

**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.olderochester.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

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**

April 9, 2026 at 7:00 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 (cafeteria) 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. Recognition**
That the School Committee recognize 4th grader Thomas Cahill for winning a Golden Ticket winner from the Feinstein Foundation.
- IV. Public Comment**
Public comment is governed by approved school committee policy.
- V. FY2027 School Choice Public Hearing (VOTE)**
That the School Committee open a public hearing for discussion of School Choice for Rochester Memorial School. Public comment is available during the hearing.
- VI. Approval of Minutes (VOTE)**
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**
- VII. General**
 - a. FY2027 School Choice Vote (VOTE)**
That the School Committee review school choice for the 2026-2027 school year.
 - b. Approval of School Health Unit Application (VOTE)**
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.
 - c. Approval of Grant(s) (VOTE)**
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.
- d. Approval of Donation(s) (VOTE)**
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.
- e. Approval of Disposal of Technology Materials (VOTE)**
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.

VIII. Administrative and School Committee Reports

a. Chairperson Report

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

b. Central Office Reports

- i. Superintendent
 1. That the School Committee review the most recent Superintendent's [Newsletter](#).
- ii. Teaching & Learning
 1. That the School Committee hear an update on current happenings of curriculum, professional development, new teacher induction program and teaching and learning initiatives.
- iii. Student Services
 1. That the School Committee hear an update on current happenings of the student services department, including community outreach events, and updates on initiatives related to school climate and culture, and safe schools.
- iv. Business Office
 1. That the School Committee review the current FY2026 Financial Report of obligations paid or encumbered to date.

2. That the School Committee review the Record of Warrant(s) as signed by the sole signatory for January 15, 29, February 11, 27 and March 11, 2026.
- v. Facilities
 1. That the School Committee review this month's update from Facilities Director Eugene Jones.
- vi. Food Service
 1. That the School Committee review this month's update from Food Service Director Jill Henesey.
- vii. Personnel
 1. 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

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

IX. School Committee Reports

View agendas, resources and minutes online: <https://www.olderochester.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

X. Information and Future Agenda Items

a. Information

- i. READS Quarterly Report February/March 2026
- ii. 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.olderochester.org/district-calendar>

XI. Executive Session (VOTE)

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

XII. Adjournment (VOTE)

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

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

January 8, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kirstin Jimenez

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools, 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 6:00pm 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 participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Public Comment

Public comment is governed by approved school committee policy.

There were no public comments.

IV. Recognition

That the School Committee recognize former School Committee member Anne Fernandes and hear a presentation regarding Grow Education from Grade 3.

Superintendent Nelson and Chairperson Duggan expressed their gratitude for Ms. Fernandes' service to Rochester Memorial School as a faculty member and most recently as a School Committee member along with a book being donated to the school library in her honor, *School People* by Lee Bennett Hopkins.

Principal Letendre introduced the third grade faculty present with students James Correia, Emma Santos, Emily Mello, Owen Ruff, Chase Rounseville, Isla Brien and Alex Smith. The students shared their experiences thus far with the Marion Institute's Farm to School Program and what they have liked about the program. Mr. Nate Sander from the Marion Institute was also present to support the students.

V. Approval of Minutes

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

a. Regular Session Minutes: November 6, 2025

Motion to accept the minutes of November 6, 2025 as presented by Robin Rounseville.

Motion seconded by Josh Trombly.

Motion carries 3-0.

b. Budget Subcommittee Minutes: November 6, 2025

Motion to accept the Budget Subcommittee minutes of November 6, 2025 as presented by Robin Rounseville.

Motion seconded by Josh Trombly.

Motion carries 3-0.

VI. General

a. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at Rochester Memorial School

That the School Committee hear information about the potential of charging stations being installed at Rochester Memorial School.

Superintendent Nelson welcomed Ms. Marcia Kessler, retired teacher and currently she assists the Town of Rochester with grant work, Mr. Andrew Daniel, the Facilities Director for the Town of Rochester and Mr. Eugene Jones, the Facilities Director for our schools. He explained that the Town has shared information about charging stations for electric vehicles and grant work was completed to replace existing charging stations in the Town, and add new locations. Ms. Kessler shared the state is encouraging installation of charging stations for electrical vehicles on public land and workplaces. The Town would receive \$50,000 per site. Currently, the Town plans to replace charging stations at Town Hall and adding a charging station to the senior center. Mr. Daniel explained that the Town currently owns two electric vehicles and two out of the four existing for charging stations are no longer functioning. Mr. Daniel explained the new stations have the ability to be programmed and restricted to staff only using an application that costs about \$250 per year. An extra conduit was already installed when the solar panels were installed this year, so there is the ability to run the necessary wiring. Ms. Kessler added that if they were open to the public, the Town has the potential to profit from the installation. Mr. Jones explained the profit and the expenses related to maintenance, etc. would be the responsibility of the Town, not Rochester Memorial School.

School Committee Feedback:

Ms. Duggan inquired as to where they would be located in the back parking lot. Mr. Jones recommended close to the conduit on the curve of the parking lot. Mr. Daniel confirmed the installation would not affect accessible spots that already exist. Ms. Rounseville confirmed they would be owned and serviced by the Town. Mr. Jones and Mr. Daniel confirmed.

The School Committee further discussed the potential of the installation and ability to set a certain time frame for the units to be used, in order to minimize or limit the general public from being on property during school hours. They discussed the average charging times and these new charging stations being level 2 chargers, not slow chargers. Ms. Kessler also confirmed the funds are available and set aside for the Town of Rochester already, but the School Committee can change their decision moving forward if they deem so necessary.

Motion to approve the exploration of two new charging stations for electric vehicles at Rochester Memorial School for internal use only by Robin Rounseville.

Motion seconded by Josh Trombly.

Motion carries 3-0.

b. FY2027 Budget Update

That the School Committee hear an update from administration.

Superintendent Nelson explained the district is in the heart of the budget season and the Subcommittee met earlier today. A draft FY2027 budget has been put together and it is anticipated to be an extremely challenging budget season like most towns across the state are experiencing. Driving factors continue to be utility and transportation expenses along with anticipated support of special education services greater than in recent years. The administration will be sharing draft information with Town leaders early next week and will meet with the Budget Subcommittee again in the next week or two.

c. Approval of Donation(s)

That the School Committee review a donation of two \$100 Visa gift cards to Ms. Weigel's class.

Superintendent Nelson reviewed the two gift cards presented to Ms. Weigel from a retired teacher and grandparent of a current student.

Motion to approve the donation of two \$100 gift cards as presented by Robin Rounseville.

Motion seconded by Josh Trombly.

Motion carries 3-0.

d. Approval of Grant(s)

That the School Committee review a grant from the Feinstein Foundation for \$1,000 to support the basic needs of students and families in meaningful ways.

Superintendent Nelson shared this has been a great partnership with the Feinstein Foundation and the most recent grant funds were distributed to encourage the support of students in need.

Motion to approve the \$1,000 grant from the Feinstein Foundation as presented by Robin Rounseville.

Motion seconded by Josh Trombly.

Motion carries 3-0.

e. FY2027 Initial School Choice Discussion

That the School Committee discuss School Choice for FY2027.

Superintendent Nelson explained this discussion is preliminary ahead of the required school choice public hearing which is annual obligation for all districts in the Commonwealth. Historically, Rochester Memorial School has not participated in school choice. For every student enrolled, a \$5,000 reimbursement is received along with partial reimbursement for special education expenses. At the public hearing, the School Committee will need to vote on whether or not to participate in School Choice for FY2027.

School Committee Feedback:

Ms. Rounseville shared she remains committed to opting out for enrollment concerns and keeping classes smaller. Chairperson Duggan agreed and she does not think it makes sense fiscally to participate in school choice. Mr. Trombly agreed as well.

f. Reorganization

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

Superintendent Nelson explained that since Ms. Fernandes resigned, the School Committee reorganization needs to be completed for open positions with a Joint School Committee coming up at the end of the month. The School Committee can reorganize again if they so choose when a new member is appointed at the discretion of the Chairperson. The School Committee reviewed the vacant positions and appointed new representatives as listed below.

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

District Wellness Committee	Robin Rounseville
Collective Bargaining	~~VACANT~~ Kate Duggan Kirstin Jimenez
Grievance Subcommittee	Committee as a whole
Capital Planning Committee	~~VACANT~~ Josh Trombly
Policy Subcommittee	Josh Trombly
Warrant Review Committee	Committee as a whole
Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund Committee	Kirstin Jimenez
Budget Subcommittee	Committee as a whole
Town Liaison	Kate Duggan
Superintendent's Goals Subcommittee	Kate Duggan ~~VACANT~~ Robin Rounseville
Equity Subcommittee	Kirstin Jimenez

Motion to approve the new positions as discussed by Robin Rounseville.

Motion seconded by Josh Trombly.

Motion carries 3-0

VII. Administrative and School Committee Reports

a. Chairperson Report

Chairperson Duggan shared the following:

As we've discussed already a bit tonight, earlier this evening the RMS Budget Subcommittee, which includes all members of the RMS School Committee, met to review the preliminary budget for FY27. Although we try to keep these meetings positive and focused on accomplishments and opportunities, I want to be candid with our community about the significant fiscal challenges ahead for us. Like many school districts across Massachusetts, we are facing fiscal pressures that will require difficult conversations and decisions in the near future. Rising costs for special education services, healthcare, and utilities are outpacing the rate of growth we have typically seen. These are not abstract numbers and figures—they represent real trade-offs that will affect our students' educational experiences and the dedicated professionals who serve them daily.

However, I've seen this community rise to challenges before, and I'm confident in our collective capacity to navigate this moment thoughtfully. This is precisely the time when we need your voices and your engagement. Please attend budget subcommittee meetings, join us at regular school committee meetings, and especially participate at the budget hearing to be held on Wednesday, March 25, here at 6 pm. Ask your questions early and come see that those of us who represent Rochester schools are doing everything we can to control costs while maintaining our unwavering commitment to our students.

The budget process ahead will demand honest dialogue about priorities, a broad recognition of the larger financial picture facing most municipalities across the Commonwealth, and perhaps most importantly, a shared understanding that every decision we make will reflect our values as a community that believes deeply in the power of education. As you consider your votes at town meeting, I urge you also to remember that the RMS budget line, as well as our collective responsibility, extends to every Rochester student. This includes those learning within our building at RMS, those receiving specialized services

through regional collaboratives, and those whose individual needs require out-of-district placements. Each of these students deserves our commitment to quality education, and each of them represents an important investment in our community's future.

By working together with transparency, collegiality, and a shared commitment to our students, I believe we can develop and pass a budget that, while difficult, maintains our core mission of providing every student with the skills and mindset to become responsible, lifelong learners and contributing global citizens. I hope you will join me in that belief and in the actions we must take to realize this future for our students, today.

b. Central Office Reports

i. Superintendent

Superintendent Nelson shared his more recent [Superintendent's Newsletter](#). Superintendent Nelson shared he recently met with Chairperson Duggan, Town Administrator Cameron Durant and Select Board member Adam Murphy regarding the vacant school committee position. The Town has posted notice soliciting invitations from parties interested in fulfilling the remainder of Ms. Fernandes' term which concludes this school year by February 6th. A joint meeting between the School Committee and the Select Board will be held on February 24th to review the applications and vote for a replacement member.

ii. Teaching & Learning

Dr. Fedorowicz reported:

Professional development continues with consultant Sue Looney coming in for math with our interventionists on January 5th to apply targeted training, and our next PD at the end of the month will, again, focus on the new math program and rolling out new lessons and working collaboratively among districts. Our new teachers worked on lesson development exemplars in December, and coming up again is our guest speaker, Dr. Gilpatrick, who comes every year to discuss classroom management. Recently, RMS 6th grade students, and Mrs. Forns worked with, OpenSciEd, One Foundation, and an outside company to work on real-life problem solving about plant disease. Marion and Mattapoisett joined in as well.

iii. Student Services

Dr. Curley reported:

MTSS Audits for social emotional learning have taken place and elementary principals met on November 21st with BIRCh Center to review the preliminary findings from the audit from last year and developed an action plan. Academic site visits have occurred in all of our buildings. Met with Ms. Thurston on December 2nd to review preliminary findings and discussed possible next steps. We should have the report by middle to end of January. Thank you to the staff for surveys and administrative assistants for paperwork to assist in this process. The Wellness Committee met on December 10th and conducted the MA Local Wellness Policy Assessment. The Committee identified some possible areas to focus on the remainder of this year and will meet in February to decide on those focus areas. SEPAC's next meeting is Mar 11, 2026 and we will be working on a survey to parents to gain feedback on interests and build participation.

iv. Business Office

Mr. Barber shared the current FY2026 Financial Report of obligations paid or encumbered to date with \$208,654 available. He added that a request will be submitted to the Town to access the special funds that were appropriated by the Town for student services. He also reviewed the Record of Warrant(s) as signed by the sole signatory for November 13, December 11 and 30, 2025.

v. Facilities

On behalf of Facilities Director Eugene Jones, Mr. Barber shared:

- Submitted our Capital Improvements Requests to the Town for FY27.
- Replaced Engineered Wood Fiber (EWF) on back playground/swing area.
- Solar project 95% completed.
- Ordered 10,000 gallons fuel oil for heating/emergency generator.
- Conducted two snow/ice removal operations.
- Completed required maintenance on facility systems and equipment.

vi. Food Service

On behalf of Food Service Director Jill Henesey, Mr. Barber shared:

- Welcome new café team member, Ms. Ana Laycock.
- Currently in the process of requesting updated quotes to replace some kitchen equipment.
- ORRSd recently shared information, to our school community, on resources to support families in need of additional food assistance. Resources can be found at ORRSchoolmeals.com.
- Completed a successful DESE Child Nutrition Administrative Review Audit.
- We were awarded \$30,000 from the DESE MA FRESH grant to assist our schools with the school gardens and our partnership with the Marion Institute's Grow Education program.

i. Personnel

Superintendent Nelson explained Casey Rogers resigned as Special Education Teacher. Ana Laycock was hired as an assistant cook.

c. **Principal and School Council Report**

Principal Letendre shared the following:

Holiday Events:

- The RMS band, jazz band and chorus entertained our entire school community on Thursday, December 18th with the annual Holiday Concert. This was a fun school-wide event. Our musicians also performed for their families at 2:00 PM. This was a wonderful way to kick off the holiday season and our vacation week.
- Once again, Mrs. Laprise organized our musicians to visit RMS classrooms to play some holiday music. This was a great way to showcase our student's musical talents.
- Thank you to Mrs. Laprise, Ms. Audette and Mrs. Sparklin, accompanist.
- Thank you to the Rochester Fire Department for the surprise Santa visit on the ladder fire truck, which took place on Tuesday, December 23rd.
- Our first grade and second grade classrooms celebrated Holidays Around the World. In second grade, family members came into the classroom to share about their holiday traditions and students got to experience different foods from various countries.
- The kindergarten held their annual Polar Express and Grinch Day. While preschool put on two adorable holiday concerts for families to enjoy.

Celebrations Committee:

- The Turkey Trot staff game was a huge success in November.
- The Celebrations Committee planned a holiday staff breakfast and a festive sweater contest for the 3rd year in a row.
- Winners of the sweater contest were: Mrs. McIlmail, Mrs. Lambert-Matos, and Mr. Forns.
- The next Celebration's Committee Meeting is scheduled for January 14th.

Staffing Updates:

- Mrs. Casey Rogers resigned her position as of December 12, 2025.

Student Ambassadors:

- RMS buzzed with excitement during our Spirit Week starting on December 18th.
- The Ambassadors organized a school-wide Spirit Days and we had great participation by faculty and staff.
- This group of students meet twice a month before school to plan special events for RMS.
- They also just completed their donation drive for Damien's Pantry.

Curriculum and Assessment Updates:

- Thank you to Mrs. Sollauer and Mr. Huckabee for their planning of Hour of Code week at RMS. Students enjoyed the challenges of coding and testing their work.
 - Our first graders practiced the concept of repeat loops using an unplugged activity with plastic cups and clapping patterns. Through rhythm and repetition, students discovered how computers follow instructions and why loops make code more efficient.

- Fifth graders had an introduction to programming logic and digital creativity. They designed and animated their own sprites. Their creations could spin, swim, wander, and respond to code they wrote themselves.
- Third grade students used problem solving skills to code their "farmers" to harvest crops of corn.
- There were 25 sixth graders that participated in a Job Alike experience with Mrs. Forns through OpenSciEd. This was a full day of students working to solve a real world problem from a company. The students were in groups and needed to work together as a team to come up with a plan. This was an amazing experience for everyone.
- Middle of the Year Assessments, Aimsweb Math & DIBELS, are taking place throughout January.
- Data meetings will take place after the testing window to identify instructional focus areas for all students.
- Susan Looney, Math Consultant, will return to RMS on Monday, January 12th (K-2) and January 20th Grades 4-6.
- FlyFive Lessons begin this month.
- Marion Institute visited RMS 3rd graders for another learning session about the importance of bees and bee keeping that supports our ecosystems.

School Council Meeting:

- The School Council last met on Tuesday, November 18th and reviewed the current School Improvement Plan and highlighted our areas of completion and areas needing additional work.
- The council members will also review the proposed draft FY27 Calendar for feedback.
- The next meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2026.

Upcoming Dates:

- Sunday, January 18th: Providence Bruins Game at 3:05-RMS Students Singing the National Anthem
- Monday, January 19th: No School in Honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Wednesday, January 28th: Early Release Day-Dismissal begins at 12:25PM
- Wednesday, January 29th: 4th Grade Chorus Presents "Celebrate the World" with a 9:15 performance and 6:30 PM performance for families

PTO:

- Tuesday, January 13th at 7:00 PM in our cafeteria
- Thank you to our PTO for organizing the holiday treat cart for faculty and staff prior to vacation week.

VIII. School Committee Reports

- a. Budget Subcommittee – no report
- b. Capital Subcommittee – Superintendent Nelson reported the Town has not shared the timeline yet.
- c. Equity Subcommittee – no report
- d. Policy Subcommittee – Josh Trombly reported they met on December 11th to review revisions to JFAE Middle School Pathway Exploration Policy and new policies IKF Graduation Requirements and IFKE Competency Determination which were all supported to move forward. The next meeting is January 15, 2026.
- e. District Wellness Committee – Robin Rounseville reported they met on December 10th with the Wellness Coach for the state who is in her second year working with our district. They assessed how districts are performing in many areas against the policy and the next meeting is February 25, 2025.
- f. ORR District Committee – Robin Rounseville reported they met on December 15th to hear an update on discussions with Acushnet Public Schools and approved permission for the administration to conduct negotiations for a potential tuition agreement. Any final agreement would come back to the full committee for review and approval.
- g. Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund – no report

- h. Early Childhood Council – Robin Rounseville reported they met in November and there are two more preschool screenings coming up. The next meeting is January 14, 2026.
- i. SMEC – no report
- j. READS – Superintendent Nelson reported they meet next week.
- k. MASC – Kate Duggan reported on the MASC Delegate Assembly on November 14th. The new resolution and all 6 resolutions up for renewal were adopted by the membership to inform MASC's legislative priorities moving into 2026. Josh Trombly reported on his attendance at the three day MASC conference in November including attending sessions related to creative financial solutions, AI, student services and legal briefings. He was grateful for the opportunity and it was a busy but eye-opening experience.
- l. Superintendent's Goals Subcommittee – The next meeting is May 7, 2026.

IX. Information and Future Agenda Items

a. Information

- i. Resignation Letter from former School Committee Member Anne Fernandes
- ii. 2026-2027 School Calendar DRAFT
- iii. READS Collaborative Annual Report 2025-2026
- iv. SMEC Annual Report FY2025
- v. SMEC Audit Report FY2025

b. Timeline

- i. Next Rochester School Committee: March 25, 2026
- ii. Next Joint School Committee: January 25, 2026

c. Future Agenda Items

- i. School Choice Public Hearing (March)
- ii. Health Unit Application (March)
- iii. Budget Public Hearing (March)
- iv. Approval of Leases (April)
- v. School Committee Reorganization (June)
- vi. School Improvement Plan Approval (June)
- vii. Student Handbook Approval (June)

District-wide news is available on our website: <https://www.oldrochester.org/district/news>

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

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

X. 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 7:23pm 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.

Motion seconded by Josh Trombly.

Roll Call (Duggan; yes, Rounseville; yes, Trombly; yes)

Motion carries 3-0

Motion to exit executive session at 7:55pm only to return to adjourn by Robin Rounseville.

Motion seconded by Josh Trombly.

Roll Call (Duggan; yes, Rounseville; yes, Trombly; yes)

Motion carries 3-0

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:56pm by Robin Rounseville.

Motion seconded by Josh Trombly.

Motion Carries 3-0

Meeting Resources

Agenda

November 6, 2025 Minutes Draft

November 6, 2025 Budget Minutes Draft

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Information

Visa Gift Card Donations

Einstein Donation

Subcommittee List for Reorganization

Superintendent's Newsletter

FY2026 Financial Report Memo

FY2026 General Operating Report

Warrant(s)

Facilities Report

Food Service Report

Principal's Report

Resignation Letter – Anne Fernandes

2026-2027 School Calendar Draft

READS Annual Performance FY2025

FY2025 SMEC Annual Report

FY2025 SMEC Audit Report

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

January 8, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools, Shari Fedorowicz, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Jaime Curley, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Heidi Letendre, Principal, and Melissa Wilcox, Recording Secretary.

I. Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:31pm by Chairperson Duggan.

Superintendent Nelson welcomed the School Committee and administrators present. He shared that as he eluded to at the last meeting, changes in the special education services for students has caused a significant increase in the draft FY2027 budget for Rochester Memorial School. He reminded those present that the mandated services and tuition rates for out-of-district placements are set by the Department of Education and the Operational Services Division, and not the district. He shared the initial draft FY2027 budget which incorporates the anticipated special education expenses and salary increases in a level-service proposal is an increase of 13%. This number does incorporate the special education expenses that last year, the Town of Rochester allocated separately for \$200,000. On Monday, Superintendent Nelson and Mr. Barber will be meeting with Town Administrator, Cameron Durant and Finance Director, Suzanne Szyndlar to discuss the situation at Rochester Memorial School.

Next, Mr. Barber provided an overview by department, including Rochester Memorial School, Central Office, Student Services, Facilities, Technology and Transportation. In Teaching and Learning, DIBELS was previously grant funded but FY2027 is the first year the district must pay for this early screening assessment, which is a state requirement. Superintendent Nelson added that writing is something that is being worked on in the district, but also state-wide, so funds have been allocated for this. Aligning all three of the elementary districts in the Tri-town has been part of the strategic plan focus in recent years, but Rochester will likely have tough decisions on some of these items moving forward.

Superintendent Nelson expressed his concerns for this current budget season but it is very straightforward as far as the budget drivers this year, reiterating special education expenses and salary increases.

School Committee Feedback:

Ms. Rounseville expressed that it is hard because nothing is the control of the district as the majority are mandated special education expenses. She inquired as to when the last time Chromebooks were replaced. Mr. Barber said the district went two years without replacement. Chairperson Duggan inquired about Bristol County Agricultural High School. Mr. Barber said it is a separate allocation for the town and not included in the RMS budget, but he will provide information at the next meeting. Rochester's enrollment at Bristol-Aggie has increased.

Superintendent Nelson anticipates a meeting for the Budget Subcommittee next week after he and Mr. Barber meet with the Town Administrator and Finance Director on Monday and receive more information. He anticipates multiple meetings in preparation for a variety of 'what-if' situations and many discussions with Town Officials. The Subcommittee will work with the administration to identifying potential worse case scenarios and prioritize decisions. The School Committee members confirmed they are comfortable with Superintendent Nelson and Mr. Barber sharing the information discussed this evening with Mr. Durant and Ms. Szyndlar. Principal Letendre

added that is an unfortunate situation and they are decisions they do not want to make. Superintendent Nelson will also begin communication with union representatives for transparency and so they may be able to think about potential scenarios and options for FY2027.

II. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 5:28pm by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Josh Trombly

Roll Call (Duggan; yes, Rounseville; yes, Jimenez; yes, Trombly; yes)

Motion Carries 4-0

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

January 15, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kate Duggan, Chairperson, Robin Rounseville, Kirstin Jimenez and Josh Trombly (all remote).

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, and Melissa Wilcox, Recording Secretary.

I. Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:09pm by Chairperson Duggan.

Superintendent Nelson welcomed the School Committee and administrators present. He reminded the members they discussed at the last meeting changes in the special education services have caused a significant increase in the draft FY2027 budget for Rochester Memorial School. At the last meeting an initial draft FY2027 budget which incorporated the anticipated special education expenses and salary increases in a level-service proposal was an increase of 13%. The administration reviewed the information and had some additional changes to the special education department so the collaborative and special education transportation expenses lines were able to be reduced. These changes reduced the overall proposed FY2027 budget to an increase of 11.5% since the last meeting.

Superintendent Nelson informed the School Committee that he and Mr. Barber met with Town Officials earlier in the week to review this information with them and hear their feedback on the budget for the entire Town of Rochester. The administrators shared the level-service budget but understood it was likely not feasible. The Town will also need the ORR budget for the whole picture. Superintendent Nelson explained an override was discussed but the Town has not taken a position on it, or if an override would be only for the schools or the entire Town. The District would still have to prepare for a budget without an override in the event that it was proposed and did not pass. The School Committee would be called upon to advocate for funding for the schools and all members were supportive. In anticipation of the Town asking the District to reduce further, Principal Heidi Letendre has begun reviewing potential reductions at RMS.

School Committee Feedback:

Ms. Duggan expressed being able to lobby for an override and also has already worked on a draft letter to legislators to submit on the School Committee's behalf. Ms. Rounseville also supported lobbying for what RMS needs and requested to meet with the Select Board and Finance Committee sooner rather than later. Ms. Duggan shared she wants the residents of Rochester to understand that they are advocating in other areas and the first step is not to go right to the townspeople for more funds. Ms. Rounseville agreed that it is important how information is shared. Ms. Duggan asked if the Rochester Memorial Teachers' Association was informed of the current budget situation. Superintendent Nelson did have an initial conversation with the President and plans to talk with her again later today. Principal Letendre explained that she and Assistant Principal Charles West meets monthly with the Union and this was the topic of their recent meeting. They are working to review enrollment and project reductions based on student numbers but have agreed there will be no reductions in the special education department.

Superintendent Nelson shared the Town has not given a specific number to the District to work towards as they await information from Old Colony, ORR, etc. He added that per the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Association, reductions must begin with nonprofessional staff.

School Committee Feedback:

Ms. Rounseville asked Ms. Jimenez and Mr. Trombly if they would support an override. Mr. Trombly is happy to advocate for what is needed to keep as many teachers as possible. Ms. Jimenez agreed. Ms. Rounseville inquired with the administration as to when the Town would share the number they would be looking for from the District. Superintendent Nelson explained the Town Administrator is meeting with all the departments and schools in the next week or two so he anticipates after that. He will continue to work with the Town ahead of sending out any communication to stakeholders so that all parties are on the same page.

II. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 3:08pm by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Josh Trombly

Roll Call (Duggan; yes, Rounseville; yes, Jimenez; yes, Trombly; yes)

Motion Carries 4-0

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

February 12, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kate Duggan, Chairperson, Robin Rounseville, Kirstin Jimenez 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, Heidi Letendre, Principal, and Cameron Durant, Rochester Town Administrator.

I. Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:34pm by Chairperson Duggan.

Superintendent Nelson began the meeting with a recap of the last budget subcommittee meeting and what has taken place since then. Ongoing conversations have been taking place between the administration and town officials and the state of the overall budget in the Town of Rochester. Superintendent Nelson reiterated that a level service budget was provided previously with an increase of about 11.5% but the administration was aware reductions would likely need to be made based on conversations with town officials. A revised draft budget was developed reducing 4 full time staff members in order to decrease the FY2027 Budget proposal from 11.5% to 7.3%. Superintendent Nelson stressed that these are difficult decisions that no one in the administration or the Town wants to make. He reminded those present that expenses related to Student Services and out-of-district placements have increased significantly for FY2027 and in the past the Town has relied on one-time funding to support Student Services expenses but this is not a long-term solution. Mr. Barber provided an overview by department of the proposed budget.

Mr. Durant discussed at length the broader fiscal challenges Rochester is experiencing including minimal new growth and other sources of revenue like property taxes, but increased expenses related to healthcare and pension programs for example, continue to strain the overall Rochester budget.

School Committee Feedback:

Chairperson Duggan shared the following remarks: *I know that the presentation has been upsetting, and as a parent of 2 RMS students myself, I share in your anxiety over the future of our school. But I want to make it clear that this situation is not due to fiscal mismanagement, poor forecasting, or bad decision making. Indeed, we are not the only municipality in Massachusetts facing what has been dubbed a 'fiscal cliff.' Uncertainty at the federal level has led to state lawmakers being more cautious with spending, and school funding formulas like Chapter 70 have not been keeping up with inflation or acknowledging the realities of smaller towns and schools like ours. So combined with less than generous funding from the state, the budget gap in Rochester can be attributed to unforeseeable mandated costs for special education; contractual salary increases, which happen every year but are usually manageable; and general inflationary increases on things like utilities and transportation. If any one of these drivers did not exist, we would be having a different conversation, but all of them together are putting more pressure on the budget than the town can sustain.*

Over the past 2-3 years, the RMS budget subcommittee has passed budgets where we trimmed back smaller line items to stay within a reasonable budget as determined by the town. These cuts included replacing fewer ipads and chromebooks each year and decreasing supplies allowances given to teachers. However, at this point, with a budget gap this big, continuing to trim back in this way would result in minimal financial offsets, so we are forced to look at the main part of the budget where decreasing expenses will get us closer to a final budget amount that

the town can any questions clarify questions on the budget accept, which is staff salaries in the form of reductions in force, or cutting positions.

We know this is a deeply upsetting situation, and we have so much at stake: the prospect of losing treasured members of our school staff, and the impact that will have on them and their families; the potential for larger class sizes, from 15-16 to 20-21 students per class; and the knowledge that regardless of what is decided, this budget year will have a noticeable effect on the quality of education at RMS.

So what can we do about it? As we get closer to final budget numbers, there are some ways you can take action to try to lessen the impact of this budget.

Share with us your ideas for revenue generation or expense reduction. We are very open to exploring creative solutions that will help us maintain the status quo at RMS.

Advocate at every level: for your state, your town, your school, and your kids. You are already doing this just by being here today, but there is so much more that can be done. I have been collaborating for the past few years with the Rural Schools Committee, a group of school committee members like myself and the others here who represent rural school districts. Rural schools are hit particularly hard by tough budget years like this one because our budgets are smaller overall and have less of an ability to absorb significant new costs. The Rural Schools Committee is planning for a week of collective action starting on March 9, and I will be organizing some low-lift ways to get involved. All are welcome to join and contribute, so please contact me for more information. I encourage you to also write letters or call our state lawmakers, Senator Rodrigues and Representative Sylvia, to let them know what is at stake for RMS. They have been hearing from me on this, but more voices can be even more powerful.

Finally, it is ultimately us, the townspeople, who vote and approve the final budget at Town Meeting. Make it a point to attend on May 18 and bring as many other registered Rochester voters as you can. The fiscal situation is not looking any better for next year, or the year after, and we cannot cut our way town wide to a balanced budget. In addition to attending this school committee meeting, please make an effort to attend Select Board and Finance Committee meetings as well to let them know that you want more funding streams for our school, and ask them what steps they are taking to make that happen.

Thank you again for being here tonight. I know there's really nothing any of us could say or do that would make this situation feel better. This is a time to demonstrate to our children how we respond when times get tough: we get creative, we start or double down on our advocacy efforts, and we lean on each other as a community. Thank you for sharing this space with us, and please feel welcomed to reach out to us at any time with questions.

Ms. Rounseville discussed the current situation as well and how they do not want to lose staff but understands the pressures the Town is under. Mr. Trombly and Ms. Jimenez agreed.

Public Comment:

Douglas Sims and Heidi McNeil of Rochester both provide public comments.

Superintendent Nelson closed with expressing the difficulty of the situation in the Town of Rochester.

Motion to support the administration sharing the revised budget with the four position reductions to Town Hall by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Josh Trombly

Roll Call (Duggan; yes, Rounseville; yes, Jimenez; yes, Trombly; yes)

II. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 6:23pm by Robin Rounseville

Seconded by Kirstin Jimenez

Roll Call (Duggan; yes, Rounseville; yes, Jimenez; yes, Trombly; yes)

Motion Carries 4-0

Massachusetts Department of Public Health School Health Services Unit

Massachusetts Controlled Substance Registration (MCSR) Guidance Document:

- 1) School Health Controlled Substance Registration (Medication Delegation)
- 2) School Epinephrine Controlled Substance Registration (Epinephrine Training)

All primary and secondary public and non-public schools in the Commonwealth are required to comply with [M.G.L. 94C: The Controlled Substances Act](#) and [105 CMR 210.000: The Administration of Prescription Medications in Public and Private Schools](#).

All primary and secondary public and non-public school entities that handle and store medications must obtain a Massachusetts Controlled Substance Registration (MCSR) via the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) School Health Services (SHS).

Only **licensed healthcare professionals** may administer medications in Massachusetts primary and secondary public and non-public schools **unless** the school entity's Registered Nurse (RN) completes the application for the **School Health MCSR** (delegation) **and/or** the application for **School Epinephrine MCSR** (epinephrine training).

This guidance document details the process by which primary and secondary public and non-public school entities in the Commonwealth can apply for authorization to allow a school nurse (RN) to:

1. **Delegate** the administration of medications to Unlicensed School Personnel (UAP)
2. **Train** their staff on the administration of student-specific pre-dosed epinephrine

While [105 CMR 210.000](#) allows a school committee or board of trustees, in consultation with the board of health, to seek authorization from MDPH SHS to delegate administration of medications to UAPs; delegation to UAPs is not intended to take the place of a school nurse but rather intended to add flexibility to the nurse's daily practice.

[105 CMR210.000](#) requires that *"The School Committee or Board of Trustees, in consultation with the Board of Health where appropriate, shall provide assurance that sufficient school nurse(s) are available to provide proper supervision of unlicensed school personnel."*

MDPH SHS recommends that a needs assessment be completed by the school nurse with attention paid to those children with special health care needs, as well as emergency response time for each building when determining safe and appropriate health office staffing.

Note: An RN must always be on-call/available for consultation when a delegated medication is being administered by the trained UAP. Training materials can be found on [BU SHIELD's Medication Admin and Delegation resource page](#).

The primary or secondary school/district must have policies for handling, storage, delegation, and disposal of prescription medications and these policies must comply with the laws of the Commonwealth and the regulation [105 CMR 210](#). The written policies can be requested by MDPH SHS at any time.

The RN that applies for the MCSR(s) **is** the Medication Manager (the Medication Manager must be a Registered Nurse in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts) and is legally responsible for the management of the medication administration and/or epinephrine training program for their school entity.

Please Note: When the Medication Manager (RN) leaves their position, they **must** inform the MDPH School Health Unit via email medication.delegation@mass.gov. Otherwise, the RN will remain on the MCSR as the RN responsible for the management of the school entity's medication program.

Registration Instructions for Medication Delegation & Epinephrine Training

- ☐ Obtain certificates of attendance from the two mandatory BU SHIELD courses, [Medication Administration in a School Setting: School Nurse Practice in Massachusetts](#) (credit or audit version) and [Medication Administration in Schools: What School Nurse Managers Need to Know](#). Both classes need to be taken every **three** (3) years.
- ☐ Meet with the signatories to review the school/district policies regarding health services, medication administration, and/or epinephrine training at least every other year. All signatories must sign the [MDPH Signature Page](#). The signatures can be scanned and emailed or be an electronic signature (typed signatures will not be accepted).

Please note: This is the **only** approved signature page. It is used for **both** MCSR applications.

- ☐ Fill out the [MDPH Staffing Spreadsheet](#) when applying for the **School Health MCSR**. The staffing spreadsheet is **not** required for the School Epinephrine MCSR application. Please include only the healthcare professionals and health office support staff that are working in the school health office. Healthcare professionals assigned to an individual student or specific classroom should not be included in the staffing spreadsheet. Other school staff (i.e. secretaries, teachers, school administrators, etc.) are **not** to be included on the staffing

spreadsheet.

- ☐ Create a [Health Professions Licensing System](#) (HPLS) user account (account needs to be in the RN Medication Program Manager's name. Recommended to use your school/work email address).
- ☐ Log onto your [HPLS](#) account. Complete the **online** application(s).

[MDPH School Health Services MCSR Application Instruction Guide](#)

If you need assistance with the **website**, please complete the online complete the online [eLicensing Support Request Form](#) or call the Help Desk at (800) 414-0168. If you have questions specific to the application process after following this guidance reach out to medication.delegation@mass.gov.

- ☐ The school entity's registration expires **one year** (365 days) from the MCSR approval date. School entities can apply for a **new** registration up to 90 days prior to the expiration date. It is recommended that your application is submitted **at least** two (2) weeks prior to the expiration date to avoid a lapse in registration, as this is the average processing/approval time. Applications are approved in the order they go into the system.
Please note: There is **no option for renewal**; it is a **new** application **each year** for **both** MCSRs.

Optional Back-Up Medication Manager (RN)

School entities have the option to include a back-up Medication Manager (RN) with their MCSR application(s). In the event the primary Medication Manager (RN) leaves their position, or steps down from this registration, the back-up Medication Manager (RN) on this application can immediately fill in as the primary Medication Manager (RN), without lapse of registration. In the event there is no back-up Medication Manager (RN), or the back-up Medication Manager (RN) does not confirm their intention to become the primary Medication Manager (RN) within **10 business days** (2 weeks), the school district/school's registration will be null and void and the school district/school cannot delegate medication to unlicensed school staff.

The optional back-up Medication Manager (RN) **must**:

1. Be a Registered Nurse in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
2. Complete both required BU SHIELD medication courses. The certificates of completion for both courses need to be uploaded to the online application under 2nd RN Contact section. Both classes need to be taken every **three (3)** years.
 - [Medication Administration in a School Setting: School Nurse Practice in Massachusetts \(credit or audit version\)](#)
 - [Medication Administration in Schools: What School Nurse Managers Need to Know](#)



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

January 16, 2026

Dear Superintendent Michael Nelson,

Congratulations! We are pleased to notify you that Rochester Public Schools has been awarded a Fund Code 213 FY 2026: Support Implementing of Updated Regulations Regarding Time-Out Practices Grant of \$50,000.00.

We want to thank you for your commitment to improving outcomes for all students with disabilities. Through this funding and your continued support, we hope to expand access to great educational opportunities in the Commonwealth.

You will be receiving further instructions from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education on next steps, and please feel free to contact Cecelia Auditore at Cecelia.Auditore@mass.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "M. T. Healey".

GOVERNOR MAURA T. HEALEY

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Kim Driscoll".

LT. GOVERNOR KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL

CAPE
COD 51500 Iyannough Road
Hyannis, MA 02601

Charitable Endowment

VOID AFTER ONE YEAR

53-7107
2113

002731

TO THE
ORDER
OF
PAY

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Four Hundred Fifty-Five and 00/100

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

SECOND SIGNATURE LINE REQUIRED \$100,000 OR MORE

Kwister Foresta

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

12/11/2025
AMOUNT

** 455.00**

DATE

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Mutual Bancorp Foundation, Inc.

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRI

Document Date	Document Number	Description	99-8857	2731	12/11/2025
12/4/2025	5674	Ms. Anne Realini			
				Base Amount	Net Amount
				\$ 455.00	\$ 455.00
		Total		\$ 455.00	\$ 455.00

FEINSTEIN FOUNDATION
37 ALHAMBRA CIR
CRANSTON RI 02905-3416

Bank of America
ACH R/T 121000358

1213

11-35/1210 CA
72138

3/17/2026

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Rochester Memorial School

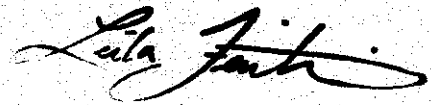
\$ **300.00

Three Hundred and 00/100*****

DOLLARS

Rochester Memorial School
16 Pine St
Rochester, MA 02770

MEMO Support for End of Year 6th Grade Celebration



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

⑈001213⑈ ⑆121000358⑆ 325214808964⑈

FEINSTEIN FOUNDATION
37 ALHAMBRA CIR
CRANSTON RI 02905-3416

Bank of America
ACH R/T 121000358

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72138

3/17/2026

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Rochester Memorial School

\$ **2,000.00

Two Thousand and 00/100*****

DOLLARS

Rochester Memorial School
16 Pine St
Rochester, MA 02770

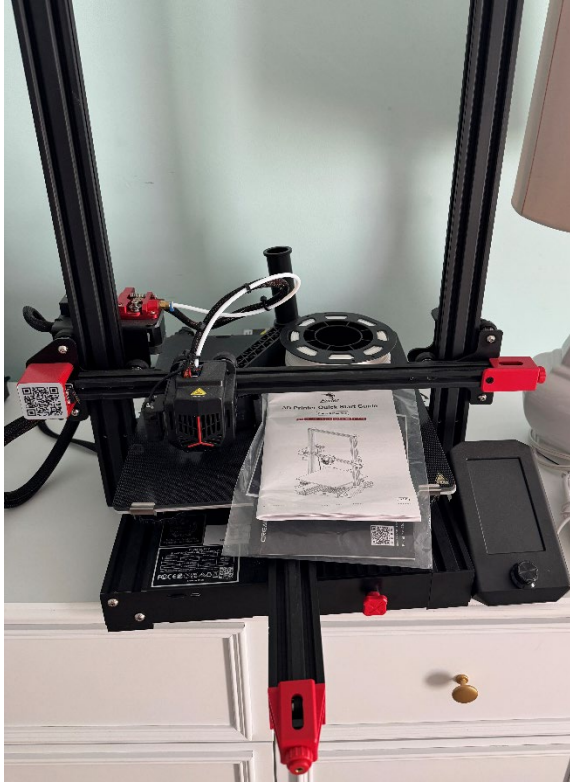
MEMO Golden Ticket Winner



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

⑈001217⑈ ⑆121000358⑆ 325214808964⑈

The Briggs family is donating a 3D printer to RMS.





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:	January 23, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Mr. Lemoncello's all-star breakout game (Mr. Lemoncello's Library, Book 4) 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 (August 2019 (Online))</i> Grades 3-6. Mr. Lemoncello is at it again, this time with an escape-room-style TV game show, and the kids from Alexandriaville return to compete. Kyle and his friends enter the competition to break out of the Lemoncello library, now using the Fictionasium, a 3-D augmented reality game that makes stories come to life. The players must play through different genres in order to escape, and of course Charles Chilton is determined to win. As Kyle and his team play through the game, they begin to understand their nemesis, and they learn that books make the best doors, windows, and mirrors. Like the other Lemoncello books, this novel is fast-paced and full of action—as well as many book titles for readers to discover. The idea of fiction opening up worlds may not be new, but it's a good reminder to children that reading can expand their horizons and help them understand others. Ultimately, this is another fun-filled Lemoncello adventure, sure to be popular with fans of the series.

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



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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: 



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:	January 23, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Mr. Lemoncello's fantabulous finale (Mr. Lemoncello's Library, Book 6) 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 (October 15, 2024 (Vol. 121, No. 4))</i> Grades 4-6. One last round of clever games, puns, rebuses to solve, literary references, tests of character, and valuable prizes for a cast of 13-year-old contestants brings this bright and bookish series to a (supposed) close. In fact, Mr. Lemoncello dangles the most valuable prize of all: declaring that his entire multibillion-dollar gaming empire is up for grabs and there will be but one big winner. So it is that a new set of brainteasers takes Kyle and a rapidly dwindling group of other platinum ticket-holders from the mammoth new amusement park LemoncelloLand to the Dewey depths of the Lemoncello Library. Along with taking one (possibly) final opportunity to dish out nods and sly pokes to dozens of fellow authors past and present, Grabenstein caters to series fans by trotting out characters from past episodes, yet again pulling the rug out from under the exaggeratedly villainous Chillingtons, highlighting the theme that true winning requires not just individual effort but cooperation too, and closing with a properly magnificent shower of balloons. It all adds up to a "wondermous" wrap-up.

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	Not applicable



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(including special features such as: tables of contents, indexes, illustrations, photographs, maps, charts, graphs).	
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 ▾

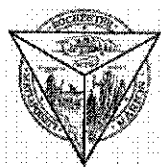
Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

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: Samuel Smith



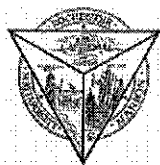
Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Violet Mackerel's natural habitat by Branford, Anna
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A N/A Review Status <i>Booklist (June 1, 2013 (Online))</i> Grades 2-4. The ever-curious, often-pensive, imminently imaginative Violet Mackerel is considering the natural habitats of ladybugs and sparrows and little sisters. Confident that her rank as the smallest in her family fosters a natural sympathy for all small things, Violet fashions a warm, safe home in a jar for a tiny ladybug from the backyard. When Violet makes an unpleasant discovery the next morning, she turns to her older sister, Nicola, who is in a stage of perpetual grump and struggling with a natural science project for school. Violet's sweetness and Nicola's humble patience make for an endearing story of sibling relations in this third book in the Violet Mackerel series. <i>School Library Journal (June 1, 2013)</i> Gr 1-3-In this beginning chapter book, seven-year-old Violet Mackerel has a soft spot for Small Things, being one herself. She notices a sparrow trapped inside the local shopping mall and the ladybugs in her backyard. After being told to "buzz off" by her big sister, Nicola, for suggesting that she could use the ladybugs for her natural-science project, Violet decides to conduct her own experiment. She finds a jar and creates what she thinks is the perfect ladybug habitat. In the morning, "Small Gloria" is "the wrong way up," and the sisters offer each other some comfort. They work together to create a life-cycle ladybug project without removing any more of the insects from their natural habitats, and Nicola is awarded a special honorable mention for her project. Black-and-white pencil sketches placed strategically throughout provide additional plot support. The sweet and whimsical nature of the story will appeal to many readers.-Amy Commers, South St. Paul Public Library, MN (c) Copyright 2013. 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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7. Library materials shall be current and up-to-date.	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:

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:	February 6, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	RMS PTO, Scholastic Winter Book Fair 2026
Contact Information (phone/email):	rmspto.com
Date of Librarian Review:	March 5, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	A child of books by Jeffers, Oliver
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 (July 1, 2016)</i> Gr 1 Up-A gorgeous, innovative musing on the power of storytelling. A nameless young girl who calls herself a child of books narrates in lyrical, spellbinding verse. Some, she says, have forgotten the importance of stories, but she finds a boy and introduces him to her world, a land created through a marriage of Jeffers's evocative art and Winston's masterly use of typography. In one scene, the children climb "mountains of make-believe" whose peaks and valleys are constructed from text from J.M. Barrie's Peter Pan; in another, the pair play hide-and-seek in a forest of trees whose branches are made up of text from various fairy tales. As the two travel farther into the land of imagination, the art slowly takes on a vibrant, joyful tone. Spots of color are added here and there until, finally, loose, sketchy black-and-white line drawings of the children against spare backgrounds are replaced with rich, full-color spreads. Even the choice of which books to excerpt is inspired, and those who take a closer look at the pictures will be rewarded (words and sentences from tales of terror such as Frankenstein, Dracula, and The Legend of Sleepy Hollow comprise a furry, horned monster who menaces a castle; the children escape by climbing down the castle on a rope made up of prose from "Rapunzel"). A full listing of the excerpted works is included on the endpapers; the majority of works are British classics from the Western canon. VERDICT Use this wholly original celebration of the story as a jumping-off point for conversations about art and writing. A masterpiece.-Mahnaz Dar, School Library Journal © Copyright 2016. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist starred (July 2016 (Vol. 112, No. 21))</i> Grades 1-3. "I am a child of books," a little girl declares. "I come from a world of stories." And so begins this enchanting tale of a little girl sailing away on a sea made, literally, of words—as are many other things in her bookcentric world. Words are fashioned into the shapes of mountains, a monster, a dark cave, and more as the girl is joined by a boy on an adventure that dramatically demonstrates the freedom of imagination. Jeffers and Winston's first collaboration is a celebration of the child's world, illustrated in sumptuous double-page spreads featuring explosions of images borrowed from unforgettable sources: there's Little Red Riding Hood, there's the Cheshire Cat, there's Mr. Toad in his shiny motorcar, and there are the children themselves,



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standing upon a spinning globe. At first glance, this beautiful book looks simple, but that is deceptive. Every one of its elements—the haunting prose poem executed in hand-lettered words; the pictures done in watercolor, pencil, and digital collage; and the objects built from words borrowed from classic stories—all work together toward a richly harmonious whole. An irresistible invitation to read. **HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** Jeffers is pushing himself artistically by pairing with fine-artist Winston, and his many fans ought to take notice.

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
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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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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 ▾



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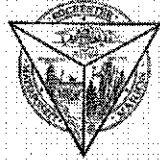
Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist:

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. ▾

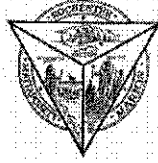
Signed: *Samuel Smith*



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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Dragonsitter series by Lacey, Josh: The dragonsitter (Dragonsitter, Book 1) The dragonsitter takes off (Dragonsitter, Book 2) The dragonsitter's castle (Dragonsitter, Book 3) The dragonsitter's island (Dragonsitter, Book 4) The dragonsitter's party (Dragonsitter, Book 5) The dragonsitter to the rescue (Dragonsitter, Book 6)
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 reviewed. N/A Review Status: <i>School Library Journal (July 1, 2015)</i> Gr 2-4-Edward Smith-Pickle, "Eddie," finds himself in a pickle as he is taking care of his uncle's dragon while he is away. Unfortunately, his uncle didn't leave any instructions, and the dragon isn't exactly on his best behavior as he devours endless amounts of food, tears up the house, terrorizes the neighborhood pets, and sets the curtains and the mailman on fire. Eddie emails his uncle asking for help but doesn't get any replies. His mom is at her wit's end, and Eddie wonders what to do next. Finally, he gets some advice from his uncle, which turns things around. Told entirely through emails, this story provides plenty of funny moments, as Eddie manages to sound both upbeat and worried at the same time. This is the first of a planned four-book series, and its humorous tone and illustrations will appeal to young readers. VERDICT A solid purchase for collections in need of short chapter books.-Laura Fields Eason, Parker Bennett Curry Elementary School, Bowling Green, KY © Copyright 2015. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Horn Book Guide (Fall 2016)</i> This British series opens with a desperate email from Eddie to his vacationing uncle: the dragon-sitting isn't going well. These two stories are told almost entirely through emails explaining the trouble caused by dragon Ziggy, with added layers from the subject lines and "photo attachments" (Parsons's illustrations). Humor and an engaging format make the series approachable fare for new chapter-book readers. [Review covers these titles: The Dragonsitter and



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The Dragonsitter Takes Off.]

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

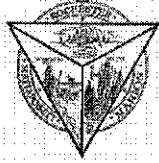
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4. Library materials shall support and foster an appreciation for both informational and recreational reading, viewing, and listening.	Not applicable ▾
5. Library material shall meet the curriculum needs of students and staff.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
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
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This book meets the Criteria for Selection of Library Materials rubric for selection of library materials. -

Signed: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "James Smith", written over a horizontal line.



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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Alien in My Pocket series by Ball, Nate: Blast off! (Alien in My Pocket, Book 1) The science unfair (Alien in My Pocket, Book 2) Radio active (Alien in My Pocket, Book 3) On Impact! (Alien In My Pocket #4) Ohm vs. Amp (Alien in My Pocket, Book 5) Forces of nature (Alien in My Pocket, Book 6) Telescope troubles (Alien in My Pocket, Book 7)
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 (February 1, 2014)</i> Gr 2-5-Another normal school year is about to start for fourth grader Zack McGee until a small blue alien crash lands in his bedroom. In Blast Off!, Amp the alien stows away in Zack's backpack and joins him at school while Zack tries to figure out a way to repair Amp's ship. This proves most difficult for Zack who, unlike his overachieving scientist family, would rather spend time on the baseball diamond. His neighbor and best friend, Olivia, helps explain the science behind the story. The chapters are short and delightful pencil drawings accompany the text. Ball integrates real science in a refreshing way. In the second installment, The Science UnFair, Zack faces failing science if he does not get an A on his science project. He must also prevent Amp's identity from being exposed. When the day of the science fair comes, Zack's experiment works almost a little too well and all but destroys the science fair finals. The first book includes step-by-step instructions for creating a bottle rocket, while the second book offer instructions for constructing electromagnets. The science is aligned to the Common Core standards as well. Both titles will likely have appeal to even the most reluctant reader.-Wayne R. Cherry, Jr., First Baptist Academy Library, Houston, TX (c) Copyright 2014. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Horn Book Guide (Fall 2014)</i> Amp, a small blue alien who crash lands in Zack's bedroom, needs help returning



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home. But Zack prefers baseball to science, so his best friend Olivia and Amp illuminate various scientific concepts for Zack amid spaceship reconstruction. Complete with instructions for safe experiments and illustrated with comic black-and-white ink drawings, this series is a winning concoction of silly action and serious science. [Review covers these Alien in My Pocket titles: Blast Off! and The Science Unfair.]

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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8. Library materials shall be selected to help students gain an awareness of our diverse society.	Not applicable ▾
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Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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:

Samuel P. [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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Ghost Detectors series by Enderle, Dotti: I dare you! (Ghost Detectors, Book 4) Draw! (Ghost Detectors, Book 5) Don't read this! (Ghost Detectors, Book 6)
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>Library Media Connection (May/June 2010)</i> This is a great new series to offer reluctant readers. The main characters, Malcolm and his best friend Dandy, will engage the mad scientist in all who read these books. Malcolm loves to read science magazines and order gadgets from the back of these journals. Dandy, who will engage boys everywhere with his antics (like picking his nose), is always ready to go along with a gag or an adventure, especially one that will infuriate Malcolm's older sister, Cocoa. In this case, Malcolm receives a Specter Detector from a mail order. It works, but brings trouble along with ghosts. The gross humor and boy problems of this book will make it a hit with boys who check first to see how many pages and how many pictures there are. Recommended. Liz Deskins, Teacher-Librarian, J.W. Reason Elementary, Hilliard (Ohio) City Schools Taken from the Hardcover (library binding). <i>School Library Journal (December 1, 2009)</i> Gr 2-5-Tech-toy aficionado Malcolm and his sidekick Dandy cruise around their neighborhood attempting to find and neutralize ghosts. Creeps! begins with Malcolm buying the battery-powered "Ecto-Handheld-Automatic-Heat-Sensitive-Laser-Enhanced Specter Detector" from a magazine ad. While it looks more like a blow dryer than a sensitive ghost-hunting instrument, the boys do manage to detect a ghost haunting the old McBleaky Place. In Book 2, they add to their collection of equipment with the matching "Ghost Zapper." Black-and-white illustrations enhance the large-print, easy-to-read texts. Filled with quirky characters such as Malcolm's make-up-caked sister and dotty Grandma Eunice, these early chapter books are sure to delight fans of Dan Greenburg's "Secrets of Dripping Fang" (Harcourt) or



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	Dave Keane's "Joe Sherlock" (HarperCollins) series.-Kathleen Meulen Ellison, Sakai Intermediate School, Bainbridge Island, WA Copyright 2009 Reed Business Information.
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This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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

Signed: *David R. [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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Stink and the freaky frog freakout (Stink Moody, Book 8) by McDonald, Megan
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A ▾ N/A ▾ Review Status: ▾ <i>Horn Book Guide (Fall 2013)</i> <i>Stink finds a freaky three-legged frog after swim class, and then starts running into frogs wherever he goes. The new pals inspire Stink and his gang to learn about amphibians. But is he turning into one himself? In his eighth winning chapter book with endearing-as-ever illustrations, affable Stink's inquisitive and humorous relationship with the unknown will make readers curious themselves.</i> <i>Booklist (April 1, 2013 (Online))</i> Grades 2-4. After swimming class, Stink finds a three-legged frog, followed by two more frogs at home. He quickly becomes obsessed, learning frog calls and joining the First Annual Frog Neck Lake Frog Count. Then he wakes one morning to find a blue frog licking his arm, giving him superpowers like Peter Parker—and soon he is convinced he is turning into an amphibian himself. Can his new powers help him in swimming class? And can he convince adults to stop poisoning frogs with fertilizers? Quick paced and funny, this eighth series title will charm fans. Careful readers will wonder why Stink takes outdoor swim lessons in early March, but it's a minor quibble.

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4. Library materials shall support and foster an appreciation for both informational and recreational reading, viewing, and listening.	Not applicable ▾
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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 ▾

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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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	The wishbone wish (Judy Moody & Stink, Book 4) by McDonald, Megan
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: ▾ <i>Booklist (July 2015 (Vol. 111, No. 21))</i> Grades 2-4. Not many kids look forward to going to school on a holiday, but the Gobblers-a-Go-Go Festival takes place at Judy and Stink's school on Thanksgiving Day, making this an exception. Judy is so confident that she will win a turkey, the grand prize in the final race, that she makes her grandmother promise not to buy one for their holiday dinner. She and Stink train for their races, but the quest for glory is temporarily sidelined by sibling bickering, culminating in an amusing chapter that details what happens in each child's room when their mother separates them for an hour-long time-out. The latest installment in the Judy Moody and Stink series has the trademark humor and grade-school sensibility that its fans enjoy, as well as a surprise at the end when Grandma Lou saves the day. Reynolds' lively and colorful digital illustrations appear throughout. This beginning chapter book, studded with historical facts, trivia, and wordplay related to Thanksgiving will amuse, and maybe even inform, young readers. <i>Publishers Weekly (August 24, 2015)</i> Back to share top billing in the fourth Judy Moody and Stink story, the Moody siblings gear up for the local Gobblers-a-Go-Go festival: Judy plans to dress up as Sarah Josepha Hale, the woman who persuaded President Lincoln to make Thanksgiving a national holiday. And Judy is so certain she'll win a footrace that boasts a turkey as top prize, she tells her grandmother not to bother buying one (which worries Stink mightily). As in the siblings' previous outings, their spot-on dialogue and banter is a major source of this book's fun ("I'm sorry I called you a turkey," Stink apologizes after a long stint in time-out. "And a snood. And a wattle"), and Reynolds's full-color illustrations easily tap into the upbeat, offbeat holiday mood. Ages 6-9. Author's agent: Kendra Marcus, Bookstop Literary Agency. Illustrator's agent: Holly McGhee, Pippin Properties. (Sept.) © Copyright PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved.

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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Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

	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: _____



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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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Escape to California (Flat Stanley's Worldwide Adventures, Book 12) by Greenhut, Josh
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A ▾ N/A ▾ Review Status ▾ Horn Book Guide (Spring 2015) Written by Josh Greenhut. In installments eleven and twelve, Stanley continues to travel around the world saving the day. The two-dimensional hero catches a thief at the Louvre by posing as a painting and he helps a daredevil friend escape from Alcatraz in California. The slim standalone plot lines are laid out in short action-packed chapters that incorporate some general cultural markers. Cartoonish illustrations appear throughout. [Review covers these Flat Stanley's Worldwide Adventures titles: Escape to California and Framed in France.]

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 ▾



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Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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: 



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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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Clementine : Friend of the Week (Clementine, Book 4) by Pennypacker, Sara
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 (July 1, 2010)</i> Gr 1-4-Clementine is back for another adventure as she is chosen to be "Friend of the Week." The honor has many important responsibilities such as leading the Pledge of Allegiance, collecting milk money, being line leader, and feeding the fish. At the end of the week, the third grader will get a friend booklet signed by all of her classmates telling her how much they appreciate her. Clementine's best friend, fourth-grader Margaret, advises her to give compliments to classmates all week so she'll get good comments in her booklet. The following day Clementine starts giving them to every person she comes in contact with, primarily based on appearance, which doesn't always work out as she planned. Just as she looks forward to the best week ever, things take a turn for the worse when her kitten goes missing. She forgets all about her promises to decorate her classmates' bikes for a bike rally and is afraid they will be disappointed in her. Little does she know how much they support and love her. Pennypacker's writing once again brings creativity, humor, and sensitivity to Clementine and her world. Black-and-white line illustrations grace the book, capturing the child's personality and varied emotions. A must-have for most collections. Fans will be in for another fun serving of their favorite girl named after a fruit. Janet Weber, Tigard Public Library, OR Copyright 2010 Reed Business Information. <i>Booklist (October 1, 2010 (Vol. 107, No. 3))</i> Grades 2-4. Popular Clementine is back, but the question is, how popular is she with her classmates? She's been chosen Friend of the Week, but will the kids find enough nice things to write about in her friendship booklet? Best friend Margaret, a grade older, gets all weird when the topic of the booklet comes up. Pennypacker does a fine job of juggling a number of plotlines, especially when she ties the friendship booklet to Clementine's missing kitten. Fans won't be disappointed, and readers new to the series will enjoy this, too.



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	Select a Response
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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 ▾
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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: *Barbara Auer*



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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Clementine (Clementine series, Book 1) by Pennypacker, Sara
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - <u>Review Status</u> - <i>Booklist (October 15, 2006 (Vol. 103, No. 4))</i> As Clementine says, "Spectacular ideas are always sproinging up in my brain." All the better for readers who like to laugh. Reminiscent of both Ramona and Junie B. Jones, Clementine is an ingenuous third-grader with a talent for trouble and a good heart. Her best friend is her neighbor Margaret, a fourth-grader who experiences both qualities firsthand. After all, plenty of kids may have had their hair chopped off by a helpful friend in an effort to get the glue out, but how many of those friends would think to improve matters by drawing hair back on the scalp, forehead, and neck with a Flaming Sunset permanent marker? "It looked beautiful, like a giant tattoo of tangled worms," Clementine observes in the fresh, funny, first-person narrative. Frazee's expressive ink drawings capture every nuance of the characters' emotions, from bemusement to anger to dejection. Sometimes touching and frequently amusing, this engaging chapter book is well suited to reading alone or reading aloud to a roomful of children. <i>School Library Journal (November 1, 2007)</i> Gr 2-4-In Sara Pennypacker's beginning chapter book (Hyperion, 2006), Clementine is always being told that she doesn't pay attention to her teachers, but she does focus on details that are important to her. These observations get Clementine into trouble, but often help her save the day, such as dealing with a pigeon problem in the front of her apartment building. Pennypacker shows empathy for the third-grade experience as Clementine describes the ups and downs of a week in her life via a series of very humorous scenarios. Jessica Almas's childish tone is completely believable in her first-person narration. Have the book available so listeners can read along and see Marla Frazee's wonderful pen-and-ink illustrations that perfectly capture Clementine's spirit. An entertaining listen for classes or individual students.-Cynthia Grabke, Halifax Elementary School, MA Copyright 2007 Reed Business Information.



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Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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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. ▾

Reason:

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

Signed: *Samuel S. ...*



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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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Mariella Mystery Investigates series by Pankhurst, Kate - 4 Books: Mariella Mystery investigates the ghostly guinea pig Mariella Mystery investigates the spaghetti yeti Mariella Mystery investigates a cupcake conundrum Mariella Mystery investigates the mystery of the cursed poodle
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>Library Media Connection (May/June 2015)</i> Written as a detective's notebook, this series chronicles Mariella's quest to solve various mysteries. These fun books ask the reader to participate in figuring out the mystery, and include excerpts from "The Young Super Sleuth's Handbook" to help young readers understand vocabulary and concepts associated with being a detective. Mariella's drawings and the items she "tapes" into her detective's notebook add to the notebook feeling. Kate Pankhurst's series would be a great introduction to mysteries for young readers. Jianna Taylor, Teacher, Orchard Lake Middle School, West Bloomfield, Michigan. RECOMMENDED <i>School Library Journal (October 1, 2014)</i> Gr 2-5-Nine-year-old Mariella Mystery investigates possible sabotage at a bake-off and a teacher who may be haunted by the ghost of a former pet in these gentle mysteries aimed at newly independent readers. Cheerful black-and-white cartoon drawings break up the text and evoke the look of a sleuth's case file. Sweet, solid choices for those making their first forays into chapter books. (c) Copyright 2014. 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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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:

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

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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Stink and the Midnight Zombie Walk (Stink Moody, Book 7) by McDonald, Megan
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status: ▾ <i>Booklist (February 1, 2012 (Vol. 108, No. 11))</i> Grades K-3. Gross, creepy, and hilarious, the latest simple chapter book about the young, mischievous grade-schooler Stink has even parents, teachers, and other grown-ups joining in the nonsense as they all celebrate the joy of reading. Guts, brains, and eyeballs are everywhere, even in the school vomiteria, which serves scrambled brains and freshly squeezed eyeball juice. Kids will love the gruesome wordplay, and the digital artwork extends the uproar with spooky shadows like giant cobwebs and body parts, while zombies in school uniforms lurch down Main Street. Perfect for Halloween, this will make fun reading all year round. <i>Horn Book Guide (Fall 2012)</i> Stink's school is working to log one million reading hours the same week the new "Nightmare on Zombie Street" book is released. Stink and Webster try to raise money to buy the book while enjoying zombie-themed activities. Sibling rivalry, school antics, and friendship drive the story; accompanying black-and-white cartoons include wacky information such as how to "zombify yourself."

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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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 ▾

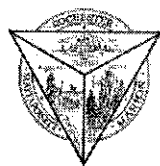


Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist:

Reason:

Signed:

Sam. S. Lee



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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:	January 15, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Sunker's deep (Icebreaker Trilogy, Book 2) by Tanner, Lian
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, 2016)</i> Gr 5-8-Three crises get the action started quickly in this second installment of Tanner's "Icebreaker" trilogy. There's mutiny aboard the Oyster, which strands returning characters Petrel, Fin, Krill, and the captain in hostile territory controlled by a radical sect of Anti-Machinists. The friends' only chance to get back to their ship lies with Sharkey, young captain of a submersible facing troubles of his own: with dwindling resources, he must rescue the last of his people, the Sunkers, from an Anti-Machinist prison. Tanner skillfully weaves the three plotlines together in a tense narrative that not only explores the characters' often conflicting motives but keeps pages turning. Solid structure parallels key elements from the first volume and clearly lays the groundwork for the next book. The action takes place on land as well as in water, giving readers a fuller picture of the characters' stark dystopian world. As the previous book was Petrel's tale, this installment belongs to Sharkey, whose growth from false bravado to true heroism makes him a compelling central character. Suspenseful and thought provoking, this offering stresses the importance of education and knowledge as weapons against fear and tyranny. VERDICT Readers unfamiliar with the first novel may have trouble keeping track of the many characters and alternating perspectives, but fans will relish this return adventure. -Marybeth Kozikowski, Sachem Public Library, Holbrook, NY © Copyright 2016. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist (October 1, 2016 (Online))</i> Grades 6-9: This sequel to Icebreaker (2015) finds the girl Petrel, her companions the talking rats Mister Smoke and Missus Slink, the Captain (a mechanical boy with a silver face), and assorted shipmates from the icebreaker Oyster on dry land. Their mission: to bring knowledge back to the world in the wake of the devastation caused by the Luddite Devouts. While the stalwarts are away, the Oyster's chief engineer leads a mutiny, leaving them stranded. Meanwhile, 200 miles northeast, the Devouts have managed to sink the giant submersible Rampart, leaving only that rascal young Sharkey and his small crew of children alive aboard the smaller submersible Claw. The plot will soon bring the two ragtag groups together, but to what end? How can they overcome the more numerous and stronger Devouts, and will the Captain ever find the Singer and the Song that are destined to bring knowledge back to the downtrodden? Adventures abound in this exciting page-turner that will keep



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readers on the edge of their seats as they await volume three.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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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:



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

Signed: *Scott Selby*



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:	January 8, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Louisa June and the Nazis in the waves by Elliott, L.M.
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 (March 1, 2022)</i> Gr 4-6-Middle grade lovers of World War II historical fiction will find this title engrossing. Thirteen-year-old Louisa June lives along the coast of Virginia at the start of American involvement in World War II, as Hitler begins sending U-boats to attack U.S. ships. Her father and brothers work on boats, and will soon be signing up to help with the war effort. Louisa June's family is directly affected by a torpedo, sent into a tailspin after her father's tugboat is sunk by the Nazis. Her parents deal with their grief, while she figures out her place in the war and how a teenage girl can be of any help like her older siblings. Cousin Belle proves to be a bellwether figure to the family and an advocate for Louisa June while her mother suffers from depression and debilitating anxiety. Many readers will be surprised to learn about German U-boats torpedoing the East Coast of the United States after Pearl Harbor. Elliot's story delivers facts and a thoughtful approach to characters experiencing grief and depression, while adding some maritime adventure in a segment where the family comes together to rescue a British sailor. The conclusion happens swiftly, possibly leaving readers disappointed in not knowing what happens next to Louisa June and her loved ones after the daring rescue. Elliot provides a thorough author's note to dispel any doubts about the authenticity of the events written about in the course of the novel. Main characters are cued as white. VERDICT A must-have for all middle grade historical fiction collections. Recommend to those who enjoyed Kimberly Brubaker Bradley's <i>The War That Saved My Life</i> and Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch's <i>Making Bombs for Hitler</i>.-Kim Gardner © Copyright 2022. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist starred (March 1, 2022 (Vol. 118, No. 13))</i> Grades 4-7. As the U.S. is drawn into WWII, life on the East Coast changes drastically for Louisa June and her family. Her older brothers and sister enlist in various forms of service to support the war efforts, and Louisa June puzzles about how she can help. Then her favorite brother—gentle, poetic Butler—goes out with their father on a boat that gets torpedoed, the blast killing Butler and seriously injuring Dad. This sends her fragile mother into a deep depression, while the reality of U-boats trolling the nearby waters galvanizes locals to protect their homes and country. Louisa June and her friend Emmett persist in their efforts to find a way to help as she also manages home life, stepping up while



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her parents are incapacitated in their own ways. Elliott weaves a deeply moving historical tale, including small but significant details that flesh out the situations and characters, even the secondary ones. Louisa June and Emmett—along with her elderly, adventurous cousin, Belle—carry the story with their spunk and individualism. Additionally, the extensive and fact-filled backstory shared in the author's note gives readers even more context for understanding the times on the home front during WWII and includes black-and-white photos. An excellent middle-grade read that balances adventure, emotions, and family.

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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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 ▾



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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: _____

Sandra Sullivan



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:	January 8, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Bridge of souls by Schwab, Victoria
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 (February 1, 2021)</i> Cassidy Blake has encountered spirits before. She's met ghosts in Edinburgh and poltergeists in Paris, and now she's in New Orleans, city of beignets, jazz funerals, and 42 cemeteries, where her parents are filming the third episode of their paranormal investigation program. It's not long before Cassidy, an in-betweeners who has escaped death and as a result can interact with the dead, catches the unwanted attention of an Emissary. This terrifying creature is unlike any spook Cassidy has ever dealt with; its job is to bring those who have defied death to the other side—those like 12-year-old Cassidy. In order to defeat the Emissary, Cassidy will lose something—or someone—no matter the path she chooses. Not knowing which road to follow is frightening, but the scariest thing of all is not knowing how this ends. Armed with her spirit-guiding pendant and accompanied by ghost Jacob Hale (whose foothold in the living world seems to be strengthening) and Scottish friend and fellow in-betweeners Lara Chowdhury, Cassidy charges ahead. Intensely curious and furiously independent Cassidy must learn to proceed with caution and know when to ask for help. Her first-person narration is often interrupted by sarcastic Jacob, who can hear her thoughts, a narrative device that adds levity to the scares. The conclusion leaves the door open for another adventure. Cassidy is assumed White; there is diversity in the supporting cast. Another strong entry in a series offering thrills and chills. (Paranormal adventure. 8-13) <i>School Library Journal Xpress (March 12, 2021)</i> Gr 5-8-In the third installment of Schwab's "City of Ghosts" series, 12-year-old Cassidy Blake finds herself in arguably the most haunted city in the world, New Orleans. In the previous book, Cassie and her parents visited Paris to film their ghost-hunting show, The Inspectors, where she attracted the attention of a poltergeist and ran into a mysterious and terrifying skull-faced being. When Cassie enters the Veil during a tour of New Orleans cemeteries with her parents, she discovers that the skull-creature in black was not a figment of her imagination and it has followed her across the Atlantic. Cassie and Jacob must team up again with Lara, Cassie's in-betweeners friend from Scotland, to locate a secret society that might know how to banish the monster stalking her. This is a solid entry in the series and builds upon the already established world rules. It explores the meaning of friendship while it introduces readers to new locations and their history, allowing them to tag along for a spookily exciting adventure.



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VERDICT Purchase where magical realism adventures and previous books in the series are popular. -Sara Brunkhorst, Glenview P.L., IL © 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:

	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. ▾



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Reason:

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

Signed: _____

Scott Sullivan



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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:	January 8, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Monster and boy (Monster and Boy, Book 1) by Barnaby, Hannah
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 (June 1, 2020)</i> Gr 1-3-One night, as a young boy goes to bed, he tells his mother that he is not afraid of monsters. The monster who lives under the bed hears the boy and decides to show him the error of his ways, but things go awry when the boy starts to scream and the monster accidentally swallows him. Together, the monster and the boy solve problems, journey through the house, and meet up with the boy's precocious little sister before finally falling asleep. Young readers will find friends in monster and boy. On most of the pages, Syed's silly and inviting illustrations are rendered in black, white, and teal and perfectly complement the duo's amusing antics. The first line of each chapter is in teal and a different font, which may be challenging for early readers, but the rest of the text is easy to read with plenty of white space. Barnaby directly addresses the reader a few times throughout the story, as well as changes tenses. Newly emergent readers may find this style choice challenging, but it could work well as a teaching tool for slightly older readers or in a read-aloud setting. Otherwise, the language is straightforward and the illustrations work in tandem to support the text. VERDICT This whimsical pair will be a hit with those looking for a playful, adventurous story for early independent chapter book readers. Most collections serving this age range will benefit from this addition.-Ellen Conlin, Naperville P.L., IL © Copyright 2020. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist starred (June 1, 2020 (Vol. 116, No. 19))</i> Grades 1-3. A beautiful friendship gets off to a rocky start when a boy is accidentally swallowed by the mild-mannered monster beneath his bed. Taking a seat with her audience, the author invites readers to supply names for the characters themselves and admits that she, too, has no idea what's coming. A later comment that "stories have a way of getting carried away, don't they?" well and truly sums up what happens next, as by the time the boy is coughed up a few hours later, he's shrunk to the size of a hamster. Among other adventures, he runs into what his frazzled companion dubs his little "sister-monster" on a wee-hours expedition down to the kitchen for snacks, is chucked into the toilet, and delightfully gets to munch on a cookie that is, to him, the size of a sled. Turquoise highlights both illuminate and visually bind the well-leaded text and Syed's frequent line drawings. The monster resembles an unfrightening blend of Wild Thing and plush teddy, and though the tale takes a shivery twist with the



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	revelation that reality is actually based on the dreams of monsters, all ends in happy giggles. By morning, he's back to original size and, it turns out, that toilet had just been cleaned. Which is still gross, but not so much, right?
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Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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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 ▾
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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:



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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:	January 8, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Why I was late for school again by Greenburg, Dan
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 1-3-In this hilarious chapter book, Daniel, a young Black student at Chicago's Stewart School, faces a series of comedic obstacles in his quest to get to class on time. As the book opens, Daniel's chronic tardiness elicits a warning from his mother that if he's late yet again, she'll be forced to meet with his angry teacher Mrs. Finkelplotz, or worse, Principal Underpence. Daniel tries his best to be on time, but as he navigates the streets of Chicago, he meets one antagonist after another with ridiculous problems demanding his help. A group of hungry zombies needs directions to Rocco's Original Pizza, a troll in Lincoln Park needs help getting herself reassembled, and some wayward pirates in Belmont Harbor need career advice. Daniel's attempt to make it to school on time quickly goes awry and he must find a way to prove that his tardiness was justified. Zemke's illustrations aid comprehension and add a touch of whimsy to the characters Daniel encounters. Young readers will find this book's silly antics, funny names, and wordplay uproarious. Greenburg keeps his protagonist struggling just long enough to get readers hooked before providing a satisfying resolution. While chapter books for newly independent readers often do best as part of a series, this book is so funny and winsome it can easily stand alone. VERDICT A must-have for collections serving young readers that will thrive as both a read-aloud or independent reading selection. -Kelly Jahng, South Park Elem. Sch., IL © Copyright 2021. 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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Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist:

Reason:

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:	January 8, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	The children of the king by Harnett, Sonya
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 (January 1, 2014 (Vol. 110, No. 9))</i> Grades 4-7. Shortly before the London Blitz, 12-year-old Cecily and 14-year-old Jeremy are sent to live in the countryside with their uncle, Peregrine. They take in an evacuee, 10-year-old May, who comes from a less privileged background but is very much her own person. Jeremy longs to return to London and prove himself by contributing to the war effort. Immature Cecily tags along after May to the nearby ruins of a castle, where two strangely dressed boys (fifteenth century ghosts) sometimes appear. From time to time, Peregrine entrances Jeremy, Cecily, and May with his episodic telling of an intense, occasionally violent tale from English history, a narrative that informs each child's experiences. The novel rewards careful reading with well-turned phrases and apt metaphors. At the book's heart are the many believable characters who gradually reveal aspects of themselves as they act, react, and subtly change throughout the novel. Though the story-within-a-story format makes the book's structure somewhat more complex, it also enriches the narrative in many ways. The writing is accessible, the story flows well, and the plot moves at a good pace. Like her character Uncle Peregrine, Harnett is a fiercely truthful, accomplished storyteller whose stories have real staying power. Taken from the Hardcover. <i>Horn Book Guide starred (Fall 2014)</i> Twelve-year-old Cecily, her older brother Jeremy, and their mother flee WWII London for the safety of Uncle Peregrine's country manor. Once there, Cecily discovers two boys hiding in some nearby ruins. Harnett's gift for language deftly conveys both the sublime and the mundane in life. She grounds the book's fantasy elements with a heartfelt examination of the hardships endured by civilians in wartime.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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	Select a Response
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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: _____



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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:	January 8, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Healer of the water monster by Young, Brian
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 starred (April 15, 2021)</i> Nathan, a young Navajo boy from Phoenix, Arizona, goes on an epic hero's journey. On the surface, 11-year-old Nathan is like many other boys. His parents are divorced, and he's a little upset with his father. His paternal grandmother, Nali, is supportive, and he's eager to spend the summer with her on the Navajo reservation in New Mexico, working on his science fair project. Nathan moves into her rural home, expecting a quiet summer. Instead, he has the adventure of a lifetime when he discovers something is eating Nali's heirloom seeds. Wandering into the desert, he encounters Pond, an ailing water monster. Adults cannot see Holy Beings from the creation stories, but as a child, Nathan can; with the help of a communication stone, he enters a world of Navajo cosmology. He brings a message to his grandmother about the Enemy Way and helps his Uncle Jet, a traumatized Marine veteran skeptical about his family's traditional ways, who is haunted by the shadow voice of an Ash Being. Healing—for the earth, the water monster, and Uncle Jet—is on the line as Nathan travels to the Third World to meet the most sacred Holy Being of all. The deeply grounded and original perspective of this story brings readers into both the worlds of Navajo blessing songs, rain songs, and traditional healing and everyday family relationships. Hands readers a meaningful new take on family love. (glossary, author's note) (Fiction. 10-14) Taken from the Hardcover. <i>Publishers Weekly starred (March 8, 2021)</i> This excellently wrought middle grade debut by Young (who is Diné/Navajo) centers 11-year-old Nathan Todacheenie, a Diné boy who, seeking to escape a vacation with his father and his father's girlfriend, ends up in a world of tradition and magic. At book's start, Nathan is being dropped off with his shináí, called Nali for short; though there's no running water or electricity, her mobile home is on his beloved Dinétah/Diné homelands. Though Nathan doesn't look forward to a summer of chopping wood and zero phone reception, he does adore Nali, who has worked for years to keep her allotment of land and her traditions. When Nathan wanders into the desert in pursuit of the otherworldly horned toad who's filching corn seeds from Nathan's school experiment, he ends up on a quest to enter the Third World and save the Water Monster, a Holy Being that has been



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	poisoned by radiation, as well as his uncle Jet, who has returned from military service in desperate need of a traditional ceremony that he doesn't want. Gentle, complex characters and flawed, loving human relationships lend depth to Young's worlds-spanning novel. Ages 8-12. Agent: Dan Mandel, Sanford J. Greenburger Assoc. (May) © Copyright PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved. Taken from the Hardcover.
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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:	January 15, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Battlesong (Icebreaker Trilogy, Book 3) by Tanner, Lian
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 (June 1, 2017)</i> Gr 5-8-Tanner's trilogy concludes with a meticulously plotted, rapidly paced adventure that both stands alone and richly satisfies fans of the first two novels. The narrative picks up where Sunker's Deep left off, with the crews of both the Oyster and the Claw on dry land searching for the captain and the legendary Singer. Enter young Gwin and her family, traveling entertainers called "Fetchers," whose performances bring moments of pleasure to the downtrodden population while preserving traditional lore and keeping ancient secrets from the Anti-Machinists. Tanner's unparalleled world-building seamlessly weaves Gwin's tale into a complex narrative told from multiple perspectives. The author provides just enough backstory to keep new readers engaged and the action moving toward a thrilling ending that unites characters from all three installments. Attentive readers will be intrigued by early plot details that later on return to add significance at pivotal moments. Masterly writing brings the stark landscape to life and reveals characters' deepest emotions. -VERDICT A first purchase for collections that already have the other volumes in the series; expect interest in them if ordering this third entry on its own.-Marybeth Kozikowski, Sachem Public Library, Holbrook, NY © Copyright 2017. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Horn Book Magazine (January/February, 2018)</i> Gwin's people are Fetchers, traveling acrobats and musicians who bring hope to the downtrodden villagers and "fetch" any ancient mechanical objects that come to light in order to forestall their destruction by the oppressive, anti-technology Devout. When Gwin's father is captured by Devout Brother Poosk, Gwin's efforts to rescue him bring her in contact with Petrel and Fin of the Oyster ship and Sharkey and Rain of the submarine-dwelling Sunker children (Icebreaker; Sunker's Deep). They're all on the lookout for the Captain, a mechanical boy programmed with all the world's knowledge who can help them rebuild once the Devout are vanquished, but the Captain is damaged and it's unclear whether he can be repaired even if they find him. The myriad threads developed in the previous two books of the trilogy come together here, as Tanner applies all the tension of hand-to-hand combat, strenuous journeys, and mind-bending puzzles while her heroes fight through to a final confrontation that requires shipmates, Sunkers, mountain folk, and villagers to join forces against the Devout. The series winds up with an easily digested diagnosis of what caused the



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anti-technology backlash in the first place--"This isn't about machines; it never has been. It's about how we treat each other"--as Petrel's journey from parentless "Nothing Girl" to a treasured member of a family comes to a triumphant close. anita l. burkam

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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:

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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:	January 15, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Icebreaker (Icebreaker Trilogy, Book 1) by Tanner, Lian
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 (June 1, 2015)</i> Gr 5-8-Come aboard the Oyster, a ship that has been sailing a frozen ocean for 300 years. Its mission is to survive the global reign of the Anti-Machinists who have destroyed everything mechanical and all knowledge that goes along with it. Life on the vagabond ship has evolved into a tense society of tribes separated by job function but united against the outside world. Only 12-year-old Petrel, dismissed as "Nothing Girl," doesn't fit in anywhere and has only two talking rats, Mister Smoke and Missus Slink, as friends. When a boy found on an ice floe is taken on board, his suspicious presence upsets the crew, but Petrel is determined to protect the stranger, whom she names Fin. But it's no accident that Fin was found there. Can he be trusted? And who is the Oyster's "sleeping captain"? A carefully structured plot foreshadows the dramatic climax and reveals secrets at just the right time, keeping readers engaged throughout. Tanner's evocative prose allows readers to feel every dark, noisy crevice of the ship as well as the chill of the frozen wasteland that surrounds it. Unique, fully realized characters add cross-gender appeal. VERDICT Tanner, author of the "Keepers" series (Delacorte), has created a strong start to a new trilogy that will have readers eagerly awaiting the next installment. -Marybeth Kozikowski, Sachem Public Library, Holbrook, NY © Copyright 2015. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist (June 1, 2015 (Online))</i> Grades 6-9. The voyage around the southern ice cap has lasted 300 years. During that time, three antagonistic tribes have evolved aboard the icebreaker: the officers, the cooks, and the engineers. Only the outcast girl Petrel doesn't belong to a tribe and has no friends except for two sentient rats, Mister Smoke and Missus Slink. This is the way it has always been, but things begin to change when a nameless boy with a secret is discovered on an iceberg and brought on board. Who is he, and who or what is the demon he seeks? Can Petrel trust him, and will the two become friends and maybe even allies? The questions are tantalizing and the answers elusive in this first volume of a proposed trilogy. The novel is not perfect: credulity is often stretched to the breaking point, and problems are sometimes too neatly resolved. Nevertheless, the story is suspenseful, satisfying, and sufficiently well imagined, so many readers will eagerly look forward to the next installment.



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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 S. S. S.*



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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:	January 21, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Mr. Lemoncello's very first game (Mr. Lemoncello Prequel Series) by Grabenstein, Chris
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - <u>Review Status:</u> - <i>Booklist starred (April 1, 2022 (Vol. 118, No. 15))</i> Grades 4-6. In this prequel to a series dear to the hearts of game and puzzle fans—not to mention librarians—13-year-old Luigi L. Lemoncello confirms his calling to become the greatest game designer ever while picking up experience in putting on a grand show, fending off bullies, and making people happier. Hoping to help support his big, financially strapped family, middle child Luigi jumps at the chance to work with wise, genial, fast-talking barker Professor Marvelmous, who runs a booth at the summer carnival where prizes can be won by popping balloons and guessing the rebuses hidden behind them. Along with depicting numerous rebuses so that readers can have at them too, Grabenstein tucks connections to subsequent episodes into his tale, including taglines ("Knowledge not shared remains unknown") and characters like Luigi's inventive friend Chester Raymo and sneering nemesis Chad Chilmington. Also, in the course of following a series of clues left by Marvelmous to a life-changing reward for his beloved niece Maggie, Luigi invents a string of entertainments, from an author/title treasure hunt in his local library—using books that were popular in 1968 when all this is set (and mostly still are today)—to an early version of Wordle. An "awesometastic" lead-in likely to inspire a wave of revisits to the earlier books. HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY: Mr. Lemoncello's Library was a New York Times best-seller, and fans of the blockbuster series will be thrilled to puzzle their way through the future famed game-maker's origin story. <i>Kirkus Reviews (March 15, 2022)</i> Luigi Lemoncello gets inspiration from a master showman. After writing five successful adventures starring legendary billionaire Prof. Lemoncello, Grabenstein looks back in time to 1968, when young Luigi, the seemingly talentless middle child in a large Italian American family, realizes that his love for puzzles and games is his personal gift. When the 13-year-old successfully solves the rebus puzzle and attracts more customers to the Balloon-centration booth at a summer carnival, barker Prof. Marvelmous offers him a job. Marvelmous becomes a mentor; his niece, Maggie, a friend. She and Luigi visit the library regularly, follow treasure hunts offered by a local radio station, and work together to discover the secrets of the elaborate puzzle box Marvelmous has created. The author offers hints and instructions for solving the puzzles and has left one more (plus his email address) for readers to solve on their own. The fast-paced



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narrative includes good reading suggestions, popular music from the '60s, and occasional solid advice. As in earlier books, there's stress on the importance of teamwork and empathy—young Luigi is as thoughtful and caring as a teenager as he is later as the donor of a splendid library and instigator of brain-teasing contests. Luigi's bullying blond nemesis, Chadwick Chilton, is likely the father of Charles from previous series entries. Splendiferous—and sure to lead readers back to previous puzzle adventures. (excerpt from *Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library*) (Fiction, 8-14)

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



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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: _____

[Handwritten 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:	January 21, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	In the world of whales by Cusolito, Michelle
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 (May 30, 2025)</i> Gr 2-4-Gr 2-4 An ocean diver encounters a pod of whales. What would already be a magnificent encounter is enriched when one of the whales gives birth! The young calf's first breaths coincide with the diver surfacing for air. A kinship forms as the diver's and whale's movements coincide. Eventually, the whale pod leaves, and the diver surfaces from this life-altering experience. After a couple of books about decomposing whale corpses (including Lynn Brunelle and Jason Chin's stunning <i>Life After Whale</i>), it is refreshing to have a book celebrating a whale birth. Vocabulary is advanced, but the writing is succinct. The text incorporates effervescent onomatopoeia with whooshing exhales and pfff-ing bubbles. Words are thoughtfully spaced on the page, and the layout often evokes movement. For instance, the word "down" repeats vertically, mimicking the diver's descent. Lanan's depiction of the ocean is masterful. The surface sparkles as if glitter is sprinkled on the page. Under the sea, dappled light shines on the whale family. The diver dances across the page, making elegant arcs and swirls with long, black fins. In one stunning spread, the diver and the baby whale seem impossibly small amidst the crowd of underwater leviathans. Back matter includes a detailed diagram of a female sperm whale's internal structure, notes about free diving, and lengthy author and illustrator notes about their inspiration for this beautiful creation. VERDICT A masterpiece of illustration, this book is essential for all collections. -Chance Lee Joyner © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist starred (June 1, 2025 (Vol. 121, No. 19))</i> Grades K-3. If ever the description of a rare natural encounter will leave readers filled with wonder, look to these spare, luminous observations of a sperm-whale pod clustering about a just-born calf. Basing her work on a free diver's actual experiences, Cusolito describes how a mother whale presents her newborn to each whale in attendance—as well as to the awed diver suspended nearby—while carefully hovering in attendance as the newborn's crumpled flukes slowly unfurl, nudging it toward the surface periodically to take a breath, and at last leading it down into deeper waters. Becoming "one with the whales," the diver likewise must return at intervals to the surface to exhale ("hwaaahh!") and refill his lungs ("whoooooh!") in a stately rhythm that finds visual echoes in Lanan's images of massive whales and their watcher curving around and about one



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another through deep fields of blue in a graceful "underwater ballet": "Who's studying whom?" The dance culminates in an eye-filling foldout whirl, with an equally enthralling glimpse in the back matter of a female sperm whale's anatomy, accompanied by further facts about whales and about free diving.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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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 ▾
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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:

[Handwritten 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:	February 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Violet Mackerel's brilliant plot (Violet Mackerel) by Branford, Anna
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A N/A Review Status: School Library Journal (December 1, 2012) Gr 1-3-Every Saturday seven-year-old Violet Mackerel accompanies her mother, sister, and brother to the local market where her mother tries to sell her knitted goods. When she covets a special blue china bird but does not have 10 dollars to pay for it; she needs to concoct a brilliant plan to come up with the money. Can she try digging in her backyard to unearth ancient dinosaur bones? Will she be able to think of something she can knit and sell? This is a sweet story about a likable little girl who just longs for something small. While Violet is still a unique character, she is much more subdued than Judy Moody or Junie B. Jones, and there is definitely an audience for a quiet but creative heroine. Black-and-white drawings, some full page, add touches of whimsy and humor. A charming easy reader that also serves as a thoughtful, gentle read-aloud.-Elizabeth Swistock, Jefferson Madison Regional Library, VA (c) Copyright 2012. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. Booklist (October 1, 2012 (Online)) Grades 2-4. Happy accidents don't get much more serendipitous than in this slender chapter book about a little girl and her desire for a blue china bird. Each Saturday morning, Violet Mackerel rises at 5 a.m. to help her mother and older siblings pack the car for the Saturday market. Mama sells knitted wares, Nicola sells earrings, and Dylan busks on his violin. Violet thinks up brilliant plots that teeter on elaborate daydreaming, all in the hope of raising enough money to buy the small figurine on a fellow seller's table. Violet has a marvelous world view that allows her to feel the joy of giving a present rather than making a sale. When Violet finally holds the blue china bird in her hand (for who can doubt that she eventually will?), it is the result of the best laid plans going wonderfully awry. Debut author Branford and illustrator Allen offer up a charming new chapter book star, who is sure to appeal to fans of Sara Pennypacker's Clementine or Paula Danzinger's Amber Brown.



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Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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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. ▾



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Signed: _____

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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:	February 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Heidi Heckelbeck and the Christmas surprise (Heidi Heckelbeck, Book 9) by Coven, Wanda
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A ▾ N/A ▾ Review Status: ▾ <i>Horn Book Guide (Spring 2014)</i> Amiable young witch Heidi borrows her mom's charm bracelet without her permission. When it ends up broken, she uses a spell to fix it, which creates new problems. She asks Santa for help and experiences a little holiday magic. Although Heidi's problem is too easily resolved, readers will still enjoy this festive addition to the series. Charming black-and-white illustrations are sprinkled throughout. Taken from the Hardcover.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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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 ▾
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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 Smith



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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:	February 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Jasmine Toguchi, mochi queen (Jasmine Toguchi, Book 1) by Florence, Debbi Michiko Jasmine Toguchi, super sleuth (Jasmine Toguchi, Book 2) by Florence, Debbi Michiko Drummer girl (Jasmine Toguchi, Book 3) by Florence, Debbi Michiko
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 reviewed. N/A Review Status: <i>Booklist (June 1, 2017 (Vol. 113, No. 19))</i> Grades 1-4. Jasmine Toguchi is excited about making mochi for New Year's Eve, as is tradition for her Japanese American family, but she's bummed because this is the first year her older sister will be allowed to help make the sweet rice treats, so Jasmine's going to be stuck babysitting her younger cousins. As her dutiful sister helps around the house, Jasmine tries to wrangle her way into helping make mochi by swinging the hammer with the men of the family! What follows is an adorable and heartwarming story about a kid who wants to feel special and do something first for once, along with a nice overview of a Japanese New Year celebration. This series opener focuses on New Year celebrations, and in subsequent series installments, the author, who is Japanese American, will focus on other traditional Japanese holidays; the next installment is centered on Girl's Day. Detailed ink spot illustrations enliven the text, and there's even a recipe in the back of the book for anyone who wants to try making mochi at home. <i>School Library Journal (June 1, 2017)</i> Gr 1-3-Jasmine Toguchi is anticipating the arrival of her family members for the New Year in sunny Los Angeles. Every year to celebrate, Jasmine's relatives spend all day making mochi, Japanese sweet rice cakes. Jasmine will have to wait two more years before she can assist with the mochi-tsuki, or mochi-making, with her grandma and aunts. Pounding the rice with the mochi hammer is a difficult feat that's reserved for the men in the family. But fearless Jasmine is determined to be the first girl and first person under 10 to help with the New Year preparations. Obachan, Jasmine's grandmother, encourages her to be patient, while mean cousin Eddie relentlessly taunts the girl. In this new early chapter book series, Florence introduces readers to a bright character who is grappling with respecting authority while also forging her own path. Vukovic's illustrations are expressive and imbue Jasmine and the Toguchi family with sweetness. VERDICT This first entry nicely balances humor with the challenges of growing



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up; readers will devour it.-Claire Moore, Manhattan Beach Library, CA ©
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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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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:



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

Signed: *Scott Lath*



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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:	February 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Violet Mackerel's remarkable recovery (Violet Mackerel) by Branford, Anna
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A N/A Review Status: School Library Journal (February 1, 2013) Gr 2-4-Violet Mackerel has to have her tonsils out and her doctor gives her lozenges to soothe her throat until the surgery. This leads the irrepressible heroine to "The Theory of Giving Small Things," in which she postulates, "If someone has a problem and you give them something small like a feather, or a pebble, or a purple lozenge, that small thing might have a strange and special way of helping them." Violet hopes that after the operation she will have the voice of an opera singer. Meanwhile, while in the waiting room before the procedure, she makes friends with a woman who is having an operation on her arm, and Violet is able to put her theory into practice when she gives Iris a lozenge before her surgery. Violet really does have a remarkable recovery as she recuperates while enjoying a variety of ice-cream flavors. This early chapter book, featuring pencil illustrations, will be a hit with fans of Amber Brown and Clementine.-Sarah Polace, Cuyahoga Public Library System, OH (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist (April 1, 2013 (Online))</i> Grades 2-4. Violet Mackerel is informed by Dr. Singh—who, disappointingly, is not a singing doctor—that she must have her tonsils removed. Though a tad daunted, she likes the thought that her voice might be different when the operation is finished—hopefully "opera-singer" different. This follow-up to Violet Mackerel's Brilliant Plot (2012) retains all the charm and tenderness that made the first book such a treat and a welcome addition to books for early chapter-book readers. The illustrations, which sometimes work in place of the text, emphasize the story's whimsical nature. Children facing their own trip to the hospital will find comfort in Violet's experience, which is approached realistically yet gently



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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. ▾

Reason:

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



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Signed: _____

[Handwritten 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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Sam Wu is not afraid of ghosts (Sam Wu is NOT Afraid) by Tsang, Katie
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 (September 1, 2018)</i> Gr 2-4-Sam Wu loves outer space and science-fiction TV-and he's desperate to prove he's not the scaredy-cat his classmates think he is. So when his class goes on a trip to the local space museum, he accepts a dare to ride a rocket simulator that's for adult riders only. And he suffers embarrassing consequences as a result. More determined than ever to demonstrate his bravery, Sam is aided by his friends Bernard and Zoe in adopting a snake and hunting down a ghost that lives in his closet. When Sam soaks his sheets in pickle juice or constructs a special ghost trap, readers are sure to be delighted, but adult readers will see his true act of courage occurs when his friends come to his house for the first time. Amid worries about what Zoe and Bernard will think of the food his mother serves for dinner, Sam stands up for his favorite Cantonese dishes, and his friends enjoy them. It's a nice bit of cultural reflection that isn't seen often in literature for this age group; many readers will appreciate it. VERDICT Fans of Alvin Ho and Hank Zipzer will laugh out loud at Sam's zany -capers.-Katherine Barr, Cameron -Village Regional Library, Raleigh, NC © Copyright 2018. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Kirkus Reviews (August 15, 2018)</i> Sam Wu has the perfect plan to prove that he's brave: embark on a bold adventure, get a "trustworthy companion," and defeat the ghost in his home! After an INCIDENT that has people calling him Scaredy-Cat Sam, Sam's efforts to prove them wrong take on a life of their own. His solo trip to space derailed, Sam finds himself the owner of an enormous snake and the unwitting host to some supernatural activity—probably the Ghost King! But with his best friends, Zoe (the fastest and tallest!) and Bernard (the smartest!), and Lucy ("a pretty good little sister," sometimes), Sam just might be able to handle it all. Sam's crises tread a well-worn path, but his authentically funny voice still appeals (while purchasing a KILLER SNAKE: "Oh, there's no need for me to hold it!...I can tell that is a high-quality snake"). Reluctant readers and fans of the Wimpy Kid series and its ilk will appreciate the book's dynamic type, graphics galore, cartoonish illustrations, and ironic footnotes. Though some characterizations read a bit rote (athletic Zoe is darker-skinned, while brainy Bernard is white), Sam's mortification during his Chinese family's meal of roast duck and turnip cake will resonate with anyone who has ever felt different. Funny but not groundbreaking, a solid purchase for those looking to diversify their early chapter book collections.



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(Fiction. 7-10)

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:

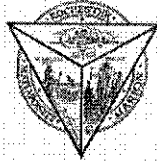


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Due to positive professional reviews, this book meets the criteria for our library collection.

Signed: _____

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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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Life in the balance by Petro-Roy, Jen
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 (January 1, 2021)</i> Gr 3-7-A young white girl struggles to deal with her mother's alcohol addiction. Only weeks before the All-Stars Softball Team tryouts, Veronica's parents announce that her mom will be going to rehab for two months. Not only will her mom be unable to help her prepare, but their financial situation means Veronica might not even be able to play. When her teammate Libby reaches out, the two new friends hatch a plan to enter a local talent show, hoping that the first place prize money will allow her to pay for the All-Star team. This marvelous middle grade novel provides an honest depiction of alcoholism and addiction. Petro-Roy's description of Veronica's anxiety will be relatable to many readers, as will her hope upon finding people with whom she can share her concerns. The author deftly describes Veronica's mounting responsibility and frustration as a result of her mother's addiction. As the child of an addict, she feels compelled to take on more and more responsibility to help her mother recover. Eventually, she expresses these feelings to her family in a gut-wrenching, powerful display of her growth. Veronica's internal dialogue is authentic, and though adults and friends offer compassion and wisdom, Veronica ultimately chooses her own path toward happiness. VERDICT A first purchase. Hand this to readers who don't mind a few tears on their way to a happy ending. -Laken Hottle, Providence Community Lib © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist (January 1, 2021 (Vol. 117, No. 9))</i> Grades 4-7. After Mom's alcoholism has created anger within the family and a problem at work, she leaves to spend eight weeks in rehab. Dad takes a second job and has little time for Veronica. Just when she's worked up the courage to tell Claudia, her best friend, about the situation, Claudia preempts her with the news of her parents' divorce. Reluctant to add to her friend's distress, Veronica doesn't tell her, but when Claudia discovers the secret, she feels hurt that Veronica didn't confide in her. A heart-to-heart talk sets their friendship back on course, but it will be a long time before Veronica feels that her family is right again. Still, a support group offers a gleam of hope. Petro-Roy, whose <i>Good Enough</i> (2019) portrays a 12-year-old at a treatment center for anorexia, writes with clarity and avoids suggesting that alcoholism is easy to manage or to live with. Given that Veronica's a sixth-grader whose family is in distress, it seems natural that



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friendship lies at the heart of this very readable story.

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. *

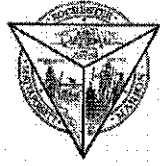
Signed: *David A. [Signature]*



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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:	February 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	The best of Iggy (Iggy, Book 1) by Barrows, Annie
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 (December 1, 2019)</i> Gr 3-7-Iggy isn't a bad kid-he just lives by the motto "It Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time." He blames his friends, his parents, his teacher, but will he ever take responsibility for his actions? Scene transitions feel choppy, but the plot is amusing and Iggy is relatable-though mischievous, he's a good kid deep down. While character development is thin, the cast is engaging and grows on the reader. Funny, detailed illustrations complement the text well, though the font may be difficult to read for some. VERDICT Fans of Barrows's "Ivy + Bean" series and books about kids who often find themselves landing in trouble will appreciate this laugh-out-loud tale. For libraries where humorous realistic fiction is popular.-Kira Moody, Salt Lake County Library Services © Copyright 2019. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist starred (November 15, 2019 (Vol. 116, No. 6))</i> Grades 2-5. Meet Iggy, a mostly good fourth-grader who frequently gets in trouble. As the story opens, he's confined to his bedroom because his parents have (from his point of view) misunderstood the extenuating circumstances that led him to threaten another boy and follow him up the ladder to the shed roof, from which the other boy, "screaming, 'Heilllllp,'" leapt onto the trampoline below. The book's narrator, who has nearly as large and colorful a presence here as Iggy, frames the story around people's regrets for their actions. Using three examples involving Iggy, she differentiates between the things he wishes he hadn't just gotten caught doing, things he wishes he hadn't done quite so much, and things he really, really wishes he hadn't done at all. Desk racing, which falls into the latter category, ended with Iggy injuring his favorite teacher, crying, and feeling bad whenever he remembered the incident. Writing with a droll sense of humor, Barrows ensures that kids will enjoy Iggy's antics and perhaps even reflect a bit. Ricks' expressive, zany, black-and-white illustrations capture chaos and amplify the fun. The first of a series, this slender chapter book is inviting to pick up, hard to put down, and near-impossible to read without laughing out loud.



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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 ▾
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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 Smith*



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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:	January 23, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Mr. Lemoncello and the titanium ticket (Mr. Lemoncello's Library, Book 5) by Grabenstein, Chris
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 reviewed. N/A Review Status: <i>Booklist starred (June 1, 2013 (Vol. 109, No. 19))</i> Grades 4-7. Here's an instantly engaging and wildly creative mystery that is sure to have readers looking at their humble local library in a new light. Mr. Lemoncello is an eccentric game designer who has just funded a very special new library in his hometown. In honor of the grand opening, Lemoncello has selected a dozen 12-year-olds to participate in an overnight lock-in event at the library. But when the kids wake up, they discover a new and unexpected game is afoot: whoever can find a way out of Mr. Lemoncello's library will win the grand prize. Avid readers will get a kick out of the references to classic and current children's literature as the kids solve clues to escape and win the game. Main character Kyle Keeley works hard to beat his nemesis, the conniving bully Charles Chilington, who constantly reminds everyone that he is always successful. As Lemoncello says, knowledge not shared remains unknown, and the group learns that working together just might be the key to solving the mystery. An ode to libraries and literature that is a worthy successor to the original madman riddle master himself, Willy Wonka.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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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 ▾

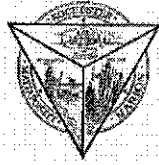
Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

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

Reason:

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

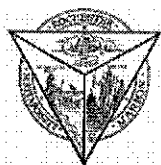
Signed: *Danielle Sullivan*



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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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Billy Miller makes a wish by Henkes, Kevin
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 (April 1, 2021)</i> Gr 3 Up-Billy Miller is back with all-new everyday adventures. As he blows out the candles on his eighth birthday cake, he makes a wish for something exciting to happen. Seconds later an ambulance with sirens blazing races past his house for the first time ever and Billy begins to wonder if he should have made a different wish. It doesn't stop there; in his first week as an eight-year-old, Billy, who is white, encounters a bat, a letter fiasco, even a house fire, not to mention old grandchildren and some not-so-permanent tattoos. This standalone sequel to <i>The Year of Billy Miller</i> contains simple black-and-white illustrations and is somewhat shorter than the inaugural volume. Billy's tight-knit family and neighborhood set the stage for adventures such as the embarrassment of seeing your teacher in the grocery section or impressing your friends by having been "in the house of a dead person." Henkes's phenomenal ability to tap directly into the hopes, fears, and annoyances of an eight-year-old boy with beautiful clarity make this not only relatable for young readers, but for adults as well. VERDICT Reminiscent of Pennypacker's "Clementine" series, or Beverly Cleary's "Ramona" books, Billy Miller and the laugh-out-loud antics of his little sister Sal make this a darling addition to early middle grade collections for most libraries.-Emily Beasley, Omaha Public Sch., NE © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist starred (March 1, 2021 (Vol. 117, No. 13))</i> Grades 2-4. For Billy Miller, sirens signal the first and last days of an eventful period. First, an ambulance pulls up to a nearby house during Billy's eighth-birthday celebration, giving rise to some anxiety. Has his secret birthday wish (for something exciting to happen) caused his elderly neighbor's death? Papa assures Billy that there's no connection. Several days later, with sirens wailing, firefighters arrive at the Millers' house to extinguish a chimney fire. In between, Papa leaves for a four-day "art camp," Mama deals with a bat in the basement, three-year-old Sal uses a permanent marker to draw butterfly "tattoos" on her legs, and Billy makes an embarrassing trek around the block, retrieving his parents' old love letters, which Sal has placed in their neighbors' mailboxes. Papa's return and Mama's news create a happy ending for all. A first-rate choice for reading aloud, this episodic, consistently captivating chapter book draws readers into Billy's world immediately. Small, kid-friendly drawings illustrate



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details mentioned within the narrative, but the vividly portrayed characters come to life through the words alone. A companion book to Newbery Honor Book *The Year of Billy Miller* (2013), this warm family story features the same down-to-earth humor and seemingly simple, beautifully crafted writing. A quiet gem.

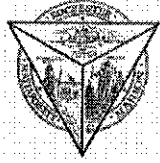
Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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. ▾



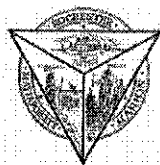
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Reason:

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

Signed:

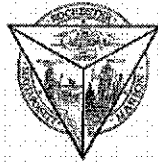
David Hill



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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:	December 23, 2025
Title and Author of Book:	Lucky strike by Pyron, Bobbie
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A ▾ N/A ▾ Review Status: ▾ <i>Booklist (February 1, 2015 (Vol. 111, No. 11))</i> Grades 3-6. Nate Harlow figures he is the least lucky kid on the planet. He has lost his parents. He has lost his dog. He has called a coin toss and got it wrong 53 times in a row. His best friend, Genesis, eldest daughter of Reverend Beam of the Church of the One True Redeemer and Everlasting Light, doesn't believe in luck, putting her money on the science of probability. But neither can explain it when Nate is struck by a freak flash of lightning on his eleventh birthday—and his luck, and fortunes, change. All of a sudden, everything Nate comes in contact with is charmed, and soon the entire population of Paradise Sands, Florida, is vying for his Midas touch. But this newfound popularity threatens his relationship with Gen. Will he show up when she—and the loggerhead turtles nesting on the beaches—really needs him? Pyron displays a fine sense of the shifting allegiances of tweendom, and while many of the homespun secondary characters read as stock, the tender relationships will nourish readers in search of belonging. <i>School Library Journal (December 1, 2014)</i> Gr 4-6-Wherever Nate Harlow goes, bad luck seems to follow. He has never even won a coin toss, so it comes as no surprise to many residents of Paradise Beach that it is Nate who gets struck by lightning out of the literal blue on his 11th birthday while playing mini-golf with his friend Genesis Beam. What does come as a big surprise is that Nate's luck seems to change drastically after the strike. All of a sudden, he is winning. Everything. Nate has to decide how he is going to handle this change—he is now surrounded by friends and opportunities whereas before it was only him and Genesis sticking together. Will she stay by Nate's side while he finds his feet, and, more importantly, will he support her when she needs it most? This well-told story of growth, friendship, and small-town life hits all the right notes. The quirkiness of the characters and the town never goes too far, and there is an overall cozy feeling to the book. Genesis's dad is the preacher at The Church of the One True Redeemer and Everlasting Light, but she is a scientist through and through, which adds complexity to the text, including musings on destiny, fate, probability, and weather. Fans of Susan Patron's <i>Higher Power of Lucky</i> (S. & S., 2006), Sheila Turnage's <i>Three Times Lucky</i> (Dial, 2012), and Ingrid Law's <i>Savvy</i> (2008; both, Dial) will find something new for their to-read shelves. —Stacy Dillon, LREI, New York City (c) Copyright 2014. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No



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Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

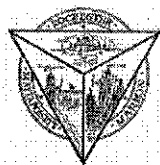
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5. Library material shall meet the curriculum needs of students and staff.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
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Reason:



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Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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

Signed: _____

[Handwritten signature]



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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:	January 9, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Rain reign by Martin, Ann
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, 2014)</i> Gr 4-6-Rose is different from the other children in her class in many ways. She struggles to control the obsessions and outbursts that are symptomatic of her high-functioning autism. She is fascinated by homophones, or homonyms, as most people know them, and prime numbers. Rose uses patterns and habits to gain some control over her days. Her mother left when Rose was two, so she lives with her father, and is also cared for by her Uncle Weldon, who lives nearby, and who often shows Rose the most understanding and compassion. When her father brings home a lost dog, Rose names her Rain, since she was found in the rain, and "rain" is a homonym (with "reign"). During a superstorm, her father lets Rain out, and Rose's beloved companion is lost. Rose and her uncle finally find Rain after a long and difficult search, but they learn that Rain is actually Olivia, the pet of a family who lost everything in the storm. Told through Rose's voice, the story gives readers the perspective of someone who sees life in black-and-white, and who struggles when rules are broken, or routines are changed. The characters around Rose develop incrementally as readers witness their reactions to her obsessions and her struggles. Though Rose's story is often heartbreaking, her matter-of-fact narration provides moments of humor. Readers will empathize with Rose, who finds strength and empowerment through her unique way of looking at the world. A first purchase. -MaryAnn Karre, West Middle School, Binghamton, NY (c) Copyright 2012. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist starred (August 2014 (Vol. 110, No. 22))</i> Grades 4-6. Rose, a fifth-grader who has been diagnosed with Asperger syndrome, is often teased at school about her obsession with homonyms and her steadfast conviction that everyone should follow the rules at all times. Rose lives with her harsh, troubled father, but it's Uncle Weldon who cares for her in the ways that matter most. Still, her father did give her Rain, a stray dog that comforts and protects Rose. After Rain is lost in a storm and recovered, Rose learns that her dog has an identification microchip. Though she fully grasps what that means, Rose is driven by the unwavering belief that she must follow the rules, find Rain's former owners, and give the dog back to them. Simplicity, clarity, and emotional resonance are hallmarks of Rose's first-person narrative, which offers an unflinching view of her world from her perspective. Her outlook may be unconventional, but her approach is matter-of-fact and her observations



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are insightful. Readers will be moved by the raw portrayal of Rose's difficult home life, her separation from other kids at school, and her loss of the dog that has loved her and provided a buffer from painful experiences. A strong story told in a nuanced, highly accessible way.

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



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Reason:

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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:	January 9, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Margot and Mateo save the world by Miller, Darcy
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, 2018)</i> Gr 4-6-Margot Blumenthal, an Olympic-bound wrestler, is relatively new to West Cove Middle School. When she observes the usually easygoing Mateo Flores punching his best friend in the nose on the school bus, she decides to see what's up. It turns out that Mateo has an alien slug attached to his back that is controlling his actions. Using her wrestling skills, Margot de-slugs Mateo, only to discover that many adults in the town also have slugs controlling them. The two kids team up with Calvin Biggs, a research assistant at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (in town to help remove a 47-ton sperm whale decaying on the town beach), in a heroic effort to stop the alien slug invasion that is underway. In the process of working together to save the world, Mateo, a perpetual people-pleaser, and Margot, a friendless know-it-all, become true friends, a welcome change for both. The wacky plot is fast moving, and both Margot and Mateo are relatable and likable characters. -VERDICT A great hook sets off this offbeat and highly enjoyable read. A solid purchase for most collections that is likely to entice even reluctant readers.--Ragan O'Malley, Saint Ann's School, Brooklyn © Copyright 2018. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist starred (July 2018 (Vol. 114, No. 21))</i> Grades 4-6. As if the huge whale decomposing on a nearby beach isn't enough of an assault on the senses, town newcomer Margot finds herself pulling a slimy, purple, tentacled blob from classmate Mateo's neck. Add in a set of fabulously disgusting climactic explosions, and the two middle-schoolers discover that many of the town's adults, from the mayor to Mateo's single dad, have been taken over by a squidlike, mind-controlling alien queen bent on conquest. Miller spins this classic premise (see Robert A. Heinlein's <i>The Puppet Masters</i>) into a suspenseful, thoroughly entertaining comedy featuring a pair of protagonists with sharply contrasting characters and abilities: he an easygoing, go-along-to-get-along type; she a focused, intense, nationally prominent junior wrestler capable of wiping the floor with any attacker, but with little in the way of social skills. Making their unlikely matchup even more delectable, the author casts the two as the leads in a school production of <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>, setting the stage for an opening night that definitely doesn't go the way the Bard mapped it out. Though the course of their developing friendship has run anything but smooth, Margot and Mateo's individual blends of resilience and vulnerability



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	prove complementary. Foodies may never look at calamari in quite the same way again, but readers who prefer their science fiction dished up with gross substances will be delighted.&nbsp;
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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. ▾



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Reason:

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

Signed: *Steven Smith*



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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:	January 9, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Starry River of the Sky 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 - <i>School Library Journal (September 1, 2012)</i> Gr 3-6-The moon is missing from the sky, and its absence causes unrelenting heat and drought. At night, Rendi can hear the sky moan and whimper for the missing moon, a sound that has plagued him since running away from home and ending up as a chore boy at an isolated inn. When a mysterious and glamorous guest arrives, she bring stories and asks Rendi to tell her tales in return. These stories weave the characters and plotlines together while revealing the backstory of Rendi's flight from home, the village's geography, and the missing moon, and how they tie together. This follow-up to Lin's <i>Where the Mountain Meets the Moon</i> (Little, Brown, 2009), takes place centuries earlier, when Magistrate Tiger's son was still young, and missing. The stories the characters tell are based on traditional Chinese folktales, but Lin adds her own elements and layers and mixes them with original tales to form a larger narrative that provides the background and the answers for the frame story. This tight and cyclical plotting, combined with Lin's vibrant, full-color paintings and chapter decorations, creates a work that is nothing short of enchanting. Like the restored moon, <i>Starry River</i> outshines the previous work. -Jennifer Rothschild, Prince George's County Memorial Library System, Oxon Hill, MD (c) Copyright 2012. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist starred (October 1, 2012 (Vol. 109, No. 3))</i> Grades 3-6. This mesmerizing companion to the Newbery Honor Book <i>Where the Mountain Meets the Moon</i> (2009) does not disappoint. Rendi has run away from home, stowed in the back of a merchant's cart, until he is discovered and left stranded in the scarcely populated Village of Clear Sky. There he becomes the innkeeper's chore boy and is introduced to a cast of characters, including Mr. Shan, a wise older man; Madame Chang, a mysterious out-of-town guest with a gift for storytelling; and a toad whom Mr. Shan calls Rabbit. All the while, the moon is missing, and it seems only Rendi is tormented by the sky's sad wailing noises at night. Madame Chang insists that for each story she tells—including one about ruler Wang Yi's wife, who transformed into a toad and lived out the rest of her days on the moon—Rendi must tell one of his own. Unlike its predecessor, this novel is stationary in setting, but it offers up similar stories based on Chinese folklore that interweave with and advance the main narrative. Each of the tales reveals something important about the teller, and most offer a



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key piece of the mysterious puzzle: what happened to the moon? A few characters from *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*, including Magistrate Tiger, appear on the periphery of the action. Lin's writing is clear and lyrical, her plotting complex, and her illustrations magical, all of which make this a book to be savored.

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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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: *Scott Smith*



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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:	February 5, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Unseen magic by Lloyd-Jones, Emily
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 5 Up-Eleven-year-old Fin, who is white, has been living in the town of Aldermere for three years. She and her mother have finally stopped moving all the time; she feels safe here and is finally considering Aldermere home. This magical town contains ravens who demand feeding or they will destroy your garbage, strange multi-legged creatures, rumors of a bigfoot lurking, and, most interestingly, the tea shop that vanishes when strangers try to get inside. In the tea shop, Fin has been secretly using magic to overcome her fears, and she has a long list of them. When Talia the shop owner is injured and away, Fin attempts to combat her latest fear and uses the magic on herself without Talia's guidance. The result is an eerie tea-constructed twin who wreaks havoc on Aldermere. Fin must overcome her fears, without magic, to save the town she has come to love. Lloyd-Jones has created a magical place in the Redwoods of Northern California. Aldermere, population 239, is rife with forests, rumored woodland creatures, eerie shadows, and a mossy dampness that invites enchantment. The story of Fin and her fears reaches far beyond the search for her self-created twin, although that, too, is entertaining. The book examines what it means to confront fear and how memory can interfere with growth and self-awareness. Fin's journey leads her through friendship, family, and the challenge of accepting who she was and who she can become. Fans of Harry Potter and magical creatures will not want to put this book down, and will want to revisit Aldermere again and again. VERDICT An enchanting tale that will keep middle grade readers captivated and wanting more. A must-read for fans of magic worlds and fantastical creatures.-Carol Connor © Copyright 2022. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. Taken from the Hardcover. <i>Booklist starred (January 1, 2022 (Vol. 118, No. 9))</i> Grades 5-7. Three years after arriving in Aldermere with her mom and a list of oddly specific fears ("6. Adults who look angry"), shy Fin has fallen in love with the small Northern California town, not least because it has a shop in which she can trade away any unhappy memory she chooses. That's not all that's magical about Aldermere: Lloyd-Jones tucks in evocative details (unusually intelligent local ravens; the fact that doors have to be carefully labeled or they'll transport



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the opener to a random place) and also supplies Fin with two truly marvelous friends whose instant, unstinting trust and support never wavers—even when she accidentally creates a body double made up of all her surrendered memories and suppressed character traits. As a wave of thefts and destructive mishaps sets the whole town abuzz, Fin's search for a way to quash her scary, elusive counterpart grows increasingly urgent. Dizzying as all this may be, the author still has an array of tricks to pull from her sleeve at the climax. Highlighted by as neat a switch on the "evil twin" trope as ever was, this tale has much to offer readers who prefer a "quiet and creeping" sort of magic over "bright flashing spells or turning people into toads"—though there's a certain amount of that, too.

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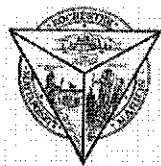
Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist

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. -

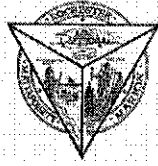
Signed: *James Sullivan*



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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:	February 5, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	The Beatryce prophecy 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: - School Library Journal (October 1, 2021) Gr 3-6-The prophecy speaks of a girl who will unseat a king and change the world. It doesn't exactly mention a goat, but true prophecy will find a way to be fulfilled...especially if the hard-headed, and hard-butting, Answelica has anything to do with it. Brother Edik, a monk who illuminates manuscripts and pronounces the occasional prophecy (including the one about Beatryce), is startled to find a very sick girl curled up in the straw next to the monastery's irascible goat. He doesn't realize that the king is looking to capture this very girl; he takes her in and nurses her back to health. The goat refuses to leave Beatryce's side as she is eventually forced to leave the monastery and earn her way by writing (in a world where girls are not allowed to read and write), and ultimately by befriending others who help demonstrate that Beatryce is, in fact, the girl foretold to change everything. Hand to fans of Adam Gidwitz's The Inquisitor's Tale (although there are no farting dragons here). VERDICT DiCamillo's fantasy has no magic, but is a gentle tale of the power of love and the determination to do the right thing, even when that thing comes at great personal cost. Recommended for tweens in all library settings, both independent and read-alouds.-Elizabeth Friend, Wester M.S., TX © Copyright 2021. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted Booklist starred (May 15, 2021 (Vol. 117, No. 18)) Grades 3-6. Father Edik's usual trepidation over approaching Answelica the goat's enclosure skyrockets upon seeing a sleeping girl there, clutching the foul-tempered creature's ear. This turns out to be Beatryce, a girl with no memory aside from her name, a girl who can read and write despite laws prohibiting such a thing, a girl about whom Father Edik believes he may have written in his order's prophetic Chronicles of Sorrowing: "There will one day come a girl child who will unseat a king and bring about a great change." It isn't long before word reaches the monastery that the king is also looking for Beatryce on account of the prophecy, so Father Edik disguises her as a monk and sends her off with Answelica, her fierce and loyal protector, and a bright boy from town named Jack Dory, who has an interesting story of his own. Somehow, DiCamillo manages to fit a medieval epic into just over 250 pages—and that includes many glorious black-and-white illustrations by Blackall that one can easily envision stitched upon a tapestry. DiCamillo fills her narrative with humor and love, never getting in the way of her characters (or Answelica's boney head) as they work through



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difficult choices and display many forms of bravery. It's a gently feminist tale where stories carry the same power as magic and are, perhaps, one and the same. **HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** Rumor has it that this might be popular. And might win all the awards.

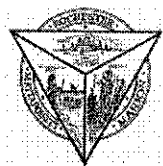
Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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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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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. ▾

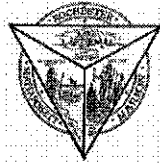


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Reason:

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

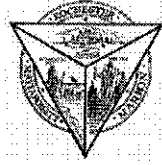
Signed: _____



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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:	February 5, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Of mice and magic (Hamster Princess, Book 2) by Vernon, Ursula
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 (January 1, 2016)</i> Gr 3-6-Fierce warrior hamster princess Harriet Hamsterbone and her faithful battle-quail, Mumfrey, are itching for adventure mere weeks after obliterating the fairy curse in the first book of the series, <i>Harriet the Invincible</i> (Dial, 2015). Now that she is no longer invincible, she cannot participate in her favorite pastime, cliff diving, and she yearns for a new mighty quest. When a fairy shrew appears, needing her assistance at the Mouse Kingdom, Harriet quickly obliges. She learns of the plight of the 12 dancing princess mice, who are cursed to dance all night, every night. Arriving at the castle armed with a poncho of invisibility, Harriet must find out what is forcing the princesses to dance and break the curse before it's too late. What she unearths is a rodent-tweaked version of the "Twelve Dancing Princesses," in which the 12 princesses, who are named after the months of the year (January, February, March, etc.), seem destined to marry the 12 mole brothers (named after the zodiac signs: Gemini, Pisces, etc.). The generous comic book-like, two-toned illustrations are reminiscent of Vernon's "Dragonbreath" series (Dial) and suit the text perfectly. VERDICT A quick and satisfying read that is as hilarious as it is fun. Make room on the shelves for this not so frilly princess. -Michele Shaw, Quail Run Elementary School, San Ramon, CA © Copyright 2016. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist (January 1, 2016 (Online))</i> Grades 3-6. Harriet Hamsterbone is back in action. Our warrior princess is no longer invincible, but she's hungrier than ever for adventure, and the more dangerous, the better, much to the dismay of her royal parents. When she hears about a micromanaging mouse king with 12 dancing daughters and a mystery he can't solve, well, what's a hamster like Harriet to do? She packs up her faithful riding quail and sets out to break those princesses' curse. Or not break it, if that's what they want ("I liked my curse. It made me invincible," she shrugs). Either way, she's happy to be on a mission again. Spunky Harriet is just as wonderful as she was in her debut, and this sequel certainly lives up to the success of its predecessor (<i>Harriet the Invincible</i>, 2015). Fans of twisted feminist fairy tales will be delighted, and Harriet's existing followers won't be disappointed with this second installment. Bring on book three!



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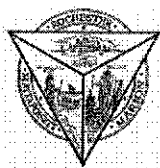
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This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

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

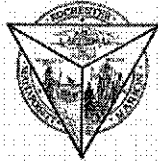
Signed: _____



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:	February 5, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	One time by Creech, Sharon
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A N/A Review Status <i>Booklist (September 1, 2020 (Vol. 117, No. 1))</i> Grades 4-6. When Antonio moves into 11-year-old Gina's neighborhood, she feels an immediate connection with the boy, who charms their classmates as well. Their young language arts teacher, who starts the year by writing "Who are you?" on the board, encourages reflection, imagination, and self-expression, while instilling a love of writing in her students. Later that year, when Antonio leaves suddenly, the loss is painful, particularly for Gina. The last chapter picks up her first-person story 20 years later, as she reflects on her experiences and tells what paths she, Antonio, and their former classmates have chosen. Written in short chapters with lively and sometimes amusing characterizations of adults as well as kids, this is a quiet book, but an engaging one. There's something haunting about Creech's portrayal of the increasingly writing-obsessed school class and the boy whose absence was so keenly felt at the time and whose presence was remembered years later. And on the last page, Gina wonders about the reader, asking, "Who are you? Who could you be?" A thought-provoking chapter book from start to finish. <i>School Library Journal Xpress (October 9, 2020)</i> Gr 3-7-Gina feels too unique for her classmates who scoff at her colorful Italian scarves and her equally vibrant imagination. When a mysterious new boy with a dazzling smile proves to be even more fanciful than Gina, the class is spellbound. Under the guidance of Miss Lightstone, whose unconventional teaching draws some negative attention, the students discover words and worlds within themselves. She begins with writing, "Who are you," and some first sentences of modern classics (Holes, Clementine, and Harbor Me, for example) on the board and asking the students to ponder the question. Most of the students are confused or skeptical, but they all fall, some more willingly than others, into the swirl of creative writing. Although this is not a novel in verse, Creech's short sentences, meticulous word choices, and wit show rhythm and poetry. The dialogue particularly showcases the author's skill. A celebration of writing and reflection with memorable characters and a touch of magical realism, this book is sure to be a hit with both young readers and their teachers. VERDICT This is a deceptively simple ballad to creative writing. Like Creech's own <i>Love That Dog</i> with a nod to Roald Dahl's <i>Miss Honey</i> from <i>Matilda</i>, and Jerry Spinelli's <i>Stargirl</i>, this book spotlights an inspirational teacher with a



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passion for thoughtfulness and words, and the children who thrive in this creative collaboration.-Elaine Fultz, Oakwood City Sch., Dayton, OH © Copyright 2020. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

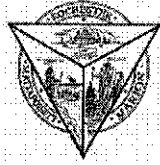
Taken from the **Hardcover**.

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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



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

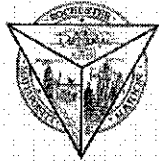
This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. -

Reason:

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

Signed:

Donald Bellman



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	February 6, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	RMS PTO, Scholastic Winter Book Fair 2026
Contact Information (phone/email):	rmspto.com
Date of Librarian Review:	March 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Who is Tony Hawk? (Who Was...?) by Korte, Steve
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 reviewed. N/A Review Status <i>Horn Book Guide (Fall, 2002)</i> The fast-paced biographies in this series do a good job of revealing the personalities and significant achievements of their subjects. Plentiful black-and-white illustrations and simple prose make the books particularly appealing to reluctant readers, and the brief sidebars never overwhelm the main texts. Each volume has two timelines—one for the subject's life, the other listing concurrent world events. [Review covers these titles: Who Was Albert Einstein?, Who Was Ben Franklin?, Who Was Sacagawea?, Who Was Annie Oakley?.] <i>Horn Book Guide (Fall 2003)</i> These short, illustrated books capture the lives of famous individuals with accessible prose. Each book spends considerable time explaining the childhood experiences of its subject and manages to give readers a sense of the individual's personality and motives. All but Tallchief and Houdini have bibliographies. Timeline. [Review covers these Who Was...? titles: Who Is Maria Tallchief?, Who Was Amelia Earhart?, Who Was Harriet Tubman?, Who Was Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart?, and Who Was Harry Houdini?.] <i>Horn Book Guide (Spring 2005)</i> A lively biography of the explorer who was the first to sail around the globe, this book not only tells Magellan's life story but details his accomplishments and his failure. Historical notes are interspersed with the accessible narrative, which is illustrated with black-and-white line drawings. Reading list, timelines.

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
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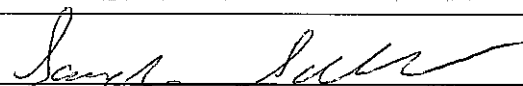
1. Library materials shall support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the state and district and the aims and objectives of the individual schools and specific curricula.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
2. Library materials shall meet high standards of quality in factual content (accuracy, authenticity, clarity), artistic and literary value, and presentation (including special features such as: tables of contents, indexes, illustrations, photographs, maps, charts, graphs).	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 ▾

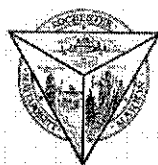
Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist:

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

Reason:

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

Signed: 



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Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	February 6, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	RMS PTO, Scholastic Winter Book Fair 2026
Contact Information (phone/email):	rmspto.com
Date of Librarian Review:	March 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Jessi Ramsey, pet-sitter (Baby-Sitters Club, Book 18) by Crenshaw, Ellen
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>Booklist (March 15, 2006 (Vol. 102, No. 14))</i> Gr. 4-6. Kristy's Great Idea (1986), the first in Martin's hugely popular Baby-Sitters Club series (which grew to more than 100 titles and generated both a TV series and a movie), returns in a successful graphic novel makeover. Comics artist Telgemeier's clean-lined, black-and-white art with stark black details nicely differentiates the four personable seventh-graders who parlay their babysitting experience into a business: artsy Mary, overprotected Stacy, Claudia, the girl with a secret, and clever, outspoken Kristy, who willingly supports her friends but refuses to give her mother an inch when it comes to a new stepfather. The story has been effectively trimmed to accommodate the format (Kristy's actions and feelings are the focus), but there's still plenty of content, comedy, action, and emotion—in both the text and the art—as the kids cope with feisty toddlers and personal problems and fight with and help one another, while modeling right behavior and the ups and downs of friendship. It's easy to see how this could evolve into a series of its own. <i>Publishers Weekly (April 24, 2006)</i> Telgemeier offers a spirited graphic novel adaptation of the debut title in Martin's The Baby-sitters Club series, the story of the four founding members of this fledgling club. The graphic-style black-and-white panels engagingly spotlight the camaraderie, as well as the minor spats, among the quartet of seventh-graders-outspoken tomboy Kristy, earnest, shy Mary Anne, artistic and free-spirited Claudia and the somewhat secretive newcomer to town, Stacey—as they team up to launch a baby-sitting service. Various sitting jobs provide the story's livelier moments: Kristy arrives at one stint to discover that her charges are rambunctious pooches rather than kids, and Mary Anne attempts to rescue a family's cat from the yard of an alleged witch. Telgemeier also portrays the tale's quieter moments, as Kristy gradually and credibly comes to accept her divorced mother's new fiancé and his children, and Stacey reveals that her mysterious behavior is due to the fact that she has diabetes. The artist adds abundant energy to the pages and, largely through amusingly exaggerated facial expressions, ably captures each character's personality. This will likely hook reluctant readers on this affable group of girls and may well spur a new generation of youngsters to move on to the original series. A second adaptation,



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The Truth About Stacey, is due in the fall. Ages 9-12. (Apr.) Copyright 2006
 Reed Business 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 ▾
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:



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

Signed: _____

Samuel Sullivan



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Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	February 6, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	RMS PTO, Scholastic Winter Book Fair 2026
Contact Information (phone/email):	rmspto.com
Date of Librarian Review:	March 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Baby-Sitters Little Sister Book Series [Graphic Novels] by Farina, Katy & Yingst, DK Karen's Haircut (Book 7) by Yingst, DK Karen's Sleepover (Book 8) by Farina, Katy Karen's Grandmothers (Book 9) by Farina, Katy
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 (October 1, 2019)</i> Gr 2-5-Every other weekend, Karen and her brother Andrew spend time with their dad and stepfamily. Karen suspects that her dad's next door neighbor, Mrs. Porter, is actually a witch named Morbidda Destiny. Although there is a strict no-spying rule, Karen and her best friend Hannie set out to prove that Mrs. Porter is a witch and catch her in the act of hosting a witch meeting. This graphic novel adaptation of the first installment in the "Baby Sitters Little Sister" series follows closely in the vein of the comics remakes of the "Babysitters Club" and is sure to be just as popular. The full-color illustrations are bright and detailed, and the story is fast paced and relatable. The "Little Sister" series is a bit simpler and more accessible to those who are not quite ready for the "Babysitters Club" series. It will also likely entice adults who have fond memories of the original books. VERDICT This reimagining of a beloved series will appeal to readers young and old and will attract fans of the highly popular "Babysitters Club" graphic novels as well. -Ellen Conlin, Naperville Public Library, IL © Copyright 2019. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. <i>Booklist (January 1, 2020 (Vol. 116, No. 9))</i> Grades 2-5. There is a witch living next door to Karen's dad's house, she's sure of it. Despite the house rule against spying, Karen and her beleaguered friend Hannie surveil Mrs. Porter's house, searching for evidence that will confirm Karen's belief in Mrs. Porter's sinister plans for the neighborhood. Ultimately, Karen isn't really punished for her actions and she's not terribly sorry for them either, setting the story up for a sequel. Following the plot of the prose version beat for beat, this adaptation introduces the Baby-Sitters Club universe as seen by one of the kids being babysat. The artwork and colors in this spin-off are similar to those found in the original series, but chibi-fied (i.e., the characters are more rounded and have cartoonishly large eyes) to make the characters look



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younger, cuter, and more innocent. Shorter in length and using vocabulary that is more manageable for less experienced readers, this book offers younger readers a doorway into an extremely popular franchise.

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 ▾
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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. ▾



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Reason:

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

Signed:

Angie Sallan



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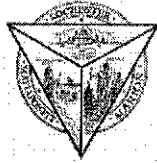
Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	February 6, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	RMS PTO, Scholastic Winter Book Fair 2026
Contact Information (phone/email):	rmspto.com
Date of Librarian Review:	March 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Big Jim believes (Dog Man, Book 14) by Pilkey, Dav
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 starred (November 21, 2025)</i> Gr 3 Up-Big Jim, a member of the Dog Man universe, got his origin story in 2024's Big Jim Begins. In his latest adventure, the eternal optimist reprises his role as Captain Cupcake to defeat the evil Space Cuties from Space. The key heroes are Big Jim and the always disgruntled Grampa (aka Sprinkles), with super support from Mecha Molly. Since the Space Cuties left everything in their path über-cute, nothing is as it should be. Still in cat jail, Big Jim is determined that he and Sprinkles can break out and put things right. Big Jim's positivity and belief in everyone's potential helps the heroes get the job done. Pilkey delivers the expected visual feast with plenty of saturated colors, flip-o-ramas, and laugh-out-loud sight gags. Elementary and middle grade readers will get plenty of the verbal double meanings while adults will appreciate the dual homages to Dr. Seuss and Warner cartoons. There is something for everyone in this well-crafted latest entry to the beloved series. Themes of believing in yourself, supporting others in their time of need, and persistence in the face of challenges are perfectly woven into the high-speed high jinks. VERDICT Another hit from Pilkey, sure to be popular with his many fans, this is a multi-copy purchase for any library serving young people (and adults!).-Elisabeth LeBris © Copyright 2025. 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 ▾



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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: Samuel Seltzer



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Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	February 6, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	RMS PTO, Scholastic Winter Book Fair 2026
Contact Information (phone/email):	rmspto.com
Date of Librarian Review:	March 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Hypergifted by Korman, Gordon
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A N/A Review Status: School Library Journal Xpress starred (December 12, 2025) Gr 3-5-This stunning middle-grade novel delivers a funny, heartfelt summer adventure told through multiple character perspectives. Twelve-year-old super-genius Noah Youkilis has been accepted into a summer term at the prestigious Wilderton University, but the last thing he wants is to start college early. His best friend, Donovan, is hoping for a summer of total relaxation, but when Wilderton says Noah can bring a companion to school, Donovan's parents immediately sign him up; he soon finds himself working as a camp counselor for professors' kids instead of relaxing at home. The story unfolds in alternating chapters from several viewpoints, giving readers a clear sense of each character's priorities. Multiple plotlines run at once, including Noah's ambitious AI project, Donovan's growing friendship with his fellow counselor Raina, two frat boys chasing an unforgettable summer, and a missing pig mascot. Korman also highlights the complementary traits that make Noah and Donovan such strong friends: Noah's academic brilliance paired with Donovan's street smarts, with each boy relying on and admiring the other. Even with so much happening, the narrative remains easy to follow because the structure makes the story rich rather than complicated, and every thread builds toward a satisfying conclusion. Korman's writing style is thoroughly engaging and speaks directly to middle-grade readers with its sharp dialogue, brisk pacing, and situations that feel both over the top and completely relatable. VERDIOT Korman's latest adventure is must-purchase for all middle-grade collections. -Katherine Rao © Copyright 2026. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted Booklist (December 1, 2025 (Vol. 122, No. 7)) Grades 4-7. Korman's Gifted series began with Ungifted (2012), in which prankster Donovan Curtis did "colossal damage" to the gym on his first day of middle school, after which he ended up in the superintendent's office and was mistakenly assigned to the gifted program. Meanwhile, his friend Noah, an actual genius, was mysteriously assigned to ordinary classes. In the latest volume,



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	Noah is offered a full scholarship at a fine university, and the dean suggests he come for the summer session in order to adjust. Noah is willing, but only if Donovan will be his summer roommate. Donovan reluctantly agrees, but they become entangled in a mystery almost immediately. Porquette, the university's resident pig/mascot, is missing, and the students and alumni are very upset. So are Noah and Donovan—mainly because she's living in their bathtub. Even before the novel's end, it's clear Donovan has skills only Noah can appreciate, and vice versa. Rotating among characters, the first-person narrative reflects the views of many individuals. A madcap addition to an amusing series.
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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 ▾
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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 ▾



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:

Samuel [Signature]



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	February 6, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	RMS PTO, Scholastic Winter Book Fair 2026
Contact Information (phone/email):	rmspto.com
Date of Librarian Review:	March 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Rumpelstiltskin Retold by Barnett, Mac
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	N/A - N/A - Review Status - Booklist starred (January 1, 2026 (Vol. 122, No. 9)) Grades K-3. Barnett kicked off his fairy-tale retellings memorably with <i>The Three Billy Goats Gruff</i> (2022), illustrated by Jon Klassen. Now, he's teamed up with Caldecott honoree Ellis to spin the tale of Rumpelstiltskin, that gold-producing trickster. There's a pleasing alchemy, with Barnett employing conversational language anchored in understated humor and Ellis' rich gouache illustrations evoking both wood-block prints and Renaissance portraiture. The original story, as told by the Brothers Grimm, isn't much altered here; rather, it is filled out with creative details that enrich the narrative and give context to the life of the woman at the center of the whole debacle. Barnett takes full advantage of the challenge to guess Rumpelstiltskin's name, gleefully spouting off a litany of names that range from silly to ostentatious to mundane, which will elicit cackles from young readers and listeners. Meanwhile, Ellis sets the historical tone with her fantastic artwork. The scenes within the castle are cast in shadows but full of patterns, from the tiled floors and grain of wooden beams to hanging tapestries and textured window glass. Blues and greens stand in vibrant contrast to the earthier indoor palette, though the landscapes are decidedly lush. And flitting his way through all these is wee Rumpelstiltskin, clad in a blue cap, a red coat, and harlequin tights—an unforgettable sight for characters and readers alike.

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 -



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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: *Samuel Hall*



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Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	February 6, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	RMS PTO, Scholastic Winter Book Fair 2026
Contact Information (phone/email):	rmspto.com
Date of Librarian Review:	March 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Chicka chicka peep peep (Chicka Chicka Book) by Chung, Julien
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 (November 1, 2025)</i> The classic picture book Chicka Chicka Boom Boom (1989) gets a makeover for Easter as the letters of the alphabet locate and decorate eggs. The mission is simple: "Chicka chicka peek peek. / Everybody seek seek! / Find all the eggs / in the pretty pink tree." The letters are making their way up the flowering tree in search of the hidden eggs when a "SNEEZE!" scatters everyone and the eggs fall and crack. Luckily, a bunny hops by with a haul of new ones, which the letters then paint and bedazzle, eventually sharing the newly decorated eggs with a group of bunnies. This picture book is a successfully Easter-fied version of the original: The letters go up, the letters fall down. Truly, though, that's all the preschool crowd needs. Chung's illustrations are simple and familiar, a direct echo of Chicka Chicka Boom Boom. The letters appear in colorful, bold, block form. The book has few added details, just focal images like the tree and its pink flowers, the colorful eggs, tufts of grass, and some friendly rabbits. The alphabet appears in order (both upper- and lowercase letters) at the book's open and close. The rhyming text follows the iconic cadence of the source material, making for a worthy read-aloud that will keep little hands turning pages. A sweet, springtime-themed reworking of a beloved tale. (Picture book. 3-5)

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

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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. ▾

Reason:

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

Signed: *James Sullivan*



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	February 6, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	RMS PTO, Scholastic Winter Book Fair 2026
Contact Information (phone/email):	rmspto.com
Date of Librarian Review:	March 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	The pigeon won't count to 10! By Willems, Mo
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 starred (August 15, 2025)</i> There's no possible way the Pigeon is going to count to 10! Well... maybe. Sometimes a bird just doesn't feel like counting to 10, OK? Featuring the Pigeon in his customary capricious state, this board book directly addresses audiences just like previous installments, but this time our hero is refusing instead of requesting. He's got plenty of good reasons not to count, including number five ("cuz!") and number six ("Double 'cuz!!!"). But the Pigeon conveys real, relatable emotion when he admits that he's scared of failing: "SOMETIMES I FORGET WHAT NUMBER COMES AFTER NINE!!!" All readers will snicker at the over-the-top antics, but preschoolers in the know will especially revel in the joke—the Pigeon is so busy naming the reasons why he doesn't want to count to 10 that he winds up counting to 10 despite himself. Not to worry; the stubborn bird always gets the last word: He's counting to 11! For the most part, there's nothing to actually count, making the book as much about emotions as math. Illustrated in Willems' signature minimalistic style, even small details like a rounded eye or shed feather are as emotive as ever, and pages pop with frenetic, barely contained chaos. Rich, jewel-toned backgrounds highlight the Pigeon's melodramatic expressions, and extravagantly multilayered debossing adds a perfect amount of tactile interest for little fingers. Everyone's favorite recalcitrant pigeon is back and funnier than ever! You can count on it. (Board book. 2-7) <i>School Library Journal starred (October 1, 2025)</i> Toddler-Gr 1-Every young child will fall in love with the pigeon's version of events. Like a child who refuses to go to bed and falls asleep in place, this pigeon has so many excuses, enumerated one at a time up to 10. The crushing admission is that the pigeon hates counting to 10 because number nine is elusive. Emboldened by success, the pigeon counts to 11. Children will find their own excuses to keep on counting even after the book is closed. VERDICT The pigeon will count to 10 in classroom counting units; children can certainly take it from there. Bold and funny. © Copyright 2025. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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:



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	February 6, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	RMS PTO, Scholastic Winter Book Fair 2026
Contact Information (phone/email):	rmspto.com
Date of Librarian Review:	March 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	The Kingfisher ocean encyclopedia (Kingfisher Encyclopedias)
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	This book comes from a publisher known for quality children's books. It is ... N/A Review Status:

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).	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



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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:

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

Signed: *David Allen*



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review (Form 2)

Date of Receipt:	February 6, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	RMS PTO, Scholastic Winter Book Fair 2026
Contact Information (phone/email):	rmspto.com
Date of Librarian Review:	March 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	The basketball encyclopedia (Kingfisher Encyclopedias) by Rynston-Lobel, Eric
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	This book comes from a publisher known for quality children's books. It is ... N/A Review Status:

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).	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



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

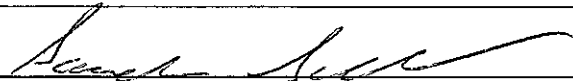
9. Library materials shall be selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weaknesses, examining the value of any work as a whole.	Not applicable ▾
10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse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

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

Signed: 

Tech Disposal List April 2026

6 laptops 2017

2 desktops 2009

4 document cameras 2010



Superintendent's Newsletter

March 2026

Message of the Month

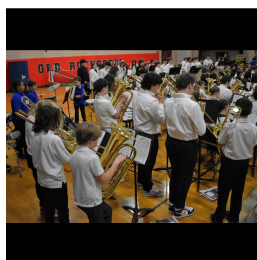
Dear School Community,

The spring season has arrived! We officially started the final quarter of the 2026-2027 school year. During this time of the school year - the budget development process is a priority. Our four school committees have already held their public budget hearings or will do so in the very near future. It is my hope that our parents, guardians, and stakeholders stay informed during the budget process and consider attending the annual town meetings in Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester. As always, thank you for your continued support and partnership. I hope you enjoy the Superintendent's newsletter this month.

Respectfully,

Michael S. Nelson
Superintendent of Schools

Superintendent's School Highlights



Office of Teaching and Learning

From Dr. Fedorowicz

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

Vision of the Graduate

Core Competencies and Attributes Feedback

We are collecting [stakeholder feedback](#) system-wide on the work thus far on our Vision of the Graduate. This work began at the high school level approximately two years ago, where an initial draft was developed. It has since expanded through collaboration with the

Vision of the Graduate Community Group, Instructional Council, and administrative team.

The current draft, aligned with guidance from the [Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education](#), includes proposed core competencies and attributes. It has been refined through multiple rounds of review and is now being shared for broader stakeholder input. We are looking for and welcome feedback from all stakeholders through our feedback form to ensure this vision reflects the perspectives and priorities of our entire school community.



FORM Choral and Instrumental Concerts

The FORM choral and instrumental concerts held on March 10 and March 17, 2026 were memorable evenings that showcased the talent, dedication, and hard work of our student musicians. Both performances reflected strong preparation, musical skill, and expressive artistry, with thoughtfully selected programs that kept audiences engaged throughout.

We are incredibly proud of our students and grateful to our music educators and FORM for their continued commitment to excellence, creating meaningful and inspiring experiences for our school community.

Office of Student Services

From Dr. Curley

Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)

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

- Advise the Districts on development of special education programs;
- Promote communication and programs within the community to encourage understanding, acceptance and inclusion;



- Provide informational forums to families, educators, students and professionals.

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

Thank you to those of you who completed the SEPAC Survey. Please join our next SEPAC Meeting on May 5th at 5:30pm via zoom to assist with planning for next year.

Collaborative Problem Solving

Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS) is an evidence based, trauma informed approach developed in the Department of Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital and taught worldwide through Think:Kids. CPS helps parents and caregivers better understand their child's behavior as a skill-building opportunity rather than a willful challenge. Whether a child faces social, emotional, or behavioral struggles, CPS offers a compassionate approach that empowers caregivers and supports families. To learn more about CPS, click [here](#).

Through generous funding from *The Goodness Web Foundation for Mental Health Philanthropy*, Think:Kids is now able to offer an on-demand course for parents and caregivers—**FREE** through August 2026! This course teaches families how to use CPS to solve everyday challenges collaboratively, helping children build essential life skills while improving family dynamics. This course offers caregivers the tools they need to:

- Set clear, realistic expectations and work together with their children to achieve them.
- Foster essential skills in children that prepare them for future success.
- Strengthen communication and build stronger relationships with their children.
- Understand why traditional discipline methods, like rewards and consequences, may not always lead to lasting behavior change.
- Identify and proactively address triggers for challenging behaviors.
- Solve problems with their children in a collaborative way.

This online course is self-paced, with three hours of practical and engaging instruction, and is available in both English and Spanish. If you are interested in signing up for the course, you may do so [here](#). For questions about the course, please contact enhill@MGB.org.

District Wellness Committee Update

Our District Wellness Committee met last week to brainstorm effective communication and implementation measures for the [District Wellness Program Policy](#). Many great initiatives and events currently take place in our schools that promote student and staff health and well-being. Just last week, the Junior High School hosted it's first Wellness Morning! [Read more](#).



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 **Mattapoisett, 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

Feedback Sought on High School Graduation Requirements

The Healey-Driscoll Administration [announced a new public survey](#) to help inform the creation and implementation of new high school graduation requirements. Students, families, educators, district leaders, businesses, and community members can [complete the survey online](#), which should take 10-12 minutes.



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		
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W
		1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	[1]	2*	3
6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23X
27	28	29	30	31	31					28	29	30
7/3 - Independence Day Observed					8/31 All Staff Report					[1] Prof. Dev. Day		
										*Opening Day - Gr. 1-12		
										E** - K First Day and Early Release		
										9/7 - Labor Day		
										X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release		
										20 days		
										20 days accrued		
October 2026					November 2026					December 2026		
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W
			1	2	2	[3]	4	5	6		1	2
5	6	7	8	9X	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23	23	24	25E	26	27	21	22	23E
26	27	28	29P	30P	30					28	29	30
10/12 - Columbus Day					[1] Prof. Dev. Day 11/11 - Veterans' Day					E - Early Release for Students & Teachers		
X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release					E - Early Release for Students & Teachers					12/24-12/31 Holiday Vacation		
P - Elementary - Early Release Parent Conf.					11/26-27 Thanksgiving Vacation							
21 days					17 days					17 days		
41 days accrued					58 days accrued					75 days accrued		
January 2027					February 2027					March 2027		
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W
				1	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	15	16	17X
18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24
25	26	27X	28	29						29	30	31
1/1 Holiday Vacation					2/15-2/20 School Vacation					X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release		
1/18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day												
X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release												
19 days					15 days					23 days		
94 days accrued					108 days accrued					132 days accrued		
April 2027					May 2027					June 2027		
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	7	8	9
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	14	15*	16
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	21	22	23**
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26X	27	28	28	29	30
26	27	28	29	30	31							
4/19-4/23 School Vacation					5/31 - Memorial Day					* 180th Day, Early Release		
17 days					X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release					**185th Day, Early Release		
149 days accrued					20 days					11 days		
					169 days accrued					180 days accrued		
Holidays - No School for Students and Teachers					Early Release Times (Codes X E)					Code P		
7/4 - Independence Day					ORR Jr. & Sr. High Schools					11:30 a.m.		
9/7 - Labor Day					Center & Old Hammondtown					12:20 p.m.		
10/12 - Columbus Day					Sippican School					12:20 p.m.		
11/11 - Veterans' Day					Rochester Memorial School					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 March, Marion, Mattapoisett and ORR school committees held their School Choice public hearings. Mattapoisett and ORR will continue to be school choice districts. Marion and ORR also

held their FY2027 Budget Hearings with the school committees approving the FY2027 Superintendent's Proposed Budget to be shared with town officials for vote later this spring. Mattapoisett and Rochester will hold their Budget Hearings next week. Additional highlights from these meetings include multiple grants from [Cape Cod 5](#) along with the [Mattapoisett Land Trust](#) and [Massachusetts Cultural Council](#). We are extremely grateful for the continued support of these agencies to our staff and students. [ORR also recognized JHS student Andrew Cody for his work in the Food Pantry!](#)



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

Upcoming meetings (subject to change):

April 7th - Mattapoisett School Committee

April 9th - Rochester School Committee

April 30th - ORR School Committee



Recent News

Students recently participated in Sippican's annual Marion Occupation Program (MOP) event and spent the day exploring career paths through conversations with industry professionals. Thank you to VASE for organizing the event! [Read more.](#)



Old Rochester Regional (ORR) School District and MA Superintendency Union #55 is proud to celebrate the success of three performances starring student musicians, vocalists and actors, including two March concerts presented by Friends of Old Rochester Music (FORM) and an ORR Drama Club production of "The Proposal." [Read more.](#)



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

Community Information and Flyers

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

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



ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5526

Voucher Date: 01/15/2026

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 01/15/2026 09:57:42 AM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$187,465.80 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 Bink

Katherine Duggan

Katherine Duggan

School Committee Chairperson

Mr. Joshua Trombly

School Committee Vice
Chairperson

Mrs. Robin Rounseville

School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$187,465.80
11	CIRCUIT BREAKER	\$0.00
		\$187,465.80

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5527

Voucher Date: 01/29/2026

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 01/29/2026 01:12:21 PM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$111,775.74 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

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

Howard Barber

[Signature]

Katherine Duggan

School Committee Chairperson

Mr. Joshua Trombly

School Committee Vice
Chairperson

Mrs. Robin Rounseville

School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$79,781.79
11	CIRCUIT BREAKER	\$29,494.95
26	FY26 FEDERAL GRANTS	\$2,499.00
		\$111,775.74

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5528

Voucher Date: 02/11/2026

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 02/11/2026 12:28:10 PM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$186,701.37 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 B. ...

[Signature]

Katherine Duggan

School Committee Chairperson

Mr. Joshua Trombly

School Committee Vice
Chairperson

Mrs. Robin Rounseville

School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$176,497.99
11	CIRCUIT BREAKER	\$1,044.08
40	ON BEHALF OF TOWN	\$9,159.30
		\$186,701.37

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5529

Voucher Date: 02/27/2026

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 02/27/2026 10:41:53 AM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$174,851.18 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

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

Howard Baul

Katherine Duggan

Katherine Duggan

School Committee Chairperson

Mr. Joshua Trombly

School Committee Vice
Chairperson

Mrs. Robin Rounseville

School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$145,356.23
11	CIRCUIT BREAKER	\$29,494.95
		\$174,851.18

ENCUMBRANCE

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5530 Voucher Date: 02/27/2026 Prepared By:

Printed: 02/27/2026 02:55:28 PM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$27,390.52 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

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





Katherine Duggan

School Committee Chairperson

Mr. Joshua Trombly

School Committee Vice
Chairperson

Mrs. Robin Rounseville

School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund	Amount
01 GENERAL FUND	\$27,390.52
	\$27,390.52

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 5531

Voucher Date: 03/11/2026

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 03/11/2026 11:36:39 AM

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$146,549.28 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 Bullock

Katherine Duggan

Katherine Duggan

School Committee Chairperson

Mr. Joshua Trombly

School Committee Vice
Chairperson

Mrs. Robin Rounseville

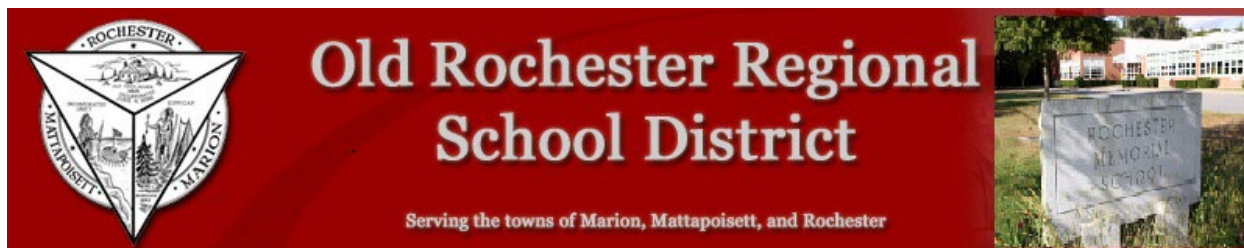
School Committee Member

Kirstin Jimenez

School Committee Member

ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$146,549.28
11	CIRCUIT BREAKER	\$0.00
		\$146,549.28



Facilities Director's Report: April 2026

Rochester Memorial Elementary School

- 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.

Sincerely,

Gene Jones

Director of Facilities

Office: 508-758-2772 x1954

Cell: 508-509-6763

E-Mail: eugenejones@oldrochester.org



Old Rochester Regional School District Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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

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

Directors Update:

- 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 ORRschoollmeals.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.

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 %				
May	2,866	30 %	5,812	62 %				
June	902	25 %	1,763	49 %				

Jan 2 snow days; February 5 snow days due to Blizzard week

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



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



Heidi J. Letendre, 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 March 25, 2026
Date: March 17, 2026

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.



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Charles West, Assistant Principal
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- 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



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- 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

6th Graders Presented at Joint School Committee



Fly Five Lesson as a Grade Level





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Susan Looney Math Professional Development



All School Assembly Crocodile River Company





READS Collaborative - www.readscollab.org
Quarterly Report Overview - February/March 2026

- READS Strategic Plan Priorities- 2024 - 2029 (www.readscollab.org)
 - Implement Programs that Prioritize the Health, Safety, and Sense of Belonging for All Students and Staff
 - READS Collaborative officially opened the new READS DHH School located at 399 Old Colony Rd. in Norton on January 5, 2026. It houses the PreK - Grade 3 DHH students. This new school building allows our students who are able and ready to access inclusion classrooms to do so at the J. C. Solmonese Elementary School just .4 miles away.
 - Develop a 5 Year Plan for Recruiting and Retaining Diverse Highly Qualified Staff that Provides for the Development of their Skills in Educating High Needs Students from All Backgrounds
 - READS Collaborative is in the process of onboarding Frontline Education as an additional source for recruitment and hiring of K-12 staff.
 - Review and Strengthen Curriculum and Improve the Fidelity of Specialized Supports
 - The READS Academy has purchased Renaissance Star Comprehensive Suite with SAEBRS along with Freckle. Together these added educational resources will provide additional support for academic and social-emotional / behavioral regulation data collection as well as additional support for differentiated practice and instruction in ELA and math. The Academy Leadership Team is in the process of onboarding this initiative.
 - Provide Programs and Services that are Cost-Effective, as well as High Quality and Evidence-Based, to Ensure that READS is the Preferred Provider for its 20 Member Districts.
 - The new DHH School secures the ability for READS DHH programming to continue to partner with Norton Public Schools for an additional 3 years ensuring our DHH students have access to a wide range of services from substantially separate to inclusive services based on their individual educational needs. This continues to make the READS DHH program a highly sought after educational setting for those students who are Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing.
- Fiscal Update
 - The FY27 budget along with tuition and fees will be presented to the Board of Directors on 2/5/2026
 - The recently received READS Collaborative report through the Massachusetts Education Collaborative Financial Review completed in 2025 has been received and shared with the Board. The findings were positive; supporting the strong financial controls in place and confirming that READS Collaborative is operating effectively.
- Legislation/Compliance
 - READS FY26 Annual Report and FY26 Financial Audit were submitted to DESE and sent to all member districts by January 1 as required. Both documents are posted on the website.
- Programmatic Information
 - READS Academy is maintaining enrollment at approximately 100 students. The DHH Program and School are maintaining their enrollment at approximately 50 students. READS DHH staff are currently supporting 13 children within Early Intervention

**OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENCY UNION #55
School Calendar 2026-2027**

July 2026					August 2026					September 2026				
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	4	E**
6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23X	24	25
27	28	29	30	31	31					28	29	30		
7/3 - Independence Day Observed					8/31 All Staff Report					[] Prof. Devl. Day E** - K First Day and Early Release 9/7 - Labor Day X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release 20 days 20 days accrued				
										*Opening Day - Gr. 1-12				
October 2026					November 2026					December 2026				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
			1	2	2	[3]	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
5	6	7	8	9X	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23E	24	25
19	20	21	22	23	23	24	25E	26	27	28	29	30	31	
26	27	28	29P	30P	30									
10/12- Columbus Day X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release P- Elementary - Early Release Parent Conf. 21 days 41 days accrued					[]-Prof. Devl. Day 11/11 - Veterans' Day E- Early Release for Students & Teachers 11/26-27 Thanksgiving Vacation 17 days 58 days accrued					E- Early Release for Students & Teachers 12/24-12/31 Holiday Vacation 17 days 75 days accrued				
January 2027					February 2027					March 2027				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	15	16	17X	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27X	28	29						29	30	31		
1/1 Holiday Vacation 1/18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release 19 days 94 days accrued					2/15-2/20 School Vacation 15 days 109 days accrued					X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release 23 days 132 days accrued				
April 2027					May 2027					June 2027				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	7	8	9	10	11
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	14	15*	16	17	18
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	21	22	23**	24	25
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26X	27	28	28	29	30		
26	27	28	29	30	31									
4/19-4/23 School Vacation 17 days 149 days accrued					5/31 - Memorial Day X - Prof. Dev. All Schools Early Release 20 days 169 days accrued					* 180th Day, Early Release 6/18 - Juneteenth (observed) **185th Day, Early Release 11 days 180 days accrued				

Holidays - No School for Students and Teachers

7/4 - Independence Day	Start & End Times:
9/7- Labor Day	ORR Jr. High School
10/12- Columbus Day	7:20 a.m. to 2:04 p.m.
11/11 - Veterans' Day	ORR High School
11/26 - Thanksgiving Day	7:30 to 2:03 p.m.
12/25- Christmas day	Center School & OHS
1/1- New Year's Day	8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.
1/18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Sippican School
2/15 - Presidents' Day	8:40 a.m. to 2:57 p.m.
4/19- Patriots' Day	Rochester Memorial School
5/31 - Memorial Day	8:40 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
6/19 - Juneteenth (observed 6/18)	

Early Release Times (Codes X E)

ORR Jr. & Sr. High Schools	11:30 a.m.	N/A
Center & Old Hammondtown	12:20 p.m.	11:30 a.m.
Sippican School	12:20 p.m.	11:30 a.m.
Rochester Memorial School	12:30 p.m.	12:30 p.m.

**Approved by the Joint School Committee
01.29.2026**

www.olderochester.org

Code P