mr. Trombly shared a revision consideration for the budget subcommittee minutes for January 15, 2026 – changing the line from *Ms. Rounseville asked* to *Ms. Rounseville expressed that she did not want to put anyone on the spot but wondered if the other school committee members had any thoughts*. The school committee members agreed.

Motion to approve the budget subcommittee minutes of January 15, 2026 with the revision discussed by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Kirstin Jimenez

Motion Carries 5-0

VII. General

a. FY2027 School Choice Vote

That the School Committee review school choice for the 2026-2027 school year.

The school committee took this vote at the end of the public hearing.

Motion to opt-out of school choice for the 2026-2027 school year by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Josh Trombly

Motion Carries 5-0

b. Approval of School Health Unit Application

That the School Committee discuss the School Health Unit Application through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. This application is submitted by Ellen Murphy, RN, BSN, NCSN, School Nurse for Rochester Memorial School on behalf of the district. It has been endorsed and signed by the nurse, school physician Dr. Steven Mendes and Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Michael S. Nelson and it also needs the approval of the school committee.

Superintendent Nelson explained this is an annual obligation from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in order to administer medications. The school nurse, school health physician and he have already endorsed the application.

Motion to approve the School Health Unit Application as presented by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Kirstin Jimenez

Motion Carries 5-0

c. Approval of Grant(s)

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

- Fund Code 213 FY2026: Support Implementing of Updated Regulations Regarding Time-Out Practices in the amount of \$50,000 from DESE.
- Cape Cod 5 Educational Mini-Grant for Anne Realini and the project *Reading Takes You Places* in the amount of \$455.
- \$2,000 to Rochester Memorial School from the Feinstein Foundation for Thomas Cahill (4th grade) being a Golden Ticket Winner.
- \$300 from the Feinstein Foundation for the end of year 6th grade celebration.

Motion to approve the four grants as presented by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Josh Trombly

Motion Carries 5-0

d. Approval of Donation(s)

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

- A 3-D printer from the Briggs family for Mr. Huckabee's use with students.
- A donation of the following books from the Plumb library: Mr. Lemoncello's All-Star Breakout Game by Chris Grabenstein, Mr. Lemoncello's Fantabulous Finale by Chris Grabenstein, Violet Mackerel's Natural Habitat by Anna Branford, A Child of Books by Oliver Jeffers, The Dragonsitters Series (books 1-6) by Josh Lacey, Alien in My Pocket Series (books 1-7) by Nate Ball, Ghost Detectors Series (books 4-6), Stink and the Freaky Frog Freakout by Megan McDonald, The Wishbone Wish by Megan McDonald, Escape to California by Josh Greenhut, Clementine: Friend of the Week by Sara Pennypacker, Clementine by Sara Pennypacker, Mariella Mystery Investigates Series (books 1-4) by Kate Pankhurst, Stink and the Midnight Zombie Walk by Megan McDonald, Sunker's Deep by Lian Tanner, Louisa June and the Nazis in the Waves by LM Elliott, Bridge of Souls by Victoria Schwab, Monster and Boy Book 1 by Hannah Barnaby, Why I was Late for School Again by Dan Greenburg, The Children of the Kin by Sonya Harnett, Healer of the Water Monster by Brian Young, Battlesong by Lian Tanner, Icebreaker by Lian Tanner, Mr. Lemoncello's Very First Game by Chris Grabenstein, In the World of Whales by Michelle Cusolito, Violet Mackerel's Brilliant Plot by Anna Branford, Heidi Heckelback and the Christmas Surprise by Wanda Coven, Jasmine Toguchi Series (books 1-3) by Debbi Michiko Florence, Violet Mackerel's Remarkable Recovery by Anna Branford, Sam Wu is Not Afraid of Ghosts by Katie Tsang, Life in the Balance by Jen Petro-Roy, The Best of Iggy by Annie Barrows, Mr. Lemoncello and the Titanium Ticket by Chris Grabenstein, Billy Miller Makes a Wish by Kevin Henkes, Lucky Strike by Bobbie Pyron, Rain Reign by Ann Martin, Margot and Mateo Save the World by Darcy Miller, Starry River of the Sky by Grace Lin, Unseen Magic by Emily Lloyd-Jones, The Beatryce Prophecy by Kate DiCamillo, Of Mice and Magic by Ursula Vernon and One Time by Sharon Creech.
- A donation of the following books from the RMS PTO (winter book fair): Who is Tony Hawk? By Steve Korte, Jessi Ramsey Pet-Sitter by Ellen Crenshaw, Baby-Sitters Little Sister Series (books 7-9) by Katy Farina and DK Yingst, Big Jim Believes by Dav Pilkey, Hypergifted by Gordon Korman, Rumpelstiltskin Retold by Mac Barnett, Chicka Chicka Peep Peep by Julien Chung, The Pigeon Won't Count to 10 by Mo Willems, The Kingfisher Ocean Encyclopedia by Kingfisher and The Basketball Encyclopedia by Eric Rynston-Lobel.

Superintendent Nelson reviewed the above donations and shared that school librarian Ms. Sollauer and Dr. Fedorowicz had reviewed and vetted the books donated.

Motion to approve the donations of the 3D printer and all of the books as presented by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Kirstin Jimenez

Motion Carries 5-0

e. Approval of Disposal of Technology Materials

That the School Committee review for disposal six (6) laptops (2017 – cannot be updated), two (2) desktops from 2009 and four (4) document cameras from 2010 from the Technology Team to be recycled as they are non-operational and exhausted their useful life.

Motion to approve the disposal of technology materials by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Kirstin Jimenez

Motion Carries 5-0

VIII. Administrative and School Committee Reports

a. Chairperson Report

Chairperson Duggan shared the following remarks: Typically, the Chairperson's report at this time of year would consist of reading through the School Committee's submission to the Annual Report that the town publishes each year and distributes at Town Meeting. As I compiled the report, it struck me how statistical that report is, and for good reason - the purpose of the report is to provide facts, figures, and a

data snapshot of the year in review. This includes listing the generous donations we received from the community, noting staff hires and departures, and documenting major actions taken by the School Committee, such as the outcome of the annual vote on school choice. I will ask that a copy of that text be included in the meeting minutes for this meeting (please see appendix A), but I don't want to read the whole thing here tonight, because I don't think that those statistics truly capture what RMS is all about, or about what kind of year we have had. I know we just had a difficult conversation about budget cuts and position eliminations, but I want to remind us all what we're actually talking about when we talk about the RMS budget. At RMS this year, in addition to the figures in the annual report, there have been so many moments of learning, discovery, joy, and also heartbreak. The new Grow Education Program with the Marion Institute has been teaching our third graders about where their food comes from and how everything in the environment is interconnected. Our chorus and band students have spent hours preparing for truly impressive performances in front of their friends and family. Dozens if not hundreds of students from all grades have earned reading tokens to spend at the book vending machine. Our Project 351 students have been talking about kindness and inclusion, and applying those skills to the betterment of their classrooms and beyond. Yet, we have also had some really tough times this year. We lost two beloved sixth graders, Vivian and Madelyn. We still encounter incidents of bullying, and some students still struggle to fit in. We've seen families stress about money and resources, and we've heard how our teachers are stretched thin trying to meet every need. None of these stories, good or bad, will make it into the budget or into the town's annual report, but they are what the budget is actually funding. They are the real measure of what RMS does and why it matters. And if one thing is for certain, it's that none of the good moments would be possible—and we couldn't weather the difficult times as well—without our dedicated teachers and staff leading the way and showing our students how to be creative, resilient, caring members of society. In the discussions I've had around town about the RMS budget these past few months, I've heard again and again that the school is the town's largest expense. This is neither new nor uncommon, and indeed is the case for most cities and towns across the US. But I don't want people talking about the budget in isolation to lose sight of the WHY behind school expenses. I would love to see more people who sit on boards and committees in town—and more town residents in general—attend our School Committee meetings so they can see firsthand how these dollars translate into student experiences. RMS is so much more than just a budget or an educational service the town is obliged to provide. The experiences we are able to offer our students with the school's funding are gateways to the world for our youngest town residents. If we reduce funding, we reduce opportunity, both for individual students and for our community's future. And that's not something we can easily get back. Making decisions about where to spend our town's limited resources is incredibly difficult, but understanding what is truly at stake should be just as much a part of the conversation as the final percentage change from the prior fiscal year. As has been mentioned already tonight, Rochester's Town Meeting will take place on Monday, May 18 at 7 pm, here in the RMS cafeteria. I will take this opportunity again to encourage you to attend to demonstrate to town officials and others that Rochester families care deeply about education. If parents, students, and educators fill this room at Town Meeting, it will send a powerful message to every voter—whether they have school-aged children or not—that our school is worth protecting because it's central to who we are as a community, and we want our students to have every opportunity to learn, explore, and grow. Thank you.

b. Central Office Reports

- i. Superintendent – Superintendent Nelson shared his more recent [Newsletter](#). He also expressed his gratitude to the Facilities team and town employees that assisted with snow removal since the last meeting.
- ii. Teaching & Learning – Dr. Fedorowicz shared the following: *The Instructional Council (IC) met last week to begin planning for the 2026–2027 professional development cycle in alignment with our Professional Development Planning Process Guide. Family and guardian surveys were distributed in early March, along with a teacher feedback survey, to help inform the process. During the meeting, the IC reviewed state requirements and district priorities, and also discussed updates related to the Vision of the Graduate action plan and ongoing curriculum writing work to ensure alignment across our instructional initiatives. The Parent and Guardian Survey is due April 17. On March 4th, the district held a professional development day focused on mathematics instruction. Our math consultant, Sue Looney, provided continued implementation support for Envision Math along with pedagogy-focused training to help strengthen instructional practices*

and deepen teachers' understanding of effective math instruction. Students recently participated in choral and instrumental concerts through Friends of Old Rochester Music (FORM). These performances showcased the tremendous musical growth, talent, and dedication of our students, as well as the commitment of our music educators who guide and support them. We are very proud of our students and grateful to FORM for their continued support of our music programs and opportunities for students to share their learning with the community.

iii. Student Services – Dr. Curley shared the following updates:

MTSS Action Plans

- SEL- clinical staff met with BIRCh Center to develop a resource map on the January and March PD days. BIRCh Center will be coming back on the PD day in May to continue their work.
- Academic- Received draft reports and met with principals and MTSS teams on March 5th and 6th to review reports and develop action plans. Carrie Thurston will be coming back on April 30th to begin working on the action plan.

SEPAC met on March 11th and reviewed the parent survey (15 responses). The next meeting is May 5th.

iv. Business Office – Mr. Barber reported the current FY2026 Financial Report of obligations paid or encumbered to date with \$177,411 available. He also reviewed the Record of Warrant(s) as signed by the sole signatory for January 15, 29, February 11, 27 and March 11, 2026.

v. Facilities – Mr. Barber shared the following on behalf of Facilities Director Eugene Jones:

- Completed well back flow testing.
- Completed sprinkler system pipe repair.
- Completed Commonwealth inspection of elevator and chair lift.
- Solar project construction completed. Awaiting Ever Source to go live.
- Conducted Blizzard snow removal and restoration operations.
- Completed required maintenance on facility systems and equipment.

Superintendent Nelson added that the meter is on property for the Solar Canopy and he will provide an update to the school committee when it is confirmed to go live. He added there will be an app to monitor the solar as well.

vi. Food Service - Mr. Barber shared the following on behalf of Food Service Director Jill Henesey:

- Starting the process of procuring foods for the SY 26-27.
- Working with our partners at the Marion Institute's Grow Education program on food waste, composting and nutrition education.
- Resources to help support families in need of additional food assistance can be found at ORRschoolmeals.com
- Bulldog Café is looking for cafeteria help: on-call substitute. If you are looking for a flexible and rewarding part time job – this may be the opportunity for you. Contact Jill Henesey for more details.

vii. Personnel

1. Sonia Aguiar resigned as a paraprofessional and was replaced by Margaret Berry. Megan Allen was hired as a Special Education Teacher.

c. Principal and School Council Report

Principal Letendre shared the following:

School Events:

- FORM Concerts were held on March 10th and March 17th and where our students showcased their talent in front of a packed gymnasium. We are so grateful for Ms. Audette and Mrs. Laprise for their leadership.
- Grow Education joined our 3rd graders on Monday, March 16th. The students learned about decomposition of food and how that enriches the soil for growing food.
- RMS is preparing for MCAS testing. Training in MCAS administration took place with our paraprofessionals and teaching staff on March 4th and March 11th.
- MCAS testing dates have been adjusted and third grade will begin ELA MCAS on March 31st and April 1st.
- Spring After-School Activities began the week of March 23rd.

- Crocodile River Music Company provided an energetic assembly highlighting African culture for our entire school on Friday, March 6, 2026. Students were dancing to the beat and learning about African culture.
- We hosted our annual kindergarten Orientation night on Thursday, March 26th at 6:00 PM. We have approximately 40 students fully registered with 12 students coming from our preschool program.

Student Ambassadors:

- Each morning, Ambassadors share important messages about Taking Care of Themselves, Taking Care of Each Other and Taking Care of Their Environment.
- Task Tuesday has started and Project 351 students identify a positive act of kindness to take place during the week and this is announced each Tuesday morning.
- On Thursday, February 26th, high school Ambassadors worked on answering questions with Agree, Disagree or Not Sure. Students also engaged in conversations around how they would problem solve scenarios to be led by the Project 351 students from the high school.

Curriculum and Assessment Updates:

- Progress Monitoring Data meetings took place Thursday, March 26th and student data was reviewed and instructional focus areas were identified.
- Susan Looney, Math Consultant met with math related teachers on the half day professional development day. Dr. Looney also met with the K-2 teachers and 3-6 teachers on separate days to discuss productive struggle in math.
- FlyFive Lessons began in January. The 6th grade team conducts their FlyFive lessons as a grade level twice a month. Students engage in meaningful dialogue and group work to identify strategies, skills and various emotions in situations.

School Council Meeting:

- The School Council last met on Tuesday, March 17th. The council members are beginning the work to write the final two year School Improvement Plan. We completed the two year School Improvement Plan and will begin work on the final two year plan in April.
- The next meeting is scheduled for April 14th.

Staffing Updates:

- Mrs. Meagan Allen, Special Education Teacher
- Miss Margaret Berry, Paraprofessional Hired for Resignation of Sonia Aguiar

Upcoming Dates:

April:

- Wednesday, April 1st: Celebrations Committee & Gr. 3 MCAS ELA
- Wednesday, April 8th: Staff Meeting
- Thursday, April 9th: PLC Meeting & School Committee Meeting
- Monday, April 13th: Susan Looney PD for grades K-2
- First Grade Save the Animals Performance ~ Wednesday, April 15 - 9:30 for K & 2; 2:00 for families
- RMS Talent Show - April 16, 2026- 5-8pm
- Tuesday, April 28th: Kindergarten around town field trip
- Thursday, April 30th: PLC Meeting

May:

- Monday, May 4th Susan Looney Grades 4-6
- Wednesday, May 6th Staff Meeting
- Thursday, May 7th and May 21st PLC Meeting Time
- Thursday, May 7th: School Committee
- Thursday, May 14th: STEAMapalooza 5:30 PM
- Friday, May 15th: Bus Driver Appreciation Breakfast
- Wednesday, May 20th: Classroom/Group Pictures Lifetouch
- Wednesday May 20th: Second Grade Field Trip to Zeiterion Performing Arts Center

- Thursday May 21st: Second Grade Walking Trip to Plant Flowers at the Fire Fighter's Memorial 9:30-10:45
- Thursday, May 21: Classroom/Group Pictures Lifetouch
- Thursday, May 21st: Beginner Band Concert (Gr 3 + 4 and 4th grade families) 2:00
- Thursday, May 21st: Kindergarten field trip- Heritage Museums & Gardens
- Sunday, May 24th: Memorial Day Parade
- Wednesday, May 26th: RMS Learning Walk
- Thursday, May 28th: Spring Concert 1:45 PM for the whole school, 6:30 PM for families

IX. School Committee Reports

View agendas, resources and minutes online: <https://www.oldrochester.org/district/sc>.

- Budget Subcommittee – no report
- Capital Subcommittee – no report
- Equity Subcommittee – no report
- Policy Subcommittee – Mr. Trombly reported they met on January 15 and recommended revisions to the Joint School Committee on the following policies (which has taken place); JFAD – ORRHS Admission Policy for Vocation Technical Education Program, GBEBC – Gifts to and Solicitation By Staff, BAA – Evaluation of School Committee Operational Procedures, IN – Artificial Intelligence and BGB – Policy Adoption.
- District Wellness Committee – Ms. Rounseville reported they met on March 25th and heard about all of the related things happening in the schools and discussed how to promote them more along with the policy and discussed a wellness Wednesday type of social media campaign.
- ORR District Committee - Ms. Rounseville reported they met on March 26th for the budget and school choice hearings. They will maintain 125 school choice spots. They also recognized JHS student Andrew Cody for his work in the JHS Food Pantry, approved MOAs related to health insurance changes, grants and a tuition agreement with Acushnet Public Schools. She thanked the administration for hearing her concerns and incorporating these items into the agreement.
- Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund – Ms. Jimenez reported their grant applications close tomorrow and there will be a Gala in the fall.
- Early Childhood Council – Ms. Rounseville reported they met on March 18th and Kindergarten orientation took place later in March and they Early Childhood Fair will be on May 16th.
- SMEC – Mr. Trombly reported they met on January 27th to approve minutes and staff actions, hear an update on the FY26 budget and approve policy revisions. Executive Director Catherine Cooper also announced her retirement. At their next meeting they formerly appointed Kimberly Wilmot as the new Executive Director and approved a 3% increase to lease agreements.
- READS – Superintendent Nelson reported they met on March 12th to approve minutes and the Quarterly report which is included in the backup information. They also heard program updates.
- MASC – Ms. Duggan reported *on Monday, March 30, Robin Rounseville and I, along with three other Old Rochester Regional school committee members, attended MASC's Day on the Hill event in Boston. We heard from state lawmakers on the state of the budget and education legislation, and also from the president of the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation on how federal policies and decisions impact state level budgets. Our western Mass school committee colleagues Jessica Corwin and Martha Thurber also gave a great presentation on rural schools and why lawmakers from across Massachusetts should support the rural schools bill being considered by the legislature. We ended the day with meetings to discuss support for Old Rochester school priorities, speaking to Senator Kelly Dooner and her staff, who represent Marion, as well as to the staff in the offices of Senator Michael Rodrigues (who represents Rochester) and Mark Montigny (who represents Mattapoisett). Thank you to MASC for organizing the event, to the students and teachers at the various vocational school culinary programs that provided lunch, and to the senators and staff members who took the time to meet with us.*
- Superintendent's Goals Subcommittee – They meet in June.

X. Information and Future Agenda Items

a. Information

- READS Quarterly Report February/March 2026
- 2026-2027 Approved School Calendar

b. Timeline

- i. Next Rochester School Committee: May 7, 2026
 - ii. Next Joint School Committee: June 9, 2026
- c. Future Agenda Items**
- i. Approval of Leases (May)
 - ii. School Committee Reorganization (June)
 - iii. School Improvement Plan Approval (June)
 - iv. 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. 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 8:31pm 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, only to return to adjourn by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Josh Trombly

Motion Carries 5-0

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

Motion to exit executive session only to adjourn at 8:58pm by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Kirstin Jimenez

Motion Carries 5-0

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

XII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:59pm by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Kirstin Jimenez

Motion Carries 5-0

Meeting Resources

Agenda

January 8, 2026 Minutes Draft

January 8, 2026 Budget Minutes Draft

January 15, 2026 Budget Minutes Draft

February 12, 2026 Budget Minutes Draft

Medication Administration Application Information

FY26 FC 0213 Award Letter

Cape Cod 5 Mini Grant

Feinstein Grants

3d Printer

Book Donations forms

Disposal list

Superintendent's March Newsletter

FY26 RMS Financial Report Memo

FY26 Financial Report General Operating

Warrant(s)

Facilities Report

Food Service Report

Principal's Report

READS Quarterly Report

26-27 School Calendar

Appendix A

Rochester School Committee Annual Town Report

The Rochester School Committee is proud to submit our report for the year 2025, which covers the activities of the 2024-2025 school year. During this time, Rochester Memorial School has lived the Old Rochester School District/Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 mission - "to inspire all students to think, to learn, and to care" - through the collective efforts of dedicated educators, engaged families, and curious students. The strength of our school community is evident in every classroom, every collaboration, and every milestone achieved, and we are honored to represent RMS and to describe below the year's key accomplishments and initiatives.

2024-2025 School Committee Members included Sharon Hartley, Chairperson; Kate Duggan, Vice Chairperson; Anne Fernandes, Robin Rounseville, and Joshua Trombly, who was elected in May 2024.

During the 2024-2025 school year, the RMS School Committee welcomed the following new staff members:

- Dr. Jaime Curley, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services (August 2024)
- Heidi Letendre, Principal (August 2024)
- Alex Sylvaria, Grade 4 Teacher (August 2024)
- Carla Correia, Lunch/Recess Aide (August 2024)
- Geralyn Gherard, Paraprofessional (August 2024)
- Melissa Mills, Paraprofessional (August 2024)
- Alison Rotella, Principal's Secretary (November 2024)
- Jillian Tyndall, Instructional Assistant (March 2025)
- Lisa Russello, Principal's Secretary (May 2025)
- Rebecca Sorenson, Paraprofessional/long-term substitute (June 2025)
- Jennifer Rosati, Paraprofessional (June 2025)
- Michaela Pace, Special Education Teacher (June 2025)
- Emily Lacasse, Speech Language Pathologist (June 2025)

We are pleased they have elected to join our RMS community and look forward to the impact these individuals will have on our school and our students for many years to come. We were also pleased this 2024-2025 school year to welcome Rochester's new Town Administrator Cameron Durant and new Police Chief Michael Assad (November 2024), two pivotal partners of the School Committee within the larger team of leaders in Rochester.

The RMS School Committee recognized the following staff departures during the 2024-2025 school year:

- Amanda Audette, Grade 5 Teacher (August 2024)
- Alison Guard, Principal's Secretary (September 2024)
- Lisa Mazucca, Academic Interventionist (December 2024)
- Donna Cisco, Paraprofessional (April 2025)
- Alison Rotella, Principal's Secretary (May 2025)
- Janet Bejtlich, Speech Language Pathologist (June 2025)
- Bridgit Wollenhaupt, Special Education Teacher (June 2025)

We are thankful for the many years of hard work, friendship and care for students these individuals have displayed during their time at RMS.

Additionally, towards the conclusion of the 2024-2025 year the School Committee recognized outgoing Chairperson Sharon Hartley for her length of service as a Rochester School Committee member (May 2025). Following Chairperson Hartley's decision not to run for re-election in May 2025, Kirstin Jimenez was elected to the Rochester School Committee and was welcomed to the Committee at its final meeting of the year (June 2025).

During the 2024-2025 school year, the School Committee approved and accepted the following grant:

- OpenSciEd grant in the amount of \$7,800 (January 2025)

The Rochester School Committee took the following actions during the year:

- Approved revisions to the Student Handbook for the 2024-2025 school year (August 2024)
- Approved the 2024-2026 School Improvement Plan (August 2024)
- Moved the Open Comment portion to the start of each meeting (August 2024)
- Reorganized and appointed Sharon Hartley as Chairperson and Kate Duggan as Vice Chairperson (August 2024)
- Observed a moment of silence to acknowledge the passing of Deb Lally, active contributor to civic life in Rochester during her lifetime and former secretary of the School Committee (November 2024)
- Approved a 'Stuffed Animal Sleep Over' fundraiser for the RMS PTO (November 2024)
- Voted in support of pursuing a partnership with the Marion Institute's Grow Education program (November 2024)
- Vice Chairperson Kate Duggan attended the Massachusetts Association of School Committee's (MASC) Conference and reported back on the experience (November 2024)

- Approved an edited version of MASC's 2025 Resolution #3 on the Safe Storage of Firearms (January 2025)
- Approved two Memoranda of Agreement between the Rochester School Committee and the Rochester Police Department, one to establish a Satellite RPD Office at RMS and one to explore hosting an RPD School Resource Officer at RMS (January 2025)
- Observed a moment of silence to acknowledge the passing of former Rochester Memorial School student Jeremy Braz (March 2025)
- Observed a moment of silence to acknowledge the passing of former Rochester Memorial School student Alexis Zutaut (March 2025)
- Opted RMS out of participation in School Choice for the 2025-2026 school year (March 2025)
- Approved a canning fundraiser from the RMS PTO in conjunction with Box Tops for Education (March 2025)
- Approved additional revisions to the Student Handbook for the 2024-2025 school year (March 2025)
- Approved the Marion Institute's Grow Education Program as a supplement to the grade three Science curriculum using Project Based Learning (March 2025)
- Approved the School Health Unit Application (March 2025)
- Approved the Superintendent's Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget in the total amount of \$7,636,793 for the Rochester School District (April 2025), to be allocated as follows:
 - Rochester Elementary Schools General Operating in the amount of \$7,351,882
 - Bristol County Agricultural School District in the amount of \$284,911
- Approved the Superintendent's Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 article in the total amount of \$200,000 to be authorized from Free-Cash or other Town Funding to supplement Special Educational Costs recognized outside of the General Operating Budget (April 2025)
- Approved a Memorandum of Agreement between the Rochester School Committee and the Rochester Memorial Support Personnel Association for July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028 (May 2025)
- Approved the adoption of the OpenSciEd curriculum (June 2025)
- Approved the adoption of the Envisions Math curriculum (June 2025)
- Approved the Student Handbook for the 2025-2026 school year (June 2025)
- Approved the leases with Countryside and the SMEC for the 2025-2026 school year (June 2025)
- Approved the 2025-2026 School Committee Dates (June 2025)
- Approved of the disposal of outdated/unneeded library materials (June 2025)
- Approved of the disposal of outdated/unneeded curriculum Materials (June 2025)
- Approved of the disposal of outdated/unneeded technology items (June 2025)
- Approved of the disposal of surplus and damaged items (June 2025)
- Reorganized and appointed Kate Duggan as Chairperson and Joshua Trombly as Vice Chairperson (June 2025)

During the year, the School Committee gratefully accepted many generous donations:

- Many books from the RMS PTO and the Joseph H. Plumb Memorial Library throughout the year
- 70 toothbrush kits for kindergarten students from All Hands Dentistry and Sullivan Family Dental (October 2024)
- Two ukuleles for the music department from Madeline Duarte (October 2024)
- One clarinet for the Music Department from Christina Robichaud (November 2024)
- One drum set for the Music Department from Betsy Pimental (November 2024)
- 62 toothbrush kits for the first-grade classes from Aspire Dental Care (November 2024)
- \$2,244.33 from Shutterfly for fall school pictures (January 2025)
- \$15,632 from the Marion Institute for the RMS gardens to be utilized for the Grow Education Program (March 2025)
- \$5,000 from the Feinstein Foundation for student Maggie Sommer's winning of a Golden Ticket (March 2025)
- \$200 to the RMS Band Program from Patricia and Richard Almeida (May 2025)
- 65 saplings to fourth grade students at RMS from the Lions Club (May 2025)

In addition to these actions and acceptances of grants and conditions, at each meeting School Committee members hear reports from District Administrators about progress with teaching and learning, student services, school finance, food services, and facilities. Topics covered during the 2024-2025 school year include the ongoing work to develop the Portrait of a Graduate for the larger Old Rochester Regional School District/Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55; the selection process for the new Envisions Math curriculum; information on a partnership between the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office and Sandy Hook Promise; 2024 MCAS results; and Project 351 updates.

In addition to the items presented and decided at School Committee meetings, we wish to honor the work, accomplishments, and daily activities that take place throughout the school year. Students, teachers, staff, and school leaders participate in morning meetings, all school meetings, literacy nights, academic showcases, celebrations, concerts, performances, assemblies, fundraisers, PTO meetings and events, Project 351 initiatives, town events, and more, all of which contribute to our students' abilities to learn, connect, and grow. Thank you to every member of the community who has attended, volunteered, or otherwise supported these activities; these moments of inspiration and community are what make Rochester Memorial School such a treasured cornerstone of our town.

In closing, we are grateful for the dedication of our leaders and staff, the spirit of our students and their families, and the continuing support of the Town of Rochester.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Duggan, Chairperson
Joshua Trombly, Vice Chairperson
Anne Fernandes
Robin Rounseville
Kirstin Jimenez

The Binder Family donated outdoor recess supplies:

- Two full size soccer nets
- 4 kickballs
- 12 soccer balls
- Chalk
- 12 jump ropes
- 10 footballs

[Visit the Xcello Sports Store](#)

★★★★★ (4.4) 381

Xcello Sports Soccer Ball Size 4, Soccer Sports Ball with Pump, Ideal for Youth Soccer Ball Players, Multicolor, Size 4, Pack of 12

✱ Fulfilled by Walmart



NAISHIER

★★★★★ (4.2) 16

NAISHIER 6PCS Jump Rope For Kids, Soft Beaded Jump Rope, Adjustable Length Tangle-Free Segmented Soft Beaded Skipping Rope, for Women, Men and Kids Keeping Fit, Workout and Weight Loss

🚚 Free shipping, arrives Apr 13 🔄 Free 90-day returns ⓘ

Best seller



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★★★★★ (4.4) 194

Franklin Sports Junior Grip-Rite Footballs - Red - 10 Count with Pump - Youth Size - for Kids and Beginners

✱ Fulfilled by Walmart



Cannon Sports

Cannon Sports Official Size White Soccer Goal Nets 24'x8'

🚚 Free shipping, arrives Apr 17 🔄 Free 30-day returns ⓘ



Playground Balls Bulk - 8.5 Inch (4-Pack) Red Rubber Kickball Bouncy Inflatable Balls For Kids & Adults W/air Pump, Indoor & Outdoor Games, Kickballs, Dodgeball, Four Square, Dodge Ball, Handball

🚚 Free shipping, arrives tomorrow 🔄 Free 90-day returns ⓘ

Best seller



[Visit the Joyfy Store](#)

★★★★★ (4.7) 78

Joyfy 180PCS Washable Sidewalk Chalks, Outdoor Non-Toxic Jumbo Chalk Set for Art Play Back to School Classroom Prize

🚚 Free shipping, arrives tomorrow 🔄 Free 90-day returns ⓘ

Clearance





Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 17, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	News from me, Lucy McGee (Lucy McGee, Book 1) by Amato, Mary
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: ▾ <i>Kirkus Reviews (September 1, 2018)</i> Nine-year-old Lucy McGee is enduring the type of manipulative bullying that's familiar to many grade schoolers. Popular Scarlett (whose bedroom features white carpeting!) invites her to join a new crafts club at her house. Lucy is supposed to be attending a school club, but who can turn down an invitation from someone like Scarlett? Sadly, the first club meeting only involves Lucy cleaning out the filthy garden shed while Scarlett crafts decorations. The following week, Scarlett convinces Lucy to take paint from the art room, telling her the teacher has given permission. Not only is that a lie, but when the pair gets to Scarlett's house, it's Lucy who has to do the messy wall painting while Scarlett rests. Bedazzled by Scarlett, Lucy repeatedly skips the Songwriting Club started by Phillip, a nice classmate who could use a friend. With brief text, characters are only sketched but are fully recognizable nonetheless. Thanks to Phillip's friendly overtures, her parents' gentle guidance, and some soul-searching, spirited Lucy eventually finds a better path to walk than being Scarlett's hapless sycophant, offering a nondidactic message to readers as well. Lucy and Scarlett appear white in Meserve's humorous sketches, but Phillip's skin is a shade darker. The children's spontaneous songs—all cleverly rhymed—are included along with a link to an online audio version. Fun accompanied by useful life lessons. (Fiction. 8-10) <i>School Library Journal (October 1, 2018)</i> Gr 2-5-Lucy McGee always looks on the bright side of life, but she has a dilemma. Her dad signed her up for the Songwriting Club after school, but at recess one of the most popular girls, Scarlett, told her about the new Craft Club and chose Lucy to help her. Lured by the big surprise that Scarlett promised, she decides to skip the Songwriting Club even though it means disappointing her friend Phillip and lying to her parents. It turns out that getting the Craft Club ready means doing all the work that Scarlett dictates. While cleaning and painting wasn't the surprise she had in mind, Lucy remains enthusiastic. But her lying leads to stealing and necessitates more lying before it all comes crashing down around her, and she learns that she wasn't the only one not telling the truth. Despite her missteps, Lucy turns things around and figures out what it really means to be a friend. Readers will relate to likeable Lucy, who is kindhearted and genuine. Short chapters filled with pen-and-ink illustrations keep readers moving quickly through the action. -VERDICT Recommended for libraries in need of



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

short, accessible chapter books.-Laura Fields Eason, Parker Bennett Curry
 Elementary School, Bowling Green, KY © Copyright 2018. Library Journals LLC,
 a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

The following general selection criteria will apply to all library materials, including electronic, print, and non-print resources:

	Select a Response
1. Library materials shall support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the state and district and the aims and objectives of the individual schools and specific curricula.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
2. Library materials shall meet high standards of quality in factual content (accuracy, authenticity, clarity), artistic and literary value, and presentation (including special features such as: tables of contents, indexes, illustrations, photographs, maps, charts, graphs).	Not applicable ▾
3. Library materials shall be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning styles, and social development of students for whom materials are selected.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
4. Library materials shall support and foster an appreciation for both informational and recreational reading, viewing, and listening.	Not applicable ▾
5. Library material shall meet the curriculum needs of students and staff.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
6. Physical format of library material shall be suitable for their intended use.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
7. Library materials shall be current and up-to-date.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
8. Library materials shall be selected to help students gain an awareness of our diverse society.	Not applicable ▾
9. Library materials shall be selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weaknesses, examining the value of any work as a whole.	Not applicable ▾
10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed: *Samuel A. [Signature]*



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 17, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Starla Jean takes the cake (Starla Jean, Book 2) by Arnold, Elana
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: ▾ <i>Kirkus Reviews (August 15, 2021)</i> Starla Jean and her beloved chicken, Opal Egg, are back for a second escapade. Starla Jean can't wait to make a cake for her baby sister's first birthday party, but they've run out of eggs. Dad offers to get some from the store, but Starla Jean believes in Opal Egg's ability to lay an egg in time. Proactive Starla Jean goes to work supporting her feathered friend with encouragement, exercise, and relaxation, but the nesting box remains disappointingly empty. Will Opal Egg lay an egg in time? And what if it's not exactly the kind of egg Starla Jean had in mind? Following the structure of the first, much-lauded book, this story for transitional readers is told in four short chapters. Colorful illustrations on every page have a hipster aesthetic and are rendered in friendly colors and soft textures. Starla Jean's bright, bold narration is printed in large, easy-to-read type bolstered by generous white space between and around words, sentences, and blocks of text. The intrigue of the mysterious meowing Starla Jean hears is somewhat muddled by the visual presence of Starla Jean's own black cat; nevertheless, the story's punchline is amusing and joyous. The book is equally charming as a stand-alone or follow-up to series opener <i>Starla Jean</i> (2021). Starla Jean's family is depicted with light-brown or dark hair and pale skin. The new kid in the neighborhood is drawn with light-brown skin and dark-brown hair. Established and new fans alike will find much to love in this whimsical outing. (Fiction. 6-9) <i>School Library Journal starred (October 1, 2021)</i> Gr 1-3-Starla Jean, who is Willa's big sister and a chicken expert, is a curious and spirited little girl with pale skin and dark hair. She is eager to help her mom plan Willa's first birthday party, complete with making bean-and-cheese burritos and a homemade cake! It's a good thing Starla Jean is a chicken expert because her chicken, Opal Egg, will lay an egg for the cake. When she checks the chicken coop and finds no eggs, she must figure out how to save the day and get Willa's cake made. With four short chapters, Arnold captures the innocence of childhood while making readers giggle. Each chapter contains a combination of full- and half-page illustrations-no page is without some imagery to cue readers. Sentence length varies, making it perfect to share with family. The use of bold and elongated words, like "BAWK" keep the reader engaged. Children will see themselves in the animal-loving protagonist and be eager for more adventures. Starla Jean is the kind of enduring character that readers will turn to time and



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time again. VERDICT The delightful second in an excellent series of early reader chapter books. Children will love solving problems and chuckling alongside Starla Jean.-Kelly Finan Richards, Baltimore County Public Sch. © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

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6. Physical format of library material shall be suitable for their intended use.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
7. Library materials shall be current and up-to-date.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
8. Library materials shall be selected to help students gain an awareness of our diverse society.	Not applicable ▾
9. Library materials shall be selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weaknesses, examining the value of any work as a whole.	Not applicable ▾
10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed: *Samuel S. S. S.*



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 17, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Pine Island visitors by Horvath, Polly
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: - <i>Booklist (August 2023 (Vol. 119, No. 22))</i> Grades 4-7. In this sequel to <i>Pine Island Home</i> (2020), the McCready sisters have settled into their British Columbia home and are looking forward to the school year now that neighbor Al is their official guardian. But troubles soon ensue: Mrs. Weatherspoon (who cared for the girls after their parents' deaths) comes for an extended visit, bringing her odious friend Jo along; Fiona, 15, and Marlin, 13, have trouble with peers at school; Natasha, 10, loves her new violin (until she doesn't); and Charlie, 8, longs for a dog. Much of the conflict centers around Jo, an opinionated manipulator who imposes her beliefs on everyone. The girls' dilemma (how to graciously evict two adults who are ruining their lives) provides the story's most thoughtful and humorous moments, and the solution—contrived by the ever-resourceful Fiona and executed by the always-dependable Al—is deeply satisfying. Horvath's prose is smooth and engaging (she excels at both comedy and pathos) and always respects children's inner lives. Contemporary yet classic, a fine addition to the family stories shelf. Taken from the Hardcover. <i>Horn Book Magazine (September/October, 2023)</i> Now happily settled after the drama of <i>Pine Island Home</i> (rev. 9/20), orphaned sisters Fiona, Marlin, Natasha, and Charlie face new challenges when their former guardian, Mrs. Weatherspoon, announces that she is arriving from Australia for a prolonged visit -- and unexpectedly shows up with a companion. Fiona, now fifteen, is furious that the nasty, intrusive, and demanding Jo seems to be ruining her family; she finds some solace in her journal, which becomes a friend, along with the teacher who responds to her entries. Meanwhile, Marlin is struggling with her outcast status at school and the lack of publisher interest in her cookbook, "Thirty Meals a Twelve-Year-Old Could Make and Did!"; Natasha turns out to be a prodigy on the violin but just wants to commune with the natural world; and youngest sibling Charlie desperately wants a dog. True to form, Horvath packs this sequel (which takes readers from the beginning of the school year through Christmas) with relatable incident, vivid dialogue, humor, and moments of profound reflection on the human condition. Martha V. Parravano September/October 2023 p.75



Old Rochester Regional School District
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Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed: David Allen



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 7, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Two friends, one dog, and a very unusual week by Thomson, Sarah
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: ☐ Booklist (March 1, 2023 (Vol. 119, No. 13)) Grades 3-5: With wild, imaginative flair, fourth-grader Rani is a bit Pippi Longstocking, while her propensity to take language literally is a bit Amelia Bedelia. And like those fictional favorites, she'll definitely appeal to readers, though they may, like Rani's new friend Emily, think she's a bit too likely to pull them into trouble and the principal's office. Rani, after all, is a bit of a mystery; she shows up at Emily's apartment building with a chair, a dog named Otto, and no parents in sight, telling tall tales (Emily thinks) while Otto acts like a butler (could he be?). Now nothing is quite the same. However, school rules and the oh-so-disapproving Pinkney family, who live downstairs, are problems. Can Emily rein in Rani while also reveling in the fun, unlike rule-bound Penelope Pinkney? Is it possible they can all get along, even when Penelope's brother gets lost and Otto winds up in a dog shelter? The multicultural crew and Vogel's bouncy line drawings keep the story contemporary, lighthearted, and fun. <i>Publishers Weekly</i> (March 6, 2023) Nine-year-old Emily Robbins and her family share an apartment building with its manager, Mr. Armand, who keeps chickens, and another family, whose chiding mother leaves rules-based reminders around the building. Emily's life is turned upside-down when a talkative girl named Rani moves solo into the building's unoccupied attic with her massive black dog, Otto. Rani, whose wildlife photographer mother is working in Patagonia, says she's never been to school and cites time spent in Antarctica and Borneo. Rani exhibits a freewheeling, Pippi Longstocking-like perspective-creating a slide in her quarters, building an immediate rapport with local adults, and demonstrating an unusual understanding of social constructs and norms-but her hijinks eventually lead to trouble with various rule-intent adults, as when Otto is taken away because he lacks tags. Fast-paced episodes, nimbly captured in b&w comic-strip-style cartoons from Vogel (Too Much Slime!), keep things moving as Thomson (Wombat Underground) showcases Rani's vivid imagination and, in affectionate prose, the way her welcoming attitude brings community to the fore. Emily's family is white; Rani is described as having brown skin and black curls. Ages 8-12. (Apr.) © Copyright PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved.



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Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed: *David Allen*



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 7, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Make a difference (Mouse Scouts) by Dillard, Sarah
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: - <i>Booklist (April 1, 2016 (Online))</i> Grades 2-4. The Mouse Scouts work on a new badge and make a surprising difference in this second series installment. Violet, Tigerlily, and their friends weave baskets, collect trash, and try to rescue their one-time enemy, the scary cat (or is it scaredy cat?) Big Red, who gets stuck in a tree. Tigerlily's ingenuity saves the day, and mechanically inclined readers will be fascinated by her pulley system, which is far more complex in the illustrations than as described in the text. Told in a third-person narrative with plenty of dialogue, the 10 chapters are liberally illustrated with amusing pencil drawings of the mice characters in action. Between chapters are excerpts from the Acorn Scout Handbook, which include solid advice (cat safety) and instructions for craft projects, such as making a log book. Readers will surely be eager for more badge-earning adventures in this appealing animal fantasy series. <i>School Library Journal (November 1, 2015)</i> Gr 1-4-An illustrated chapter book series comprised of the winsome tales of Tigerlily and Violet, two newly minted Acorn Scouts. The pair of friends are joined by their fellow mice in adventures. Each title follows the protagonists as they attempt to earn a badge, guided by their scout leader, Miss Poppy. In the first installment, the girls work diligently at growing a garden, all the while fending off pesky weevils and squirrels. In the second story, the troop decides to earn the Make a Difference badge by cleaning up the local park. But during their clean up attempt, they must rescue a cat-a natural mouse predator-from a tree using a basket and pulley system. Peppered with black-and-white pencil drawings, excerpts from the Mouse Scout Handbook, and a copy of the Mouse Scout Song, this series is sure to appeal to any new or old scouts. Additionally, the books contain an illustrated listing of badges, hinting at future titles in which the girls attempt to earn Fun and Foraging or Friendship badges. The two main characters, Tigerlily and Violet, are polar opposites, with Tigerlily being a bit of a wild child and Violet more reserved, reminiscent of Ivy and Bean. Full of feel-good messages and morality lessons, these books are a creative and fun way to interest young readers in teamwork and environmental stewardship. VERDICT At times the comedy and vocabulary may be tricky for newly emergent readers, but these titles would do well in libraries with fans of Judy Moody, Junie B. Jones, and the Nancy Drew Clue Crew.-Kaitlin Malixi, Virginia Beach Public Library, VA © Copyright 2015. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary



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Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Signed: *David Lee*



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Eugenia Lincoln and the unexpected package (Tales from Mercy Watson's Deckawoo Drive, Book 4) by DiCamillo, Kate
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: ▾ <i>School Library Journal (August 1, 2017)</i> Gr 1-3-Someone has sent Eugenia Lincoln an unexpected package. Readers who recognize the uptight, domineering, elderly elder sister from the series will know that Eugenia does not like surprises. When the surprise turns out to be something as frivolous as an accordion, it simply must go. What follows is a humorous adventure as Eugenia struggles to return, sell, destroy, and finally accept the despised musical instrument. Many residents of Deckawoo Drive make appearances and give opinions on what poor Eugenia should do. Finally, only one real question remains: Who dared send the accordion in the first place? Van Dusen's illustrations enliven the already amusing text. VERDICT A great addition to chapter book shelves and a must-have for fans of the series. -Kelly Roth, Bartow County Public Library, Cartersville, GA © Copyright 2017. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist (September 1, 2017 (Vol. 114, No. 1))</i> Grades 1-4. The fourth installment in the Tales from Deckawoo Drive series focuses on Baby Lincoln's cantankerous older sister, Eugenia. When the no-nonsense spinster receives a mystery package, she is unsettled by the intrusion, annoyed that the box contains an accordion, and adamant that she will not learn to play it. But a visit from Gaston, a mysterious stranger who claims he can bring joy to Eugenia through music, begins to thaw her heart, and a later encounter with neighbor child Stella brings out Eugenia's inner musician. Van Dusen's artwork (not seen in final form) appears on most spreads, helping to break up the text for younger readers and giving form to DiCamillo's quirky characters. As in the earlier books, believable (if eccentric) personalities, sophisticated vocabulary, and polished prose make this an inviting title for emerging chapter-book readers. Fans of this series and the earlier Mercy Watson books will be amazed by Eugenia's partial redemption and delight that the results are merely temporary.



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The following general selection criteria will apply to all library materials, including electronic, print, and non-print resources:

	Select a Response
1. Library materials shall support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the state and district and the aims and objectives of the individual schools and specific curricula.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
2. Library materials shall meet high standards of quality in factual content (accuracy, authenticity, clarity), artistic and literary value, and presentation (including special features such as: tables of contents, indexes, illustrations, photographs, maps, charts, graphs).	Not applicable ▾
3. Library materials shall be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning styles, and social development of students for whom materials are selected.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
4. Library materials shall support and foster an appreciation for both informational and recreational reading, viewing, and listening.	Not applicable ▾
5. Library material shall meet the curriculum needs of students and staff.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
6. Physical format of library material shall be suitable for their intended use.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
7. Library materials shall be current and up-to-date.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
8. Library materials shall be selected to help students gain an awareness of our diverse society.	Not applicable ▾
9. Library materials shall be selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weaknesses, examining the value of any work as a whole.	Not applicable ▾
10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

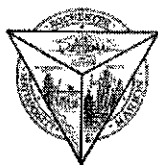
Signed: David S. [Signature]



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Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	The smartest kid in the universe (Smartest Kid in the Universe, Book 1) by Grabenstein, Chris
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status - <i>Booklist starred (September 1, 2020 (Vol. 117, No. 1))</i> Grades 5-7. In a novel that less gifted writers would have spun into two at least, Grabenstein pits a trio of seventh graders against a new principal (leadingly named "Mrs. Malvolio") who is conniving with her tycoon uncle to get the shabby school shut down in order to replace it with a high-rise—and also to dig up the hoard of pirate treasure buried beneath it. Of the young folk, one is a budding wheeler-dealer in the game to provide comic banter and references to old TV detective shows, one belongs to a Latinx family that has been secretly guarding the treasure for centuries, and the third, Jake McQuade, is a total slacker who unknowingly downs an entire jar of what he thinks are jellybeans but are actually experimental knowledge- and intellect-enhancing pills. In the ensuing set of moves and counter-moves, the three team up to sweep a set of Quiz Bowl tournaments that give them bully pulpits to promote the value of their school and of public education in general while the bad guys try to scotch their efforts with laxative-laced brownies, planted "evidence" of cheating, and other ploys. The author crafts a conscientiously diverse cast for his multistranded crowd-pleaser and slips in snatches of dialogue in Spanish along with buckets of random facts and trivia. HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY: Grabenstein is the author of the best-selling Mr. Lemoncello series, and this new volume, packed with wacky hijinks, will appeal to his legions of fans. <i>School Library Journal starred (October 1, 2020)</i> Gr 3-6-Jake McQuade, a seventh grader at Riverview Middle School, doesn't consider himself to be lazy, just "exertion challenged." Jake's best friend is Kojo Shelton, a science geek who enjoys quoting old detective shows like Kojak. Jake has a crush on Grace, a smart girl whose family immigrated from Cuba. Jake's sister, Emma, is in fourth grade and attends a Spanish immersion school, leaving Jake dismayed that he can neither help Emma with her homework nor converse with Grace in Spanish. Jake and Emma's mom is the events coordinator at a hotel downtown, and when Jake goes there and eats a bowl of jelly beans, he unknowingly ingests absent-minded researcher Haazim Farooqi's career-long scientific experiment. Having eaten all of Farooqi's research into Ingestible Knowledge (IK), Jake instantly becomes the titular smartest kid in the universe. At first, no one knows why Jake suddenly spouts random knowledge about



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everything-from the history of Cheerios to the Philippines and its 7,641 islands-but he still doesn't understand Spanish. Farooqi dubs Jake "Subject One" and wants to study his newfound intelligence, but both are afraid to reveal what has happened as they aren't sure if/when/how it may evaporate. Meanwhile, Principal Malvolio wants Riverview Middle School closed down so she can sell the property to her uncle Heath the real-estate tycoon. When Riverview's dream team of Grace, Kojo, and Jake team up for the Quiz Bowl, their trifecta is challenged by Malvolio and Heath Huxley, whose nefarious plans involve digging up long buried treasure underneath the school, which technically belongs to Grace's ancestors. For the smart and heroic trio, it becomes a race against time to try to save the school, win the Quiz Bowl, find the buried treasure, and unearth the sinister motives of the evil duo. VERDICT Grabenstein delivers once again to his target middle-grade audience with a book that will appeal to even the most reluctant readers. There's something for everyone, from adventure to angst as well as puzzles and trivia. This introduction to a new series will leave readers ready for the next installment.-Michele Shaw, formerly at Quail Run Elem. Sch., San Ramon, CA © Copyright 2020. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

The following general selection criteria will apply to all library materials, including electronic, print, and non-print resources:

	Select a Response
1. Library materials shall support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the state and district and the aims and objectives of the individual schools and specific curricula.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
2. Library materials shall meet high standards of quality in factual content (accuracy, authenticity, clarity), artistic and literary value, and presentation (including special features such as: tables of contents, indexes, illustrations, photographs, maps, charts, graphs).	Not applicable ▾
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Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed: _____



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Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 2, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Home away from home by Lord, Cynthia
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: ☐ <i>Booklist (March 15, 2023 (Vol. 119, No. 14))</i> Grades 4-7. Mia is looking forward to visiting her grandmother's house in Maine, walking familiar forest paths, stopping at the ice-cream shop, and bird-watching, just the two of them. But she finds that a boy named Cayman has moved in next door and that he and her grandmother are chummy. Mia would rather not share Grandma, but the kids head off on a birding expedition, where they catch a glimpse of an enormous raptor that neither recognizes. In her determination to beat know-it-all Cayman to the punch, Mia posts about the bird online, and the town is soon overrun with photographers who threaten the bird's safety. Mia knows she can't undo the damage, but she'll do whatever it takes to put things right for the bird and the boy next door. Mia is a thoughtful and adventurous narrator, and the bighearted book gives her a chance to learn and grow on her own terms. Lord splendidly captures the coziness of a coastal town and the exhilaration of responsible wildlife encounters. A rewarding summer read with depth and charm. <i>Kirkus Reviews (February 15, 2023)</i> A summer visit to Maine provides adventure and challenges for 11-year-old Mia. Mia worries about the many changes in her life and sees worst-case scenarios at every juncture. She must share her divorced parents with their new partners, but this summer Mia will be alone with her beloved grandmother. But there are new presences in Grandma's life—mysterious stray cat Miss Agatha and new neighbor Cayman, a boy Mia's age. Grandma encourages Cayman to show bird lover Mia an eagle nest. While watching the eagles, Mia and Cayman spot a large white bird swooping in, attacking the eagles, and Mia manages to take photos of it on her phone. Wanting to identify it before Cayman does, she posts to a birders' site. The members recognize it as a white gyrfalcon. When Mia naively tells them her location, it sets in motion a series of nearly disastrous events, as the town is inundated with people determined to spot the rare bird. Cayman is dealing with his own worries about his mom, and his relationship with Mia is strained to the breaking point. Mia tells her own story, sharing her hurts, fears, misconceptions, and realizations and beautifully describing the nature around her. She learns to reach out for help in order to help make things right for the birds she has come to love, for Cayman and his mom, and even for Miss Agatha, discovering her own courage along the way. A coming-of-age tale told



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with tenderness and compassion. (Fiction. 8-12)

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Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed: Samuel Schenck



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Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 2, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Save me a seat by Weeks, Sarah
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: - <i>School Library Journal (March 1, 2016)</i> Gr 3-6-The phrase "save me a seat" is a life preserver. Four words that can make a kid feel safe in a sea of strangers. The story is told from two different points of view: Ravi, who just moved from India, is adjusting to his new American life, and Joe, who has long been a student at Albert Einstein Elementary and is acclimating to a new grade without his best friends. Popular and cunning Dillon Samreen does not miss their vulnerabilities. As the only Indian students in the class, Ravi assumes that he and Dillon will be best friends, but Joe knows better. Like Joe, readers watch the slow, drawn-out torture in silence. That feeling of helplessness will be a powerful one for students to discuss. Through their struggles, Ravi and Joe will capture the hearts of readers and inspire fans to cheer for them just as loudly as they did for Auggie from R.J. Palacio's Wonder (Knopf, 2010) and Ally from Linda Mullaly Hunt's Fish in a Tree (Penguin, 2015). Exceptional extras include glossaries and recipes from both characters. A window for some readers and a mirror for others, this noteworthy book is highly recommended for middle grade collections. VERDICT Well-developed characters and original voices in this lunchroom drama will have readers devouring the book and begging for seconds.-Beth Parmer, New Albany Elementary Library, OH © Copyright 2016. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist (April 1, 2016 (Vol. 112, No. 15))</i> Grades 4-6. Ravi and Joe would seem at first glance to be opposites. One is from India and new at school, small and smart; the other is a native New Jersey boy, tall and suffering from auditory processing disorder—too much stimulation and noise unduly distracts him. But what Ravi and Joe have in common are caring families, moms who cook them special food, and an appreciation for the book Bud, Not Buddy, by Christopher Paul Curtis, which they are reading for class. They also share a bully, though Ravi doesn't know it yet. He thinks Dillon, an Indian American boy in his class, will automatically like him and be his friend. Joe, Ravi thinks, is slow and clumsy, and he resents it when their teacher thinks he needs remedial help like Joe. A humiliating experience brings the two together, and their mutual empathy as outsiders seems to bode well for a future friendship. The popular Weeks teams with new author Varadarajan for a book that features tandem chapters narrated alternately by Ravi and Joe. Readers will readily recognize the familiar world of school cliques and social problems, and be



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pleased with the story's outcome.

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Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed:

Samuel L. Miller



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Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 2, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Happily ever after rescue team (Agents of Heart, Book 1) by Hay, Sam
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A ▾ N/A ▾ Review Status: ▾ <i>School Library Journal starred (February 1, 2022)</i> Gr 1-2-In this first installment in a new illustrated chapter book series, readers will laugh aloud at the hilarious antics of Evie and her friends as they try to fend off a team of fairy-tale agents called H.E.A.R.T. Evie, who is white, has just moved to Lime Bay with her dad and stepmother to open their family diner. It's a big day as the Golden Coffee Cup Best Cafe Contest is underway, and winning the cup would help the diner become successful. Wanting to help, Evie accidentally makes a wish on a magical storybook, bringing three fairy-tale agents to life. Agent C (Cinderella, white), Agent R (Rapunzel, white), and Agent B (Beauty, brown) mean well with their magic, but only seem to make things worse for Evie and the diner. With friends Iris, who is white with red hair, and brown-skinned Zak, Evie just might be able to fix the mixed-up situation, and possibly get a puppy along the way. Black-and-white illustrations are included throughout; there are additional activities including recipes, craft instructions, and humorous lists. Chapters are long enough to give a full narrative, but short enough for beginning chapter book readers. Jokes and mischief help move things along as the story builds through every chapter. New characters are often introduced, and the plot is more developed than those of the usual early chapter book series. VERDICT Fans of Tracey West's "Dragonmasters" and Annie Barrows's "Ivy and Bean" will enjoy this new funny fantasy series.-Anna Taylor © Copyright 2022. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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	Select a Response
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9. Library materials shall be selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weaknesses, examining the value of any work as a whole.	Not applicable ▾
10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed: _____



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Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 2, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Have a slice day (Great Mathemachicken, Book 2) by Krulik, Nancy
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: <i>School Library Journal Xpress (January 27, 2023)</i> Gr 1-3-In this series sequel, Chirpy's fellow chicks start disagreeing over food, and they ask Chirpy to use her superpowers to solve their problem. With no idea how to do so, Chirpy escapes the other chicks and heads out on a magical adventure. Along the way, she makes a new friend, Quackers, who isn't good at understanding synonyms. Together, they head to school, where all great learning happens! There they learn about fractions, pizza, the importance of books, and tally marks. Can they figure out a way to use their new knowledge to solve Chirpy's problem? The characters and plot are a little simplistic, but work as an early chapter book. Krulik succeeds at keeping the math component present without overwhelming the story. The abundant wordplay, and chicken and egg puns throughout the book are amusing and help bring the plot to life. Readers will enjoy Quackers's lack of real-world understanding. Illustrations are colorful, enjoyable, and complement the text well. Characters are primarily animals, but the depictions school children are diverse. Though it's the second in the series, this title can be read independently. VERDICT An enjoyable early chapter book that will appeal to the author's fans and Doreen Cronin's chicken books. Recommended as an additional library purchase.-Kira Moody © Copyright 2023. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Kirkus Reviews (December 1, 2022)</i> Chirpy the chick stows away on the school bus with a new feathered friend to learn about pizza...and, oh yes, arithmetic. Though she avoids the attention of the racially diverse (and surprisingly oblivious) class, Chirpy sees addition, counting tally marks by groups, and fractions demonstrated before the children race out to recess, leaving 10 delectable pizza scraps for her to divide with her relentlessly curious companion Quackers the duckling. Some of that arithmetic comes in handy later when Chirpy heroically faces down Clucky, a bully who has been hogging the feeder, to show her awed fellow chicks how to divide the feed into equal piles so that everyone gets a fair share. Krulik loads her 10 easily digestible chapters with puns and jokes as well as nuggets of learning and caps the episode with a recipe for pizza muffins. Alder's illustrations, monochrome with yellow highlights, feature a table showing different styles of tally marks commonly used in various parts of the world as well as images of cute chicks (and duckies). Chirpy is distinguished from the other nestlings by her rallying



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	cry—"Chirp chirp cha-ree!"—and the bow on her head decorated in mathematical symbols. STEM-ware, barnyard style, with a bit of math-odical problem-solving. (cast profiles) (Animal fiction. 7-9)
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Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾



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Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection.

Signed:

Paul Scott



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Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 2, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	The greatest kid in the world by Anderson, John
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: - <i>School Library Journal Xpress (October 20, 2023)</i> Gr 3-7-Life offers very few second chances or opportunities to make amends. Twelve-year old troublemaker Ezekiel "Zeke" Stahls does not even realize he needs to atone until he is offered an exclusive spot in the Greatest Kid in the World competition. This competition is sort of like "America's Got Talent," where videos capture a week's worth of greatness and viewers log in to vote. Zeke, an endearing yet unrepentant prankster, plans to scheme his way into winning the contest (and its impressive prize) through trickery. But as the competition gets more serious, Zeke finds himself growing up and getting honest about who he is, and how his behavior affects the people who love him. Anderson crafts a prankster with a heart of gold desperately seeking attention and some joie de vivre. This text could be used in social-emotional lessons about family dynamics, guilt, grief, and how certain friend groups negatively impact decision-making. Rambunctious middle schoolers will be drawn to Zeke's humor and high jinks. VERDICT Although resembling Gordon Korman's Restart and Ungifted, Anderson's latest aims to infuse more kindness in the world by recognizing how one's actions impact others. -Laura Dooley-Taylor © Copyright 2023. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist (November 1, 2023 (Online))</i> Grades 4-7. Twelve-year-old Zeke lives with his mother, his older sister, and his younger brother. More than three years after Dad's death in an accident, the family is barely getting by, financially and emotionally as well. Generally considered a smart, creative, mischievous boy with a liking for stunts and pranks, even Zeke thinks it's ludicrous when he is named a finalist in "the Greatest Kid in the World competition." The process of being filmed by a cameraman for several days makes Zeke question his enjoyment of risky challenges and reflect more on his actions. Maybe he's endangering his adoring brother. Maybe he's being unfair to Jackie. Almost certainly, he's letting his mother down. What kind of person does he really want to be? The author of Ms. Bixby's Last Day (2016), Posted (2017), and Riley's Ghost (2022), Anderson portrays a middle-school kid with problems as well as untapped resources that can help him pull through. The novel's premise and the understated wit of Zeke's engaging first person narrative



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make this title easy to booktalk and rewarding to read.

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	Select a Response
1. Library materials shall support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the state and district and the aims and objectives of the individual schools and specific curricula.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
2. Library materials shall meet high standards of quality in factual content (accuracy, authenticity, clarity), artistic and literary value, and presentation (including special features such as: tables of contents, indexes, illustrations, photographs, maps, charts, graphs).	Not applicable ▾
3. Library materials shall be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning styles, and social development of students for whom materials are selected.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
4. Library materials shall support and foster an appreciation for both informational and recreational reading, viewing, and listening.	Not applicable ▾
5. Library material shall meet the curriculum needs of students and staff.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
6. Physical format of library material shall be suitable for their intended use.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
7. Library materials shall be current and up-to-date.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
8. Library materials shall be selected to help students gain an awareness of our diverse society.	Not applicable ▾
9. Library materials shall be selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weaknesses, examining the value of any work as a whole.	Not applicable ▾
10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. -

Signed: _____

David L. Smith



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 7, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	The Secret Explorers and the missing scientist by King, SJ The Secret Explorers and the jurassic rescue by King, SJ The Secret Explorers and the tomb robbers by King, SJ The Secret Explorers and the lost whales by King, SJ
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	This book is part of a series. The review below belongs to other titles review... N/A - Review Status <i>School Library Journal starred (August 1, 2021)</i> Gr 2-4-The Secret Explorers are back in a new action-packed adventure, heading up to the Arctic to rescue a missing scientist and save a trapped research ship. After Kiki, the group's Engineer Explorer and Connor, the Marine Explorer, jump into Beagle, their go-kart/transporter, they arrive in the Arctic. Trusty Beagle morphs into a snowmobile, so when the kids notice a huge ship stuck in the ice, he whisks them over to help. On board, they find out that the ship is in danger of sinking and that the scientist who went for help hasn't returned. Kiki and Connor know their mission! Beagle whirls them across the icy tundra in search of the scientist, but instead of finding her, they find some menacing looking footprints in the snow. Quickly discovering that they belong to a polar bear, Kiki and Connor realize that danger is about to get lot more real, and it's time to call the Secret Explorers for help. Thanks to some awesome science and great teammates, Kiki and Connor locate the scientist. But the polar bear is on their tail and the ship is running out of time. How can the Secret Explorers save the day when there is still so much to learn? Packed with almost as much STEM as action, this title keeps readers turning pages. Scientific concepts, like snowmobile engineering and polar bear biology, are illustrated through the easy-to-understand narrative, making science fun and memorable. The prose, pacing, and characterization are spot-on for readers moving on from books like the "Magic Treehouse" series. Racial diversity and gender equality take this book from fantastic to exceptional-a back cover illustration of the crew shows children of various skin tones. Kiki has dark brown hair and skin, while Connor has lighter brown hair and skin. Includes Mission Notes, a quiz, and a glossary. VERDICT Readers won't be able to put this Arctic adventure down; a must-buy for public and school libraries.-Kate Davis, Fort Lupton Pub. & Sch. Lib., CO © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.



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Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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	Select a Response
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6. Physical format of library material shall be suitable for their intended use.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
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10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

This book meets the Criteria for Selection of Library Materials rubric for selection of library materials. ▾

Signed: David S. Seltman



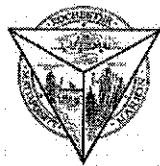
Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

tLibrary Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 7, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	By the light of fireflies : a novel of war hero Sybil Ludington by Walsh, Jenni
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: - <i>School Library Journal (November 1, 2021)</i> Gr 5-8-Sybil Ludington, a young girl growing up in colonial America, wishes she were a boy. Her father, a leader in New York State's early efforts for independence, inspires her with stories about Paul Revere's ride and the night when a cloud of fireflies guided him out of the woods and into safety. As the oldest child in a large growing family, Sybil's future appears limited to marriage and family, doing much the same work she currently does now. But circumstances change. First, one night when she can't sleep, a swarm of fireflies guides Sybil to a young abandoned foal. Fortunately, her parents allow her to keep the horse and she names him Star. Then, the fight for American independence becomes more organized and dangerous. Sybil's father has a bounty offered by the British on his head, so he must elicit the help of Sybil and her younger sister Rebecca to become spies in the colonial network. The girls ride patrols with Star, decode secret messages, and send messages via laundry and lamp light. One night, Sybil rides 40 miles with Star, summoning troops to report for duty before a major battle. She completes the journey, proving that not only men and boys can serve their fledgling democracy. Loosely based on historical writings and a 1907 memoir, Walsh creates a riveting story that reminds young readers that the quest for independence often meant life-threatening dangers for both the colonial militia and their families. The description of secret communication codes, such as invisible ink, and historical facts about the American Revolution, make this a book that young readers will enjoy. VERDICT With short chapters, a suspenseful plot, and a variety of real-life historical characters, this book is perfect for younger readers. Libraries looking to update their historical fiction collections related to the American Revolution will want to consider this title.-Anne Jung-Mathews, Plymouth State Univ., NH © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

The following general selection criteria will apply to all library materials, including electronic, print, and non-print resources:



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	Select a Response
1. Library materials shall support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the state and district and the aims and objectives of the individual schools and specific curricula.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
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6. Physical format of library material shall be suitable for their intended use.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
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8. Library materials shall be selected to help students gain an awareness of our diverse society.	Not applicable ▾
9. Library materials shall be selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weaknesses, examining the value of any work as a whole.	Not applicable ▾
10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed: Sarah S. [Signature]



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 17, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Dumpling days by Lin, Grace
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: ☒ Reviewed <i>School Library Journal (January 1, 2012)</i> Gr 4-6-In this sequel to <i>The Year of the Dog</i> (2006) and <i>The Year of the Rat</i> (2007, both Little, Brown), Pacy Lin and her family visit relatives in Taiwan to celebrate her grandmother's 60th birthday. The crowded, noisy streets and markets of Taipei confuse and unsettle Pacy; she can't understand the language or the signs, and the art class she takes is much more difficult and frustrating than she expected, which is a disappointment for the artistic girl. On the bright side, the wide variety of dumplings available becomes a high point of her trip and she loves being with her extended family. Throughout the month, Pacy struggles with who she is-American? Taiwanese?-and how she fits in. But as the vacation continues she opens up to new people and places and realizes she is just fine as herself, a Taiwanese-American girl. This is a good addition to the earlier books about the Lin family-it's humorous and thoughtful, with serious issues approached with a light touch. Lin clearly describes the pleasure and confusion of being in another country, especially one where there's a language difference. Readers new to the series will enjoy meeting Pacy, and fans will be satisfied as well.-Terrie Dorio, Santa Monica Public Library, CA (c) Copyright 2012. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist (January 1, 2012 (Vol. 108, No. 9))</i> Grades 3-6. In the series that includes <i>The Year of the Dog</i> (2006) and <i>The Year of the Rat</i> (2008), this longer book picks up Pacy's story as her family flies from upstate New York to her parents' homeland, Taiwan. Embarrassed that she and her two sisters are dressed in matching hot-pink dresses for the trip, Pacy is a reluctant traveler. But once she arrives in Taipei, she begins to open up to the new relationships, foods, and ways of thinking she finds there. Thoughtful and sometimes amusing, this episodic journey narrative captures Pacy's emotions and reflections, whether they involve an unfamiliar (and literally alarming) high-tech toilet or her newfound understanding of what it means to be both American and Taiwanese. The first-person narrative pauses at intervals to include stories that Pacy's relatives share with her, both traditional tales and memorable accounts of family members dealing with superstition, political oppression, and loss. While this engaging book broadens the series in a meaningful way, it also works well as a stand-alone title.



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Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed: *David S. Allen*



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Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 17, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Charlie & Mouse outdoors (Charlie & Mouse, Book 4) by Snyder, Laurel
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: v <i>Kirkus Reviews (January 1, 2020)</i> The Geisel Award-winning sibling duo returns in their fourth adventure, this time in the great outdoors. Series fans will be thrilled to follow Charlie and Mouse's first adventure beyond their neighborhood. This gently humorous story captures familiar elements of a family camping trip, starting with the boring car ride, moving on to an eventful (and sometimes scary!) hike, followed by playing inside the tent, and a fireside cuddle with Dad and Mom while munching on burned marshmallows. The cast here is reduced to just family members, but the siblings' fantastic imaginations fill the void with creatures both real and make-believe. The strong sibling connection takes center stage in every chapter, with Charlie providing comfort and entertainment for his little brother using his expansive storytelling skills. Similarly, the dialogue and action focus on the boys, with parental reassurance and mild exasperation depicted mostly visually. Page layouts are composed deliberately, marrying words and pictures to support developing readers. The white space surrounding each line of text is ample, and illustrations, placed just so against the crisp white pages, provide contextual support. Word and sentence repetition is woven seamlessly into the narrative, allowing readers to gain confidence and mastery over new vocabulary, while Hughes' soft-hued, detailed illustrations deftly navigate between real and imaginary worlds. Charlie and Mouse are biracial, with an Asian dad and white mom. Whether their first or fourth outing with these winning sibs, kids will savor this supportive read. (Early reader. 6-9) <i>Booklist (February 1, 2020 (Online))</i> Grades K-2. A camping excursion begins with a car ride for Charlie, Mouse, and their parents. When Charlie complains of boredom, Dad challenges him to make up a story, and he does. At their destination, fully engaged in imaginative play, his younger brother, Mouse, contributes to tales as well. On the trails and in the tent, they battle monsters and defend their land "from the bad guys." Later, as night falls, the boys enjoy marshmallows and contentedly sit by the fire with their parents. The recurring storytelling theme, reminiscent of "The Story" chapter from Arnold Lobel's classic <i>Frog and Toad Are Friends</i> (1970), plays out in a realistically childlike way. The endearing illustrations, digitally enhanced pencil drawings, capture the action as well as the creative aspects of the kids' stories.



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Pictures of the boys riding in the car do not include car seats or boosters. In four chapters, Snyder creates the brothers' latest story with directness, warmth, and artistry. The fourth appealing volume in the beginning-reader series that opened with the Geisel Award-winning *Charlie & Mouse* (2017).

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection.

Signed: *Samuel S. S. S.*



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 30, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Bear in the family by Walters, Eric
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: - <i>School Library Journal starred (May 1, 2022)</i> Gr 2-4-A profound, realistic story of a multiracial family returning to their rural home after a wildfire. Jasmin and Hunter, along with their parents and dog Brody, cannot wait to get home and hope it has not burned down. Along the way, all they see is debris and hollow landscapes. Although their mom, Sarah, designed their home to be fire-resistant and have solar panels on their roof, she is still not sure that it survived. They are thrilled to find their home intact. As the children are out playing, they realize Brody is digging a hole in the dirt and there is a sound coming out of the hole-the sound turns out to be a bear cub! They name the cub Boo-Boo and embark on caring for him, eventually pairing him with an animal sanctuary so he can be released safely back into the wild. This touching story provides much-needed insight into the effects of wildfires on humans and animals alike. Readers may learn new, important aspects of these natural disasters, as well as responsible approaches to caring for vulnerable wild animals. Jasmin and Hunter are depicted with brown skin and curly dark brown hair. VERDICT This brilliantly written tale is a lovely introduction to the important topics of wildfires and animal sanctuaries for young readers. Great for animal lovers and children curious about nature. -Annmarie Braithwaite © Copyright 2022. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed: _____



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 30, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Amelia Bedelia road trip! (Amelia Bedelia Chapter Books, Book 3) by Parish, Herman
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A N/A Review Status Booklist (October 15, 2013 (Online)) Grades 2-4. Amelia Bedelia's family goes "off to roam" in book 3 about her life as a young, modern girl. Although she's disappointed it's not "off to Rome," Amelia Bedelia soon adapts. She keeps a journal, learns to read a map (kind of), accidentally joins a small-town parade, and enters the Miss Bigmouth fishing contest. Like the earlier books in the series, Amelia Bedelia is likable and funny, though somewhat less outlandish than in previous books by Peggy Parish. Small illustrations break up every spread, making it a good choice for readers transitioning into chapter books. Hand this to fans of Junie B. Jones and Ruby Lu.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed: *Sarah Scher*



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 30, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Pahua and the soul stealer (Pahua Moua, Book 1) by Lee, Lori
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: - <i>School Library Journal starred (August 1, 2021)</i> Gr 4 Up-This action-packed adventure centers Pahua, a Hmong girl who can see nature spirits. Her father abandoned the family, leaving her alone with her mother and little brother. The school bullies, who read as white, make fun of Pahua's food, dress, and language. A new girl finally invites Pahua to hang out at the bridge, and despite feeling negative vibes Pahua agrees to go. At the bridge, Pahua comes into contact with the spirit of a girl that died there. This spirit is angry and attaches itself to Pahua-and her little brother. Pahua borrows some of the shaman gear left by her aunt in her mother's closet and goes to confront the bridge spirit. While there she meets, Zhong, a shaman warrior in training. Zhong, who knows more about evil spirits called poj ntxoog, agrees to assist Pahua in going into the spirit realm to save her little brother. Pahua learns from a friendly spirit that she only has a few days to untether the bridge spirit from her little brother's or he will die. Pahua and Zhong come across many spiritfolk who assist them and tell more folktales, building the rich world out for the reader. The girls even meet some of the Gods and Goddesses themselves. Lee uses Hmong language throughout the story, and readers who are unfamiliar will be able to figure out the meaning using context and the glossary at the end of the book. The prevalent themes of this action-packed novel include friendship, family, and identity. VERDICT This powerful story rooted in Southeast Asian mythology should be on all shelves for teens and tweens to find. Fantasy readers will love Pahua and look forward to her adventures. -Helen Prince, Indian Land H.S., Fort Mill, SC © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist (August 2021 (Vol. 117, No. 22))</i> Grades 4-7. Having an invisible talking cat as your best friend gets you branded as strange, but 11-year-old Pahua has been able to see spirits for as long as she can remember. After a new girl at school invites her to hang out, Pahua's chance at friendship goes awry as she accidentally untethers an angry spirit. When the spirit takes her brother's soul, causing him to fall ill, Pahua must undertake an unexpected quest, along with a snotty warrior shaman-in-training, to the spirit realm. Drawing from Hmong stories and blending fantasy with horror, Pahua's hero journey has unexpected friendships and betrayals, meetings with gods, fights with demons, and reincarnated warriors, all while Pahua discovers her unexpected powers and deals with her feelings over the fact that her father has



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left. Pahua is clever with a bit of snark, giving the story a lot of humor, and while the book is long, the pace is quick, with plenty of adventure and action to keep readers going. Another exciting, mythology-based fantasy for middle-graders.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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3. Library materials shall be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning styles, and social development of students for whom materials are selected.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
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Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed: *Samuel Baker*



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	December 22, 2025
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Plumb Memorial Library, Rochester MA
Contact Information (phone/email):	www.plumblibrary.com
Date of Librarian Review:	April 30, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Fly, monarch! Fly! By Wallace, Nancy Elizabeth
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: - Booklist (June 1, 2008 (Vol. 104, No. 19)) Grades K-2. One summer day, Mom, Dad, Minna, and Minna's little brother, Pip, bicycle over to an outdoor nature center called Butterfly Place (Where Monarchs Reign). Their guide, Bert, aka Butterfly Man (which is a little strange, since all the characters are dressed as bunnies), guides them through excellent exhibits showing butterfly development: egg laying, hatching, the caterpillar stage, eating, skin shedding, the pupa or chrysalis stage, the emergence of a monarch, and nectar drinking. The book's cheerful presentation conveys a good deal of information in a playful, easy-to-absorb fashion as children vicariously explore the hands-on exhibits along with Minna and Pip. Instructive signs carry additional facts for those intrigued by the subject. In making the collage illustrations, Wallace used markers and acrylic paints as well as brightly colored, cut papers to good effect. The closing pages offer instructions for a craft project, tips for a butterfly garden, and some additional facts and sources concerning monarchs. A creative addition to kindergarten and primary-grade butterfly units. Horn Book Guide (Fall 2008) Mom, Dad, Minna, and Pip Bunny visit a butterfly conservatory. Their guide, Bert, tells them basic information about monarch butterflies, including their life stages and favored plants. The bright cut-paper collage illustrations are static, but supplemental drawings and small signs offering butterfly trivia as well as instructions for butterfly crafts and activities offer a decent amount of information.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

The following general selection criteria will apply to all library materials, including electronic, print, and non-print resources:

	Select a Response
1. Library materials shall support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the state and district and the aims and objectives of the individual schools and specific curricula.	Item Meets Criteria -



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

2. Library materials shall meet high standards of quality in factual content (accuracy, authenticity, clarity), artistic and literary value, and presentation (including special features such as: tables of contents, indexes, illustrations, photographs, maps, charts, graphs).	Item Meets Criteria ▾
3. Library materials shall be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning styles, and social development of students for whom materials are selected.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
4. Library materials shall support and foster an appreciation for both informational and recreational reading, viewing, and listening.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
5. Library material shall meet the curriculum needs of students and staff.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
6. Physical format of library material shall be suitable for their intended use.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
7. Library materials shall be current and up-to-date.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
8. Library materials shall be selected to help students gain an awareness of our diverse society.	Not applicable ▾
9. Library materials shall be selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weaknesses, examining the value of any work as a whole.	Not applicable ▾
10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection. ▾

Signed: Sam Surr

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
ROCHESTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
AND THE
SOUTHEASTERN MA EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE
FY27

- I. The Rochester School Committee agrees to allow the Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative (SMEC) to use two (2) full-size classrooms at the Rochester Memorial School (RMS) for the charge of \$10,310 each per annum to accommodate both school year and extended year programs.

In addition, the Rochester School Committee agrees to allow SMEC to use one (1) small classroom/therapy space located adjacent or near the SMEC classroom(s) for the purpose of providing therapeutic services to students enrolled in the SMEC program, for the additional annual charge of \$4,256 per annum.

- I. This agreement will be in effect from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 and will be renewable annually upon mutual agreement and desire of both parties. If either party intends not to renew this agreement for the subsequent year, written notification will be provided to the other by April 15, 2027.

- II. The parties agree to the following:

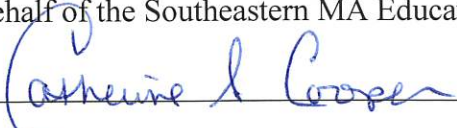
1. Exclusive classroom occupancy and all utilities shall be included in the lease price.
2. All furniture, furnishings and supplies will be purchased by and the responsibility of SMEC and shall be owned and maintained by SMEC unless otherwise agreed.
3. Custodial services shall be provided by the Rochester custodial staff.
4. Basic first aid, routine school-based screenings and medication administration will be provided by the Rochester school nurse(s) when school is in session at RMS. Students requiring more intensive and continuous medical supervision shall be assigned a 1:1 nurse by SMEC and the student's LEA, as applicable.
5. SMEC will be assigned keys to the SMEC classrooms.
6. Parking spaces for SMEC staff and one (1) SMEC van will be provided.
7. SMEC will name the Rochester Memorial School and list said classroom(s) on the Collaborative's General Liability insurance policy.

- III. This agreement is understood, signed and dated as follows:

On behalf of the Rochester School Committee:

_____ Date: _____

On behalf of the Southeastern MA Educational Collaborative:

 _____ Date: 4/8/2026

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
ROCHESTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
AND THE
COUNTRYSIDE CHILD CARE CENTER, INC.
FISCAL YEAR 2027**

This Agreement is made by and between the Rochester School Committee and the (collectively hereinafter referred to as the "School") and Bonnie A. Morrison, Countryside Child Care Center, Inc., with an address at 565 Rounseville Road, Rochester, MA 02770 (hereinafter, "User").

WHEREAS, the School owns certain facilities as described in this Agreement, and

WHEREAS, User desires to use those facilities for the purposes herein contained:

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and conditions herein contained, School and User agree as follows:

1.0 Grant: School hereby grants a license to User to use the following described facilities and equipment ("Facilities" or "Licensed Premises") on the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth:

User shall use the Licensed Premises only for the purposes set forth herein and for no other purpose.

2.0 Term: User shall be permitted to use the Facility during the following time and dates:

Times to be agreed upon, Monday through Friday

From July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027

3.0 Fee: User shall pay to School the following license fees:

A. Guaranteed Minimum Fixed User Fee: \$2,163 of monthly rental from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Rental fees are due the first of each month.

(i) All expenses that it may incur in supplying services for and on behalf of User except for those specifically to be borne by School as set forth herein.

(ii) All costs for services provided by School at the reasonable request of User, which shall be billed to and reimbursed by User at School's standard rates.

The estimated fees for Media equipment and Security and Buildings & Grounds services are as follows:

Educational Media for sound equipment and technician.	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Security Services	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Buildings & Grounds – Set-up and break-Down/cleaning.	\$ <u>N/A</u>

The foregoing are preliminary estimates, based on information provided by User. User will be billed for Additional User Fees for the actual equipment and services used in connection with the Event.

User shall pay Additional User Fees within thirty (30) days following the invoice date. User agrees to pay all fees due under this contract by bank check.

4.0 Condition of Licensed Premises: User has inspected the Licensed Premises prior to the execution of this Agreement and agrees to accept the same in its “as is” condition, and except as specifically noted in herein, School shall not be required to perform any work or alterations to prepare the Licensed Premises for User’s Event.

5.0 Utilities: School shall at its own cost and expense supply User with all existing utilities, including heat, water and electricity.

6.0 Parking and Facilities: User may have access to School’s parking lot.

7.0 Compliance with School Policies: User shall ensure that its employees, agents, contractors, licensees, guests, and invitees comply with all applicable School rules, regulations, and policies, and with directions of School staff.

7.1.1 User and its employees, agents, contractors, licensees, guests and invitees shall not injure, damage, mar or deface the Facilities, its appurtenances and any equipment contained therein. Neither shall User cause or permit anything to be done whereby said premises, appurtenances and equipment shall in any way be injured, damaged, marred or defaced, and will not drive or permit to be driven, nails, hooks, tacks or screws into any part thereof and will not make or allow to be made any alterations of any kind therein.

7.1.2. User and its employees, agents and contractors shall not erect any special platforms, water tanks, scaffolding, rigging and other apparatus without School’s prior written approval. School, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to reject any of the above mentioned items. In the event of such constructions, User will take all necessary action required to insure the safety of the participants and the public, and shall be solely liable for any damages that arise as a result of same.

7.1.3. Unless specifically called for herein, User agrees that it and its employees, agents and contractors will not use School's equipment, tools, or furnishings located in or about described Facilities, without first seeking and receiving the written approval of School. School does not

guarantee the operation of any of its equipment and shall not be liable for any loss sustained by User or its employees, agents, contractors, licensees, guests or invitees by reason of any breakdown of equipment during the permitted Use.

7.1.4. User and its employees, agents and contractors shall not use any flammable materials, including decorations, displays, drapings, or similar items in the Facilities, without School's prior written approval.

7.1.5. The Facilities are designated as non-smoking at all times. User shall be responsible for reimbursement to the School for any damage caused by smoking.

7.1.6. At no time shall User allow occupancy of the Facilities to exceed maximum permitted occupancy. The maximum permitted occupancy for the facilities is set fourth on herein.

7.1.7. Vacating Premises: At the end of its Event, or upon the earlier termination of this Agreement, User shall quietly and peaceably vacate the Licensed Premises and remove its employees, agents, contractors, licensees, guests and invitees and their property from the Licensed Premises so that the Licensed Premises are in the same condition (ordinary wear and tear excepted) as at the inception of the Event, and User shall reimburse School for any expense incurred to repair any damage caused by such removal. Any property or items of User or its employees, agents, contractors, licensees, guests or invitees remaining in the Licensed Premises after the expiration or sooner termination of this Agreement shall be deemed abandoned and may be disposed of by School as it sees fit in its sole discretion, at User's expense. User agrees that School shall have no liability for any disposal of property that is deemed abandoned.

7.2. User will provide, at its own expense, a liaison between User, User's employees, agents and contractors and School's staff. Said liaison will facilitate communication between User's attendees and School's staff, as the need arises.

8.0 Additional Users: User understands and agrees that during the term of this Facilities Use Agreement other activities and events may be held in other parts of the described facilities not included in this Facilities Use Agreement, and User shall so conduct its activities so as not to interfere with such other activities and events.

9.0. User agrees that its advertising and publicity shall not conflict with the School's advertising policy. User shall submit its advertising plans, if any, including sponsorships to the School for review prior to publicizing of any of its activities hereunder.

10.0. User and its employees, agents, contractors, licensees, guests and invitees shall comply with all pertinent federal, state, local and municipal laws, codes, ordinances, rules and regulations, including but not limited to fire, building safety and health codes applicable to the Use of School's Facilities. User and its employees, agents and contractors shall obtain and maintain in full force and effect, all permits, licenses and authorizations required by governmental and quasi-governmental agencies. User shall advise School of all permits and licenses required to be obtained for its activities in School's own name, and shall cooperate with School in obtaining same and shall pay any fees and expenses that may be required relative thereto. User shall pay all taxes imposed by law in connection with its Use.

10.1.1. The possession and/or use of intoxicants, including beer or wine, is prohibited in the Facilities. Animals, birds, and other pets are not permitted in the Facilities, except for guide dogs.

11.0. Except as may be preempted by federal law, this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, without regard to its choice of law principles. Litigation of all disputes between the parties arising from or in connection with this Agreement shall be conducted in a court of appropriate jurisdiction in Plymouth County, Massachusetts.

12.0 Indemnification. User agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless School, its successors and permitted assigns, and their respective employees and agents to the fullest extent permitted by law from and against any and all claims or demands whatsoever, including associated costs, expenses, and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred on account thereof, that may be asserted by User's employees, employees of User's subcontractors or agents, or any other persons for loss, damage, death, or injury to persons or property arising in any manner out of or incident to User's utilization of School facilities and/or User's performance or nonperformance of this Agreement.

13.0 Insurance: In addition to Workers Compensation and other statutorily required coverage, User agrees to obtain and maintain at its own cost and expense broad form General Liability insurance with a limit of not less than Two Million (\$2,000,000) Dollars covering personal injury, death and property damage, covering all of activities of User and its employees, agents, contractors, licensees, guests and invitees at School's premises. Such policies of insurance shall be maintained with insurance companies authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and provide that they may not be canceled except upon 30 days prior written notice to School. User shall, at the time of the execution of this Agreement, furnish School with a certificate of insurance and coverage rider evidencing such coverage, and naming School as an additional insured with respect to its liability coverage. The insurance required hereby shall not be deemed to limit User's obligations to indemnify School under this Agreement.

14.0 Violation: If in School's reasonable opinion, at any time User's employees, agents, contractors, licensees, guests or invitees violates an applicable School rule or regulation (including, but not limited to restrictions against the use of drugs and alcohol), or the ordinance or law of the town, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the United States of America, User shall direct the offender to cease and desist from continuing such illegal or improper use. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Agreement, School expressly reserves its right at any time upon prior notice to User (except in emergencies), to cause the removal of any of User's employees, agents, contractors, licensees, guests or invitees, who in the reasonable discretion of School has engaged or is engaging in undesirable, disruptive or hazardous behavior.

15.0 Non-assignment: User shall not assign or transfer this Facilities Use Agreement or allow any other entity to use any portion of the subject Facilities hereunder without the prior written consent of School.

16.0 No Joint Venture: Nothing contained herein shall be deemed or construed by the parties or by any third party as creating any employment or agency relationship or partnership or joint venture between User and School.

17.0 Entire Agreement: This Facilities Use Agreement, together with any exhibits or addenda annexed hereto, is the sole and complete expression of the parties' intent with respect to the subject matter hereof. This Agreement may be amended or modified only by a writing countersigned by authorized representatives of each party.

18.0 Inspection: User agrees that School's authorized representatives may enter upon the licensed Facilities at all reasonable times to make inspection and perform necessary work or to ensure conformity with this Facilities Use Agreement.

19.0 Force Majeure: Anything to the contrary notwithstanding, School shall not be liable, nor shall any credit or other remedy be extended, for School's failure, in whole or in part, to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement where such failure arises from or in connection with causes beyond School's control, including, but not limited to, acts of God, flood, extreme weather, fire or other natural calamity, terrorist attack, any law, order, or regulation or action of any governmental entity or civil or military authority, power or utility failure, cable cuts, unavailability of rights-of-way, national emergencies, riots, wars, strikes, lock-outs, work stoppages, or other labor difficulties (each a "Force Majeure Event"), whether or not the Licensed Facilities are damaged, impaired, or precluded from use by such Force Majeure Event(s). If a Force Majeure Event occurs during the term hereof, School shall be excused from performance hereunder. A Force Majeure Event shall not excuse User's obligation to make any payment due pursuant to this Agreement, except to the extent that the Force Majeure Event physically interferes with and delays delivery of such payment.

20.0 Alternative Premises: (a) Anything to the contrary notwithstanding, should School determine in its sole, exclusive, and confidential discretion that its' operational requirements or obligations (including, without limitation, its facilities' expansion, contraction, elimination, or alteration) preclude its provision to User of the Licensed Premises, School may, at its sole and exclusive option, (1) offer alternative premises to User on the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement, or (2) terminate this Agreement without further liability by School to User. User shall have ten (10) days to accept or not accept a School offer of alternative premises. (b) Should User not accept such offer of alternative premises within 10 days, this Agreement shall immediately terminate without further liability by School to User.

21.0 Termination: Either party may terminate this Agreement with thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other party. In addition, and anything to the contrary notwithstanding, School may terminate this Agreement immediately for cause with notice to User. For the avoidance of doubt, "cause," as used in this paragraph 5, shall include, but not be limited to, User's material failure to perform or to comply with any term or condition of this Agreement, which failure shall not have been cured within a reasonable time, but not later than five (5) days following School's notice to User of said failure. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Agreement, User hereby acknowledges and agrees that a School termination for cause shall not excuse User's obligation to make any payment due pursuant to this Agreement.

21.0 Notices: All notices by the parties to each other hereunder shall be in writing, addressed as follows:

If to School: Rochester Memorial School, 16 Pine Street, Rochester, MA 02770

with simultaneous copies to: Superintendent's Office, 135 Marion Road, Mattapoisett, MA 02739

and

If to User:

Bonnie A. Morrison
 Countryside Child Care Center, Inc.
 565 Rounsville Road
 Rochester, MA 02770

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the authorized representatives of the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date first set forth hereinabove.

SCHOOL

Countryside Child Care Center, Inc.

By _____

By _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____



Superintendent's Newsletter

May 1, 2026

Message of the Month

Dear School Community,

During the first 6-8 weeks of the school year - our faculty and staff members concentrate on setting expectations and building community with their students. Now, with the end of the school year around the corner - our faculty and staff members will utilize the last 6-8 weeks of school to finish the goals that the students have strived to meet this year and find ways to celebrate their efforts and achievements. From field days, to traditional field trips, and with graduations quickly approaching - our school community will have many opportunities to close out the school year in style.



Additionally, our Town Meetings are quickly approaching. On May 11th both Marion and Mattapoissett will host their Annual Town Meetings. Rochester will then hold their Annual Town Meeting on May 18th. At these Town Meetings the schools budget for the 2026-2027 school year and related articles (capital requests and health insurance funds) will be presented to the voters for consideration. It is my hope that our school stakeholders consider attending these meetings.

As always, thank you for your continued partnership and support of education in our school community.

Please take a few minutes to read through the most recent Superintendent's Newsletter.

Respectfully,

Michael S. Nelson
Superintendent of Schools

Superintendent's School Highlights



Mattapoisett Art Show



RMS Talent Show



Center Concert

Office of Teaching and Learning

From Dr. Fedorowicz

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

ORR Campus Highlights: Celebrating Our Students

Junior High School: The JHS Drama Club mesmerized the audience with their production of *Adventures of the Fearless Pirate Frank*.

The cast fully embraced the humor and chaos of the show, making it fun, unpredictable, and memorable from start to finish. From big laughs to creative twists and even a surprise cameo that had the audience buzzing, it was a great reminder of how much talent and personality our junior high students bring to the stage.



High School

- **National Honor Society Induction:** We are so proud of the 26 students inducted into the National Honor Society. Surrounded by family, friends, and staff, the ceremony recognized their commitment to scholarship, leadership, service, character, and knowledge. It was a meaningful evening that reflected the strength and promise of these students.
- **AP Student Presentations:** Our AP students also put on an impressive showcase of their work, sharing thoughtful, well researched presentations that reflected months of dedication. A panel of judges that included Ms. Brunelle, Mr. Apperson, and Ms. Barker asked challenging questions that pushed students to think deeply and speak with confidence. Their ideas, creativity, and poise were evident throughout, with one especially powerful presentation exploring AI generated music that stayed with the audience.
- **[Credit for Life](#):** Kudos to Mr. Devoll, Ms. Millette, Ms. Cioffi and high school staff for their work in holding the Credit for Life Fair at the High School this past month. A special thank you to businesses that came to support our students in learning financial literacy through real life examples. An amazing learning experience for our students to be prepared for life after high school.
- **Earth Day in ILC:** In addition, our ILC students took on Earth Day with hands on projects focused on caring for the environment. Their work was both creative and purposeful, showing a genuine commitment to making a difference.

Elementary School Moments Worth Celebrating

Our elementary schools have been full of creativity, confidence, and joyful moments that brought our community together.

Marion: At Sippican School, the [Arts in Action](#) evening was a meaningful celebration of student creativity, with every child's artwork proudly displayed. Families and community members had the chance to experience the wide range of student talent, while the Music Café added to the evening with student performances on a variety of instruments. The event not only highlighted student achievement but also supported and strengthened our creative arts programs.

Mattapoissett: At Old Hammondtown and Center Schools, the K to 6 [Student Art Show](#) showcased an incredible range of student work, from detailed drawings to imaginative sculptures and animal creations. Students were so proud to share their artwork with family and friends, and the event truly reflected the creativity that makes our schools so special. A heartfelt thank you goes to our dedicated art teacher, Ms. Anderson, for inspiring and supporting our young artists.

Rochester: Rochester Memorial School hosted a lively and inspiring [Talent Show](#), where students took the stage and shared their unique abilities. From musical performances to creative acts, the evening highlighted both courage and creativity. Organized by Mrs. Cruz and Mrs. Pacheco, along with the support of student ambassadors, the event created a welcoming and energetic atmosphere for families and staff. It was a wonderful celebration of student voice and confidence.

There is so much to be proud of across our schools. These moments truly highlight the energy, talent, and heart of our students. These moments capture the creativity, confidence, and sense of community that define our youngest learners.

Office of Student Services

From Dr. Curley

Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

SEPAC Meeting

The Old Rochester Regional School District & MA Superintendency Union #55 Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) would like to invite you to our upcoming SEPAC Meeting.

Topic: Planning for the 2026-2027 School Year

Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 from 5:30-6:30pm via Zoom

Please email crissalvador@oldrochester.org for the zoom link to be sent to you.



Students Turn Food Waste into a Hands-On Learning Experience

Many wellness initiatives take place across our schools. The [District Wellness](#) Committee collaborates to providing school environments that promote and protect students' health, well-being and ability to learn by supporting lifelong habits of healthy eating and physical activity. The

Marion Institute's Grow Education Program plays a key role in this work at Old Hammondtown, Rochester Memorial and Sippican Schools.

Students across Old Rochester Regional School District and MA Superintendency Union #55 schools are gaining a deeper understanding of food systems and sustainability through a hands-on food waste workshop led by the Marion Institute's Grow Education program. "This workshop was an eye-opening experience for our students, transforming how they view their daily meals," said Jill Henesey, Director of Food and Nutrition Services at Old Rochester Regional School District & MA Superintendency Union #55. "Reducing food waste begins with the very first step: choosing the foods they want to eat. Our goal is for students to fuel their minds with nutritious choices, while also empowering them to make the next best decision if they have leftovers—saving food for later or sharing it with a peer through the share table. By making waste tangible, we help students become mindful consumers who recognize the value of their resources and understand the impact of their choices." [Read more.](#)



Rochester Memorial



Sippican School



Old Hammondtown

U.S. Attorney's Office Internet Safety Webinar for Adults

Members of the United States Attorney's Office, Homeland Security Investigations Child Exploitation and Computer Forensics Group, Federal Bureau of Investigation and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children will be bringing a virtual webinar *Keeping Kids Safe & Secure Online: A Project Safe Childhood Presentation for Adults*. The presentation will bring awareness to the dangers children face online today and educate adults on how to keep them safe. The flyer is attached and details, including registration link is below.

Keeping Kids Safe & Secure Online:

A Project Safe Childhood Presentation for Adults

Thursday, May 7, 2026 | 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Registration required – Log in begins at 6:00 pm

Topics covered:

Social Media 101 & Digital Footprint

Protecting Against Online Predation

- Gaming

- Types of Sextortion - Sexually Motivated, Financially Motivated, Violence and Control Motivated

- Generative Artificial Intelligence

Victim Support & Resources

Registration Details

<https://usao.webex.com/weblink/register/r3e7ec6dd39529e1d1509dc763f5668f8>

Questions or difficulty registering?

Please contact Karen Legace at USAMA.PSCOutreach@usdoj.gov

This presentation is for adults who wish to learn how to keep kids safe online. Content is inappropriate for young children. Please be aware of who can see your screen and hear your audio!

Webex platform has a maximum capacity of 1000 attendees. If we have reached registration capacity, please email USAMA.PSCOutreach@usdoj.gov to be put on a waitlist for the next presentation.



SUN Bucks Open for Applications

It's back! SUN Bucks is a federal food program that provides \$120 in extra grocery benefits for each eligible school-aged child in our community.

Many eligible children are automatically enrolled in SUN Bucks through other programs they already participate in.

Families who are not automatically eligible but may qualify based on household income are encouraged to complete the [SunBucks application](#).

SUN Bucks helps kids and teens thrive in the summertime and beyond, ensuring our families have access to nutritious food for their kids when schools are closed for summer break.

Have questions about the program? [Learn More Here](#).



Join Us for the Touch-a-Truck & Early Childhood Event

The Early Childhood Office and the ORR High School Early Childhood Program cordially invites your organization to participate in a day of community, celebration, and discovery.

As a vital resource for families in **Mattapoissett, Marion, Rochester**, and surrounding areas, your presence helps us celebrate our youngest learners and the people who support them.

Event Details - [LINK to Sign UP](#)

- **Date:** Saturday, May 16, 2026 (*Rain Date: May 17*)
- **Time:** 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- **Set-up:** 10:00 AM
- **Location:** ORR Junior High School, 135 Marion Road, Mattapoisett, MA 02739



How to Participate

We are looking for two types of partners to bring this event to life:

Touch-a-Truck Vendors

Showcase your vehicles and equipment in the ORR Junior High parking lot. Detailed logistics will be sent as the event approaches.

Community Providers

Promote your services and engage with local families, each vendor receives one **8x10 table and two chairs**. We highly encourage interactive displays! Engaging activities, promotional materials, and fun giveaways are the best ways to connect with parents and children.

We'd love to have you! For more information or to confirm your spot, please contact **Doreen Lopes** at doreenlopes@oldrochester.org or **Liz Kennedy** at elizabethkennedy@oldrochester.org

Kindergarten and Project GROW Registration Available

Kindergarten and Project GROW (preschool) registration is underway for the 2026-2027 school year now! We are excited to welcome you to our school community and look forward to working with you to make this a smooth transition for the whole family. [Learn more about the opportunities in our schools.](#)



2026-2027 School Calendar Approved

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENCY UNION #55 School Calendar 2026-2027																			
July 2026					August 2026					September 2026					October 2026				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
			1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7		[1]	2*	3 4E**	6	7	8	9	10
6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	14	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16
13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21	21	22	23X	24	25	19	20	21	22	23
20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28	28	29	30			26	27	28	29	30
27	28	29	30	31	31										26	27	28	29	30
7/3 - Independence Day Observed					8/31 All Staff Report					[] Prof. Dev. Day E** - K-First Day and Early Release 9/7 - Labor Day X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release 20 days					*Opening Day - Gr. 1-12 20 days				
November 2026					December 2026					January 2027					February 2027				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
			1	2	2	[3]	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9X	9	10	11	12	13	8	9	10	11	12	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20	15	16	17	18	19	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	23	24	25E	26	27	22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29P	30P	30					25	26	27	28	29	29	30	31		
10/12 - Columbus Day X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release P - Elementary - Early Release Parent Conf. 21 days					[] Prof. Dev. Day E - Early Release for Students & Teachers 11/26-27 Thanksgiving Vacation 17 days					E - Early Release for Students & Teachers 12/24-12/31 Holiday Vacation 17 days					1/1 - Holiday Vacation 1/18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release 19 days				
March 2027					April 2027					May 2027					June 2027				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1															
4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	10	11	12	13	14	14	15*	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	17	18	19	20	21	21	22	23*	24	25
25	26	27X	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	24	25	26X	27	28	28	29	30		
1/1 - Holiday Vacation 1/18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release 19 days					2/15-2/20 School Vacation 15 days					5/31 - Memorial Day X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release 20 days					* 180th Day, Early Release ** 185th Day, Early Release 11 days				
Holidays - No School for Students and Teachers					Early Release Times (Codes X E)					Code P					Approved by the Joint School Committee 01.29.2026 www.olderochester.org				
7/4 - Independence Day					ORR Jr. & Sr. High Schools 11:30 a.m.					N/A									
9/7 - Labor Day					Center & Old Hammondtown 12:20 p.m.					11:30 a.m.									
10/12 - Columbus Day					Sippican School 12:20 p.m.					11:30 a.m.									
11/11 - Veterans' Day					Rochester Memorial School 12:30 p.m.					12:30 p.m.									
11/26 - Thanksgiving Day																			
12/25 - Christmas Day																			
1/1 - New Year's Day																			
1/18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day																			
2/15 - Presidents' Day																			
4/19 - Patriots' Day																			
5/31 - Memorial Day																			
6/19 - Juneteenth (observed 6/18)																			

Our school calendars and events are always available on [our website here](#).

Immigration Updates

DESE has provided the following resources for families including the one-page [Immigrant Students' Right to Attend School: A Guide for Families](#), which is available in [Spanish](#), [Portuguese](#), [Haitian Creole](#), [Vietnamese](#), and [Chinese](#). The Attorney General's Office has also published an [emergency planning guide](#) also available in [Spanish](#), [Portuguese](#), [Haitian Creole](#), and [Chinese](#) and an [emergency planning fact sheet for parents with uncertain immigration status](#) in [Spanish](#), [Portuguese](#), [Haitian Creole](#), and [Chinese](#).

School Committee Happenings

In April, the Rochester School Committee held their school choice and FY2027 budget public hearings. They also recognized 4th grader Thomas Cahill for winning a Golden Ticket winner from the

Feinstein Foundation and his generosity to the Forever 1111 Foundation. Next month, each Town of Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester will host their annual town meeting.

[Click here for the complete schedule, meeting resources and minutes.](#)

Upcoming meetings (subject to change):
May 7th - Rochester School Committee
May 27th - Mattapoisett School Committee



Recent News

"Chris Herren's story is powerful, real, and incredibly relevant for today's students," said Old Rochester Regional High School Principal Michael Devoll. "We are grateful for the opportunity to bring his message to our school and to partner with our community in helping students make informed, healthy decisions." This event was funded by the office of the Public Health Nurse for the Town of Rochester. [Read more.](#)



For the 4th consecutive year, Old Rochester Regional School District has been recognized as a Best Community for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation! [Read more.](#)



Olivia Thompson, a junior and member of the Class of 2027, recently participated in the statewide [Student Government Day](#). [Read more.](#)



[View the news from all our schools!](#)

[Community Information and Flyers](#)

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](#)

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!



Missed last month's newsletter? Click here.



Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent

www.olderochester.org



Subscribe

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 think, to learn and to care.



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: May 7, 2026
Re: Financial Report – Fiscal Year 2026

Financial Report:

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

- Budget Report by Department for April 30, 2026

For the purpose of our Financial Forecasting:

The Rochester School District currently has \$197,422 available of the general funds appropriated for the 2026 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 \$7,421,882.

- \$ 7,243,464 – General Funds Approved
- 70,000 – Academic Special Funding Approved
- **\$ 7,421,882 – Net FY2026 Approved Budget**
- 7,224,460 – Obligations Year to Date
- **\$ 197,422 - Remaining Available Funds**

Rochester Public Schools

FY25-26 APPROVED BUDGET

From Date: 7/1/2025

To Date: 6/30/2026

Fiscal Year: 2025-2026

☐ Subtotal by Collapse Mask

☐ Include pre encumbrance

☐ Print accounts with zero balance

☒ Filter Encumbrance Detail by Date Range

☐ Exclude Inactive Accounts with zero balance

☐ Include All Encumbrances

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	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	76.92%
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	\$159.41	\$159.41	\$1,840.59	\$0.00	\$1,840.59	92.03%
01.305.001.1110.05.36	MISCELLANEOUS	\$1,700.00	\$28.50	\$28.50	\$1,671.50	\$39.76	\$1,631.74	95.98%
01.305.001.1110.06.36	ADVERTISING	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	100.00%
01.305.001.1110.06.37	CONFERENCE EXPENSE	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$525.00	(\$225.00)	-75.00%
01.305.001.1125.06.36	ADVERTISING	\$0.00	\$390.00	\$390.00	(\$390.00)	\$0.00	(\$390.00)	0.00%
01.305.001.1430.04.36	LEGAL COUNSEL	\$500.00	\$381.41	\$381.41	\$118.59	\$0.00	\$118.59	23.72%
	Dept: SCHOOL COMMITTEE - 001	\$10,300.00	\$1,559.32	\$1,559.32	\$8,740.68	\$564.76	\$8,175.92	79.38%
01.305.004.1110.04.35	CENSUS	\$875.00	\$875.00	\$875.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
01.305.004.1200.04.02	Contracted Service for Superin	\$0.00	\$79.71	\$79.71	(\$79.71)	\$0.00	(\$79.71)	0.00%
01.305.004.1207.06.37	TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$0.00	\$967.99	\$967.99	(\$967.99)	\$0.00	(\$967.99)	0.00%
01.305.004.1210.01.02	SUPERINTENDENT	\$36,785.49	\$29,982.93	\$29,982.93	\$6,802.56	\$5,745.76	\$1,056.80	2.87%
01.305.004.1210.02.02	EXEC ASST TO SUPT	\$11,393.57	\$10,937.82	\$10,937.82	\$455.75	\$1,295.31	(\$839.56)	-7.37%
01.305.004.1210.04.33	ASSOCIATIONS & DUES	\$1,400.00	\$4,151.87	\$4,151.87	(\$2,751.87)	\$0.00	(\$2,751.87)	-196.56%
01.305.004.1210.05.21	POSTAGE	\$600.00	\$790.24	\$790.24	(\$190.24)	\$0.00	(\$190.24)	-31.71%
01.305.004.1210.06.36	MISCELLANEOUS	\$800.00	\$3,916.98	\$3,916.98	(\$3,116.98)	\$0.00	(\$3,116.98)	-389.62%
01.305.004.1210.06.37	TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$2,660.00	\$545.50	\$545.50	\$2,114.50	\$0.00	\$2,114.50	79.49%
01.305.004.1220.01.02	ASST SUPT OF CURRICULUM	\$22,037.93	\$19,771.36	\$19,771.36	\$2,266.57	\$3,575.51	(\$1,308.94)	-5.94%
01.305.004.1220.02.02	CLERICAL	\$8,711.72	\$6,884.49	\$6,884.49	\$1,827.23	\$1,010.09	\$817.14	9.38%
01.305.004.1230.05.21	SUPPLIES	\$900.00	\$3,861.64	\$3,861.64	(\$2,961.64)	\$0.00	(\$2,961.64)	-329.07%
01.305.004.1410.01.02	ASST SUPT FINANCE & OPERATIONS	\$28,243.44	\$22,579.40	\$22,579.40	\$5,664.04	\$4,452.71	\$1,211.33	4.29%
01.305.004.1410.03.02	FINANCE OFFICE	\$31,631.86	\$29,939.86	\$29,939.86	\$1,692.00	\$7,281.34	(\$5,589.34)	-17.67%
01.305.004.1420.03.02	HUMAN RESOURCES	\$13,164.31	\$8,659.71	\$8,659.71	\$4,504.60	\$4,235.01	\$269.59	2.05%
01.305.004.1450.04.02	SOFTWARE CONSULTANT	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	100.00%
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	\$1,398.77	\$1,398.77	\$601.23	\$0.00	\$601.23	30.06%
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	\$145,343.27	\$145,343.27	\$22,110.05	\$27,595.73	(\$5,485.68)	-3.28%
01.305.007.2210.01.02	PRINCIPAL	\$132,627.24	\$113,735.82	\$113,735.82	\$18,891.42	\$20,679.18	(\$1,787.76)	-1.35%
01.305.007.2210.01.06	ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	\$118,073.34	\$102,254.24	\$102,254.24	\$15,819.10	\$18,591.76	(\$2,772.66)	-2.35%
01.305.007.2210.02.09	CLERICAL	\$46,828.80	\$32,070.61	\$32,070.61	\$14,758.19	\$11,534.19	\$3,224.00	6.88%
01.305.007.2210.03.08	CAFE AIDES SUPERVISORY	\$22,202.89	\$16,875.75	\$16,875.75	\$5,327.14	\$7,415.22	(\$2,088.08)	-9.40%
01.305.007.2210.04.33	ASSOCIATION DUES	\$500.00	\$1,938.28	\$1,938.28	(\$1,438.28)	\$0.00	(\$1,438.28)	-287.66%
01.305.007.2210.05.22	SUPPLIES ADMINISTRATION	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	100.00%
01.305.007.2210.05.23	SUPPLIES COPYING	\$3,500.00	\$841.44	\$841.44	\$2,658.56	\$222.04	\$2,436.52	69.61%
01.305.007.2210.05.24	SUPPLIES GENERAL SCHOOL	\$7,885.00	\$7,771.37	\$7,771.37	\$113.63	\$984.18	(\$870.55)	-11.04%
01.305.007.2210.05.25	POSTAGE	\$1,950.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,950.00	\$0.00	\$1,950.00	100.00%
01.305.007.2210.06.37	TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$250.00	\$184.80	\$184.80	\$65.20	\$0.00	\$65.20	26.08%
01.305.007.2356.06.37	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$2,000.00	\$1,019.00	\$1,019.00	\$981.00	\$0.00	\$981.00	49.05%
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	\$9,177.28	\$9,177.28	\$1,072.72	\$5,322.72	(\$4,250.00)	-41.46%
	Dept: ADMINISTRATION REG DAY - 007	\$348,167.27	\$285,868.59	\$285,868.59	\$62,298.68	\$64,749.29	(\$2,450.61)	-0.70%
01.305.010.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$2,039,221.99	\$1,346,148.67	\$1,346,148.67	\$693,073.32	\$594,234.33	\$98,838.99	4.85%
01.305.010.2324.01.34	LONG TERM SUB- PROFESSIONAL	\$0.00	\$3,491.56	\$3,491.56	(\$3,491.56)	\$1,572.80	(\$5,064.36)	0.00%
01.305.010.2325.03.34	SUBSTITUTES	\$55,000.00	\$53,706.42	\$53,706.42	\$1,293.58	\$1,644.88	(\$351.30)	-0.64%

Rochester Public Schools

FY25-26 APPROVED BUDGET

Fiscal Year: 2025-2026

☐ Subtotal by Collapse Mask

☐ Include pre encumbrance

From Date: 7/1/2025

To Date: 6/30/2026

☐ Print accounts with zero balance ☒ Filter Encumbrance Detail by Date Range

☐ Exclude Inactive Accounts with zero balance

☐ Include All Encumbrances

Account Number	Description	GL Budget	Range To Date	YTD	Balance	Encumbrance	Budget Balance	% Bud
01.305.010.2350.04.03	TUITION REIMBURSEMENT PROF DEV	\$0.00	\$2,210.10	\$2,210.10	(\$2,210.10)	\$0.00	(\$2,210.10)	0.00%
01.305.010.2350.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,500.00	(\$2,965.55)	(\$2,965.55)	\$5,465.55	\$0.00	\$5,465.55	218.62%
01.305.010.2350.06.37	TRAVEL, TRANS, CONFERENCES	\$5,000.00	\$235.00	\$235.00	\$4,765.00	\$0.00	\$4,765.00	95.30%
01.305.010.2356.01.03	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$12,000.00	\$265.00	\$265.00	\$11,735.00	\$30.00	\$11,705.00	97.54%
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	\$2,124,221.99	\$1,403,091.20	\$1,403,091.20	\$721,130.79	\$597,482.01	\$123,648.78	5.82%
01.305.013.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$288,317.44	\$195,526.68	\$195,526.68	\$92,790.76	\$85,594.32	\$7,196.44	2.50%
01.305.013.2330.03.08	PARAPROFESSIONALS	\$62,262.71	\$50,357.74	\$50,357.74	\$11,904.97	\$21,804.00	(\$9,899.03)	-15.90%
01.305.013.2400.05.23	TEXTBOOKS	\$0.00	\$65.76	\$65.76	(\$65.76)	\$0.00	(\$65.76)	0.00%
01.305.013.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES - KINDERGARTEN	\$2,350.00	\$1,089.40	\$1,089.40	\$1,260.60	\$0.00	\$1,260.60	53.64%
	Dept: KINDERGARTEN - 013	\$352,930.15	\$247,039.58	\$247,039.58	\$105,890.57	\$107,398.32	(\$1,507.75)	-0.43%
01.305.016.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$101,099.47	\$71,697.00	\$71,697.00	\$29,402.47	\$31,232.00	(\$1,829.53)	-1.81%
01.305.016.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	\$2,050.00	\$1,599.52	\$1,599.52	\$450.48	\$0.00	\$450.48	21.97%
	Dept: ART PROGRAM - 016	\$103,149.47	\$73,296.52	\$73,296.52	\$29,852.95	\$31,232.00	(\$1,379.05)	-1.34%
01.305.022.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$127,242.77	\$99,119.00	\$99,119.00	\$28,123.77	\$43,443.97	(\$15,320.20)	-12.04%
01.305.022.2356.06.37	TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$0.00	\$238.07	\$238.07	(\$238.07)	\$0.00	(\$238.07)	0.00%
01.305.022.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$3,813.35	\$3,813.35	(\$1,763.35)	\$0.00	(\$1,763.35)	-86.02%
	Dept: READING - 022	\$129,292.77	\$103,170.42	\$103,170.42	\$26,122.35	\$43,443.97	(\$17,321.62)	-13.40%
01.305.024.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$21,163.00	\$6,339.10	\$6,339.10	\$14,823.90	\$6,329.90	\$8,494.00	40.14%
01.305.024.2356.06.37	TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$45.00	(\$45.00)	0.00%
01.305.024.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$950.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$950.00	\$0.00	\$950.00	100.00%
	Dept: ELL PROGRAM - 024	\$22,113.00	\$6,339.10	\$6,339.10	\$15,773.90	\$6,374.90	\$9,399.00	42.50%
01.305.025.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$1,043.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,043.00	\$0.00	\$1,043.00	100.00%
	Dept: ENGLISH - 025	\$1,043.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,043.00	\$0.00	\$1,043.00	100.00%
01.305.037.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$52.49	\$52.49	\$1,997.51	\$0.00	\$1,997.51	97.44%
	Dept: MATHEMATICS - 037	\$2,050.00	\$52.49	\$52.49	\$1,997.51	\$0.00	\$1,997.51	97.44%
01.305.040.2340.01.03	LIBRARIAN	\$107,927.49	\$76,986.60	\$76,986.60	\$30,940.89	\$33,809.40	(\$2,868.51)	-2.66%
01.305.040.2415.05.24	BOOKS & MATERIALS	\$0.00	\$2,721.10	\$2,721.10	(\$2,721.10)	\$0.00	(\$2,721.10)	0.00%
01.305.040.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$1,236.43	\$1,236.43	\$813.57	\$0.00	\$813.57	39.69%
	Dept: MEDIA SERVICES - 040	\$109,977.49	\$80,944.13	\$80,944.13	\$29,033.36	\$33,809.40	(\$4,776.04)	-4.34%
01.305.043.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$144,721.41	\$102,574.64	\$102,574.64	\$42,146.77	\$45,399.96	(\$3,253.19)	-2.25%
01.305.043.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$708.95	\$708.95	\$1,341.05	\$189.97	\$1,151.08	56.15%
01.305.043.4230.04.29	MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	\$0.00	\$313.95	\$313.95	(\$313.95)	\$0.00	(\$313.95)	0.00%
	Dept: MUSIC - 043	\$146,771.41	\$103,597.54	\$103,597.54	\$43,173.87	\$45,589.93	(\$2,416.06)	-1.65%
01.305.049.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$131,748.56	\$93,249.12	\$93,249.12	\$38,499.44	\$40,810.68	(\$2,311.24)	-1.75%
01.305.049.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$2,657.01	\$2,657.01	(\$607.01)	\$0.00	(\$607.01)	-29.61%
	Dept: PHYSICAL EDUCATION - 049	\$133,798.56	\$95,906.13	\$95,906.13	\$37,892.43	\$40,810.68	(\$2,918.25)	-2.18%
01.305.052.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$108,382.49	\$77,441.60	\$77,441.60	\$30,940.89	\$33,809.40	(\$2,868.51)	-2.65%
01.305.052.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$733.39	\$733.39	\$1,316.61	\$0.00	\$1,316.61	64.22%
	Dept: SCIENCE - 052	\$110,432.49	\$78,174.99	\$78,174.99	\$32,257.50	\$33,809.40	(\$1,551.90)	-1.41%

Rochester Public Schools

FY25-26 APPROVED BUDGET

Fiscal Year: 2025-2026

☐ Subtotal by Collapse Mask

☐ Include pre encumbrance

From Date: 7/1/2025

To Date: 6/30/2026

☐ Print accounts with zero balance ☒ Filter Encumbrance Detail by Date Range

☐ Exclude Inactive Accounts with zero balance

☐ Include All Encumbrances

Account Number	Description	GL Budget	Range To Date	YTD	Balance	Encumbrance	Budget Balance	% Bud
01.305.055.2430.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$2,050.00	\$472.64	\$472.64	\$1,577.36	\$0.00	\$1,577.36	76.94%
	Dept: SOCIAL STUDIES - 055	\$2,050.00	\$472.64	\$472.64	\$1,577.36	\$0.00	\$1,577.36	76.94%
01.305.061.2351.04.03	CURRICULUM - PROGRAMING & DEVE	\$27,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$27,500.00	\$0.00	\$27,500.00	100.00%
01.305.061.2351.05.23	SUPPLIES	\$5,000.00	\$1,197.96	\$1,197.96	\$3,802.04	\$0.00	\$3,802.04	76.04%
01.305.061.2356.01.03	PD Stipends - Curriculum	\$7,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,500.00	\$0.00	\$7,500.00	100.00%
01.305.061.2358.04.33	Academic Curriculum - New - Co	\$0.00	\$21,166.64	\$21,166.64	(\$21,166.64)	\$0.00	(\$21,166.64)	0.00%
01.305.061.2358.04.35	CURRICULUM - PROFESSIONAL DEVE	\$0.00	\$1,342.40	\$1,342.40	(\$1,342.40)	\$0.00	(\$1,342.40)	0.00%
01.305.061.2358.05.35	Curriculum Program - New	\$70,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70,000.00	\$0.00	\$70,000.00	100.00%
01.305.061.2415.06.37	CURRICULUM - TRAVEL	\$3,000.00	\$275.75	\$275.75	\$2,724.25	\$0.00	\$2,724.25	90.81%
01.305.061.2430.05.23	Curriculum Program Materials -	\$70,000.00	\$45,828.30	\$45,828.30	\$24,171.70	\$0.00	\$24,171.70	34.53%
01.305.061.2455.04.23	Academic Instructional Softwar	\$0.00	\$839.00	\$839.00	(\$839.00)	\$0.00	(\$839.00)	0.00%
	Dept: CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT - 061	\$183,000.00	\$70,650.05	\$70,650.05	\$112,349.95	\$0.00	\$112,349.95	61.39%
01.305.076.3200.01.11	NURSE	\$85,290.18	\$60,672.56	\$60,672.56	\$24,617.62	\$27,305.44	(\$2,687.82)	-3.15%
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	\$2,972.25	\$2,972.25	(\$922.25)	\$0.00	(\$922.25)	-44.99%
	Dept: HEALTH SERVICES - 076	\$88,340.18	\$63,644.81	\$63,644.81	\$24,695.37	\$27,305.44	(\$2,610.07)	-2.95%
01.305.079.3300.06.40	REGULAR EDUCATION - PUPIL K-6	\$460,000.00	\$357,870.45	\$357,870.45	\$102,129.55	\$102,129.55	\$0.00	0.00%
	Dept: TRANSPORTATION REG DAY - 079	\$460,000.00	\$357,870.45	\$357,870.45	\$102,129.55	\$102,129.55	\$0.00	0.00%
01.305.085.3520.05.23	SUPPLIES - STUDENT ACTIVITY BA	\$2,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,200.00	\$0.00	\$2,200.00	100.00%
01.305.085.3520.06.36	STUDENT ACTIVITIES - OTHER	\$0.00	\$960.00	\$960.00	(\$960.00)	\$360.00	(\$1,320.00)	0.00%
	Dept: MISCELLANEOUS - 085	\$2,200.00	\$960.00	\$960.00	\$1,240.00	\$360.00	\$880.00	40.00%
01.305.088.4110.01.02	DISTRICT FACILITIES MANAGER	\$17,531.69	\$14,081.63	\$14,081.63	\$3,450.06	\$2,984.15	\$465.91	2.66%
01.305.088.4110.03.10	CUSTODIAL SUPERVISOR	\$58,773.86	\$51,223.70	\$51,223.70	\$7,550.16	\$9,313.30	(\$1,763.14)	-3.00%
01.305.088.4110.04.10	CUSTODIAL CONTRACT SVCS	\$161,953.00	\$138,011.56	\$138,011.56	\$23,941.44	\$23,971.44	(\$30.00)	-0.02%
01.305.088.4115.03.34	SUB/OVERTIME CUSTODIAL	\$0.00	\$14,241.36	\$14,241.36	(\$14,241.36)	\$587.05	(\$14,828.41)	0.00%
01.305.088.4120.04.17	HEAT	\$72,250.00	\$126,239.95	\$126,239.95	(\$53,989.95)	\$0.00	(\$53,989.95)	-74.73%
01.305.088.4130.04.15	TELEPHONE	\$9,000.00	\$5,596.42	\$5,596.42	\$3,403.58	\$1,803.58	\$1,600.00	17.78%
01.305.088.4130.04.16	ELECTRICITY	\$172,418.00	\$109,837.98	\$109,837.98	\$62,580.02	\$82,495.27	(\$19,915.25)	-11.55%
01.305.088.4130.04.19	MAINTENANCE OF WATER SYSTEM	\$8,600.00	\$21,967.31	\$21,967.31	(\$13,367.31)	\$10,422.49	(\$23,789.80)	-276.63%
01.305.088.4210.04.32	MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS	\$9,200.00	\$13,060.08	\$13,060.08	(\$3,860.08)	\$1,245.09	(\$5,105.17)	-55.49%
01.305.088.4220.04.32	MAINTENANCE OF BLDG ONGOING	\$20,000.00	\$140,911.56	\$140,911.56	(\$120,911.56)	\$29,833.71	(\$150,745.27)	-753.73%
01.305.088.4220.05.26	CHEMICALS	\$9,350.00	\$2,114.46	\$2,114.46	\$7,235.54	\$385.54	\$6,850.00	73.26%
01.305.088.4220.05.28	SUPPLIES	\$9,300.00	\$10,296.82	\$10,296.82	(\$996.82)	\$4,203.18	(\$5,200.00)	-55.91%
01.305.088.4230.04.32	MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	\$10,000.00	\$3,861.46	\$3,861.46	\$6,138.54	\$2,542.00	\$3,596.54	35.97%
	Dept: OPERATION & MAINTENANCE - 088	\$558,376.55	\$651,444.29	\$651,444.29	(\$93,067.74)	\$169,786.80	(\$262,854.54)	-47.07%
01.305.093.2130.03.04	NETWORK TECHNICIANS	\$65,403.30	\$50,848.22	\$50,848.22	\$14,555.08	\$10,169.59	\$4,385.49	6.71%
01.305.093.2204.04.33	IN SERVICE TRAINING	\$0.00	\$588.59	\$588.59	(\$588.59)	\$0.00	(\$588.59)	0.00%
01.305.093.2430.05.05	TECHNOLOGY GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$0.00	\$838.98	\$838.98	(\$838.98)	\$775.00	(\$1,613.98)	0.00%
01.305.093.2430.05.23	SOFTWARE	\$15,000.00	\$21,413.25	\$21,413.25	(\$6,413.25)	\$0.00	(\$6,413.25)	-42.76%
01.305.093.2450.05.23	EDUCATIONAL EQUIPMENT	\$0.00	\$1,584.00	\$1,584.00	(\$1,584.00)	\$0.00	(\$1,584.00)	0.00%
01.305.093.2451.05.23	EDUCATIONAL EQUIPT	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	100.00%
01.305.093.4130.04.15	TELEPHONE	\$14,500.00	\$14,758.57	\$14,758.57	(\$258.57)	\$185.84	(\$444.41)	-3.06%
01.305.093.4230.04.29	MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT/WEB	\$0.00	\$681.25	\$681.25	(\$681.25)	\$0.00	(\$681.25)	0.00%
	Dept: COMPUTER PROGRAM - 093	\$99,903.30	\$90,712.86	\$90,712.86	\$9,190.44	\$11,130.43	(\$1,939.99)	-1.94%

Rochester Public Schools

FY25-26 APPROVED BUDGET

From Date: 7/1/2025

To Date: 6/30/2026

Fiscal Year: 2025-2026

☐ Subtotal by Collapse Mask

☐ Include pre encumbrance

☐ Print accounts with zero balance

☒ Filter Encumbrance Detail by Date Range

☐ Exclude Inactive Accounts with zero balance

☐ Include All Encumbrances

Account Number	Description	GL Budget	Range To Date	YTD	Balance	Encumbrance	Budget Balance	% Bud
01.305.100.1435.04.36	LEGAL EXPENSE - SPEC ED	\$15,000.00	\$10,707.00	\$10,707.00	\$4,293.00	\$4,293.00	\$0.00	0.00%
01.305.100.2105.04.33	ASSOCIATION DUES	\$0.00	\$242.71	\$242.71	(\$242.71)	\$0.00	(\$242.71)	0.00%
01.305.100.2107.06.37	TRAVEL	\$0.00	\$270.23	\$270.23	(\$270.23)	\$0.00	(\$270.23)	0.00%
01.305.100.2110.01.02	DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES	\$22,238.32	\$19,277.63	\$19,277.63	\$2,960.69	\$3,855.54	(\$894.85)	-4.02%
01.305.100.2110.02.09	ADMIN ASST STUDENT SVCS	\$11,597.56	\$10,110.44	\$10,110.44	\$1,487.12	\$1,839.24	(\$352.12)	-3.04%
01.305.100.2110.06.37	TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$6,500.00	\$1,981.20	\$1,981.20	\$4,518.80	\$1,000.00	\$3,518.80	54.14%
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	\$55.84	\$55.84	\$94.16	\$0.00	\$94.16	62.77%
01.305.100.4230.04.31	SOFTWARE LICENSE	\$3,000.00	\$3,568.66	\$3,568.66	(\$568.66)	\$0.00	(\$568.66)	-18.96%
	Dept: SPECIAL NEEDS ADMINISTRATION - 100	\$58,635.88	\$46,213.71	\$46,213.71	\$12,422.17	\$10,987.78	\$1,434.39	2.45%
01.305.102.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$30,654.78	\$28,109.97	\$28,109.97	\$2,544.81	\$12,258.00	(\$9,713.19)	-31.69%
01.305.102.2330.03.08	PARAPROFESSIONALS	\$67,169.20	\$47,208.35	\$47,208.35	\$19,960.85	\$19,956.72	\$4.13	0.01%
01.305.102.2351.06.37	PROJECT GROW TRAVEL	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	0.00%
01.305.102.2356.01.03	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$300.00	\$160.00	\$160.00	\$140.00	\$55.00	\$85.00	28.33%
01.305.102.2430.05.24	SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	\$1,000.00	\$875.21	\$875.21	\$124.79	\$0.00	\$124.79	12.48%
	Dept: PROJECT GROW - 102	\$99,323.98	\$76,353.53	\$76,353.53	\$22,970.45	\$32,469.72	(\$9,499.27)	-9.56%
01.305.103.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$532,575.45	\$350,935.01	\$350,935.01	\$181,640.44	\$176,966.22	\$4,674.22	0.88%
01.305.103.2330.03.08	PARAPROFESSIONALS	\$176,497.76	\$86,634.92	\$86,634.92	\$89,862.84	\$34,744.82	\$55,118.02	31.23%
01.305.103.2356.01.03	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	100.00%
01.305.103.2420.05.24	LEARNING SUPPORT ED EQUIPMENT	\$3,500.00	\$347.36	\$347.36	\$3,152.64	\$0.00	\$3,152.64	90.08%
01.305.103.2430.05.24	SUPPLIES	\$2,500.00	\$2,574.04	\$2,574.04	(\$74.04)	\$0.00	(\$74.04)	-2.96%
01.305.103.3300.02.08	BUS MONITORS	\$32,000.00	\$18,436.26	\$18,436.26	\$13,563.74	\$681.90	\$12,881.84	40.26%
	Dept: LEARNING SUPPORT CENTER - 103	\$747,373.21	\$458,927.59	\$458,927.59	\$288,445.62	\$212,392.94	\$76,052.68	10.18%
01.305.118.2305.01.03	TEACHERS	\$216,689.98	\$126,540.32	\$126,540.32	\$90,149.66	\$55,717.68	\$34,431.98	15.89%
01.305.118.2356.01.03	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$750.00	\$345.00	\$345.00	\$405.00	\$0.00	\$405.00	54.00%
01.305.118.2358.04.03	PROF DEVEL - CONTR SVCS	\$4,222.00	\$4,222.00	\$4,222.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
01.305.118.2420.05.24	SPEECH THERAPY ED EQUIPMENT	\$1,000.00	\$126.30	\$126.30	\$873.70	\$0.00	\$873.70	87.37%
01.305.118.2430.05.24	SUPPLIES	\$2,000.00	\$136.47	\$136.47	\$1,863.53	\$111.60	\$1,751.93	87.60%
01.305.118.2800.04.35	SPEECH THERAPY	\$52,000.00	\$41.13	\$41.13	\$51,958.87	\$123.38	\$51,835.49	99.68%
	Dept: SPEECH - 118	\$276,661.98	\$131,411.22	\$131,411.22	\$145,250.76	\$55,952.66	\$89,298.10	32.28%
01.305.121.2100.02.09	CLERICAL	\$0.00	\$34,514.26	\$34,514.26	(\$34,514.26)	\$12,715.72	(\$47,229.98)	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	\$1,762.61	\$1,762.61	\$237.39	\$0.00	\$237.39	11.87%
01.305.121.2440.04.35	EXTENDED YEAR SERVICES	\$70,000.00	\$78,352.39	\$78,352.39	(\$8,352.39)	\$1,669.81	(\$10,022.20)	-14.32%
01.305.121.2710.04.03	SPECIALIZED INSTRUCTION	\$25,000.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00	\$22,800.00	\$0.00	\$22,800.00	91.20%
01.305.121.2800.04.35	THERAPY	\$118,000.00	\$78,900.96	\$78,900.96	\$39,099.04	\$11,798.21	\$27,300.83	23.14%
01.305.121.3200.04.11	Nurse - Contracted Services	\$0.00	\$6,231.20	\$6,231.20	(\$6,231.20)	\$13,768.80	(\$20,000.00)	0.00%
	Dept: SUPPORT SERVICES - 121	\$260,502.34	\$202,571.42	\$202,571.42	\$57,930.92	\$39,952.54	\$17,978.38	6.90%
01.305.127.2356.01.03	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$900.00	100.00%
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%
01.305.127.2710.01.03	ADJUSTMENT COUNSELOR	\$204,361.46	\$149,554.76	\$149,554.76	\$54,806.70	\$66,186.24	(\$11,379.54)	-5.57%
01.305.127.2800.01.03	PSYCHOLOGY	\$73,371.02	\$44,150.40	\$44,150.40	\$29,220.62	\$19,622.40	\$9,598.22	13.08%
01.305.127.2800.04.13	EVALUATIONS	\$9,000.00	\$16,057.00	\$16,057.00	(\$7,057.00)	\$202.00	(\$7,259.00)	-80.66%
01.305.127.2800.05.24	SUPPLIES	\$2,000.00	\$1,978.77	\$1,978.77	\$21.23	\$0.00	\$21.23	1.06%
01.305.127.2800.06.37	TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$500.00	\$149.00	\$149.00	\$351.00	\$0.00	\$351.00	70.20%

Rochester Public Schools

FY25-26 APPROVED BUDGET

From Date: 7/1/2025

To Date: 6/30/2026

Fiscal Year: 2025-2026

☐ Subtotal by Collapse Mask

☐ Include pre encumbrance

☐ Print accounts with zero balance

☒ Filter Encumbrance Detail by Date Range

☐ Exclude Inactive Accounts with zero balance

☐ Include All Encumbrances

Account Number	Description	GL Budget	Range To Date	YTD	Balance	Encumbrance	Budget Balance	% Bud
	Dept: PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES - 127	\$291,132.48	\$211,889.93	\$211,889.93	\$79,242.55	\$86,010.64	(\$6,768.09)	-2.32%
01.305.130.3300.06.43	TRANSPORTATION - COLLABORATIVE	\$146,305.00	\$39,920.00	\$39,920.00	\$106,385.00	\$13,850.00	\$92,535.00	63.25%
01.305.130.3300.06.44	TRANSPORTATION - DAY PROGRAMS	\$50,000.00	\$26,165.00	\$26,165.00	\$23,835.00	\$0.00	\$23,835.00	47.67%
01.305.130.3300.06.45	TRANSPORTATION - PRESCHOOL	\$29,000.00	\$10,125.00	\$10,125.00	\$18,875.00	\$12,375.00	\$6,500.00	22.41%
01.305.130.3300.06.46	TRANSPORTATION - MCKINNEY VENT	\$10,000.00	\$6,282.22	\$6,282.22	\$3,717.78	\$15,000.00	(\$11,282.22)	-112.82%
	Dept: SPED TRANSPORTATION - 130	\$235,305.00	\$82,492.22	\$82,492.22	\$152,812.78	\$41,225.00	\$111,587.78	47.42%
01.305.133.9300.04.13	TUITION - RESIDENTIAL	\$201,674.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$201,674.00	\$251,357.72	(\$49,683.72)	-24.64%
01.305.133.9300.06.13	TUITION - DAY SCHOOLS	\$50,000.00	\$15,900.94	\$15,900.94	\$34,099.06	\$0.00	\$34,099.06	68.20%
01.305.133.9400.06.13	TUITION - COLLABORATIVES	\$45,702.18	\$21,079.20	\$21,079.20	\$24,622.98	\$43,560.00	(\$18,937.02)	-41.44%
	Dept: PROGRAMS W/OTHERS SPED - 133	\$297,376.18	\$36,980.14	\$36,980.14	\$260,396.04	\$294,917.72	(\$34,521.68)	-11.61%
Grand Total:		\$7,421,882.00	\$5,106,978.14	\$5,106,978.14	\$2,314,903.86	\$2,117,481.61	\$197,422.25	2.66%

End of Report

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5533

Voucher Date: 04/15/2026

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette
Printed: 04/15/2026 12:15:06 PM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$234,980.34 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 Barker

[Signature]

Katherine Duggan

School Committee Chairperson

Mr. Joshua Trombly

School Committee Vice
Chairperson

Mrs. Robin Rounseville

School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

Barbara Lee

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$205,485.39
11	CIRCUIT BREAKER	\$29,494.95
		\$234,980.34



Old Rochester Regional School District Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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

Food Service Director's Report: May 2026
Rochester Memorial Elementary

Directors Update:

- May 01, 2026 is National School Lunch Hero Day!
- In the process of procuring food and supplies for the SY 26-27.
- Meal Participation has continued to be strong.
- Resources to help support families in need of additional food assistance can be found at ORRschoolmeals.com

Students Receiving Free and Reduced Meals:								
Free:					98		22 %	
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%	3,144	35 %	5,331	59 %
October	2,954	30%	5,986	61%	3,370	36 %	5,946	63 %
November	2,235	30 %	4,589	61 %	2,280	34 %	4,232	62 %
December	1,858	28 %	4,197	63 %	2,363	33 %	4,708	66 %
January	2,569	28 %	5,633	62 %	2,312	32 %	4,638	64 %
February	1,894	29 %	3,983	61 %	1,368	32 %	2,689	64 %
March	2,863	31 %	5,741	62 %	3,080	33 %	5,986	65 %
April	2,395	32 %	4,586	61 %	2,478	35 %	4,598	64 %
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>



Facilities Director's Report: May 2026

Rochester Memorial Elementary School

- Solar project tie in to the grid completed. Operating and generating electricity.
- Ordered and delivered 10,000 gallons heating fuel.
- Toured school with Capital Planning Committee representative.
- Researching possible battery option for our solar canopy.
- Completed required maintenance on facility systems and equipment.

Sincerely,

Gene Jones

Director of Facilities

Office: 508-758-2772 x1954

Cell: 508-509-6763

E-Mail: eugenejones@oldrochester.org



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



Heidi J. Letendre, Interim 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-School Committee Meeting on May 7, 2026
Date: April 28, 2026

School Events:

- Kindergarten Orientation was held on March 25th and was well attended.
- First Grade Save the Animals Performance was held on Wednesday, April 15th for our PreK-k and 2 classrooms and then for their families at 2:00 PM. This event is always full of music, laughs and lots of smiles from our first graders.
- RMS Talent Show was held on April 16, 2026- 5:00-8:00 PM. There were over 20 student performances, from karate, gymnastics, magic, skits and dance performances.
- Tuesday, April 28th: Kindergarten around town field trip
- Celebrated our paraprofessionals with a luncheon. Our paraprofessionals are important members of our school community and we can't thank them enough for their continued dedication. We want to thank Mrs. Harding for her many years of service to RMS as she will retire this school year.
- On Monday, May 4th Grow Education visited our third grade classrooms to plant kale and lettuce, as well as sowing radish, peas, and cilantro seeds. Students measured the garlic that they planted previously.

Curriculum and Assessment Updates:

- A small group of staff met with Carrie Thurston to create our tiered intervention plan. We looked at the use of different assessments and data points and how we can continuously review student growth and interventions to best support all students.
- Initial placement discussions are happening across all grade levels and will continue to be worked on throughout May.
- The final group of teachers had their final meeting with Susan Looney to discuss fact fluency and best practices and approaches to teaching facts on Monday, May 5th.
- ELA MCAS is complete and Math MCAS assessments began this week.

School Council Meeting:

- The School Council last met in April and finalized the 2 year School Improvement Plan accomplishments to be presented to the School Committee in June.
- The next meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2026.



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



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Charles West, Assistant Principal
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Upcoming Dates:

May:

- Monday, May 4th Susan Looney Grades 4-6
- Wednesday, May 6th Staff Meeting
- Thursday, May 7th and May 21st PLC Meeting Time
- Thursday, May 7th: School Committee
- Thursday, May 14th: STEAMapalooza 5:30 PM
- Friday, May 15th: Bus Driver Appreciation Breakfast
- Wednesday, May 20th: Classroom/Group Pictures Lifetouch
- Wednesday May 20th: Second Grade Field Trip to Zeiterion Performing Arts Center
- Thursday May 21st: Second Grade Walking Trip to Plant Flowers at the Fire Fighter's Memorial 9:30-10:45
- Thursday, May 21: Classroom/Group Pictures Lifetouch
- Thursday, May 21st: Beginner Band Concert (Gr 3 + 4 and 4th grade families) 2:00
- Thursday, May 21st: Kindergarten field trip- Heritage Museums & Gardens
- Sunday, May 24th: Memorial Day Parade
- Wednesday, May 26th: RMS Learning Walk
- Thursday, May 28th: Spring Concert 1:45 PM for the whole school, 6:30 PM for families

June:

- Wednesday, June 3rd-Boosterthon, Staff meeting & School Committee Meeting
- Thursday June 4th: First Grade Field Trip to Capron Zoo (Rain Date Friday, 6/5) and PLC Meeting Time
- Tuesday, June 9th: PTO Meeting at 7:00 PM, Equity Subcommittee meeting at 4:30 and Joint School Committee meeting at 6:00 PM
- Monday, June 15th: 6th grade tour of Junior High School
- Monday, June 15th: Assembly The SkyDome
- Thursday, June 11th: Project GROW graduation 12:00, T/Th families



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First Grade Save the Animals Performance





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RMS Talent Show Skit



After School Farm Kids





The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MASSACHUSETTS SENATE
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SENATOR MICHAEL J. RODRIGUES
First Bristol and Plymouth District

CHAIR
Committee on Ways and Means

MICHAEL.RODRIGUES@MASENATE.GOV
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April 15, 2026

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

Dear Superintendent Nelson,

Congratulations! I am very pleased to inform you that during the recent Fiscal Year 2026 Senate consolidated 'Fair Share' supplemental budget debate, I was able to successfully allocate funding for special education costs at the Rochester Memorial School. This \$200,000 grant will fund offset increased special education costs the school has recently been experiencing.

It is because of your continued strong and dedicated leadership to the Old Rochester Regional School District that this grant was made possible. Please find the exact language for the earmark below:

- **Line Item Earmark –Rochester Public Schools:**

"provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to the Rochester Public Schools to offset special educations costs at the Rochester Memorial School in the town of Rochester."

As you well know, I have always been a strong advocate for students, teachers, and public school families in my district, and your able stewardship of the Rochester Public School community merits this significant grant funding.

Again, I offer my sincere congratulations.

Sincerely,

State Senator Michael J. Rodrigues
Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

cc. Heidi Letendre, Principal, Rochester Memorial School
Katherine A. Duggan, Chair, Rochester School Committee

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