

Rochester Board of Education

Roc BOE News



Board Goals Through June 2031

Increase the percentage of students in grades 3-8 who are proficient on the NYS ELA assessment from 19% to 34%.

All students reading by third grade - Increase the percentage of students proficient on the 3rd grade NYS ELA from 22% to 49%.

Increase the percentage of students in grades 3-8 who are proficient on the NYS Math assessment from 16% to 31%.

Increase the number of students earning 5 or more credits in 9th grade from 73% to 81%.

President's Desk

Welcome Back to School!

On behalf of the Rochester Board of Education, I am pleased to welcome our students, families, and staff to the 2026-27 school year.

The start of a new school year brings renewed opportunities for learning, growth, and achievement. It is a time to build meaningful relationships, set new goals, and create experiences that inspire our students to reach their fullest potential. The Board remains committed to supporting a learning environment where every student has the opportunity to succeed.

To our students, we wish you a successful and rewarding school year. We look forward to celebrating your accomplishments and sup-

porting you as you grow throughout the year.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our teachers, administrators, and support staff for your continued dedication to serving our students and families. We also thank our parents, guardians, and community partners for the important role you play in supporting student success. Together, we can help ensure every student has the resources, encouragement, and opportunities needed to thrive.

Welcome back, students, and best wishes for a wonderful school year!

With Gratitude,

Camille Simmons
Board President

Board Upcoming Public Meetings

Tuesday, September 8, 2026:
Speaker Forum (5:30pm)

Tuesday, September 15, 2026:
Work Session (6pm)

Thursday, September 24, 2026:
Business Meeting (6pm)

Tuesday, October 13, 2026:
Speaker Forum (5:30pm)

Wednesday, October 14, 2026:
Hispanic Heritage Recognition (5:30pm)

Tuesday, October 27, 2026:
Work Session (6pm)

Thursday, October 29, 2026:
Business Meeting (6pm)



Student Outcomes Focused Governance

Student Outcomes do not change until adult behaviors change.

What is progress monitoring?

Progress monitoring is a conversation between the Board and Superintendent that provides the Board the opportunity to evaluate the alignment between the community's vision (goals towards student outcomes) and the District's reality (current student performance/growth).

How is monitoring beneficial?

Effective monitoring helps the Board and Superintendent stay focused on student success in four key ways.

- **Lead by Example:** The Board models reflection and data-informed decision-making.
- **Clarify Strategies:** Progress data

helps guide timely adjustments.

- **Communicate Expectations:** By dedicating at least 50% of the Board's monthly meeting time to monitoring progress toward the District's vision, priorities are clearly communicated systemwide.
- **Formative Evaluation:** Ongoing feedback from the Board to the Superintendent supports continuous improvement beyond annual reviews.

During Monitoring

Monitoring is about understanding how reality matches the Board's adopted goals. Monitoring is never about offering advice or recommendations. The Board's curiosity is focused on what's true for students, not on what adults are/aren't doing. Monitoring questions

start with "who", "what", "why", and "how".

Example Questions:

- Who is not included in this data?
- What did we learn from this?
- Why was there no growth?
- How can the Board help?

Evaluating the Quality of Monitoring

After completing monitoring, the Board should identify a tool to help with reflecting on its performance.

For more information about the Student Outcomes Focused Governance (SOFG) framework, visit <https://www.rcsdk12.org/sofg>.

Board Responsibilities Facts

The seven elected Board members of the Rochester Board of Education ("Board") represent the citizens of the City of Rochester.

Sometimes community members may inform a Board member of an issue and expect them to take action on behalf of the Board or assume the Board member's views are of that of the Board. This is a misconception.

Based on Policy 2111, Board Member Authority, members of the Board are free to speak as individuals on issues related to school affairs, but when doing so are expected to communicate clearly that any such expression represents their own individual view and not the view of the Board. Members of the Board have legal authority of the District schools only when acting as a body, by majority vote, in a properly convened session. Majority vote is at least four Board members.

Info on Board Meetings

WHEN ARE PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS:

The Board of Education meets monthly the second Tuesday at 5:30pm for Speaker Forums, the third Tuesday at 6pm for Work Sessions, and the fourth Thursday at 6pm for Business Meetings. At least once a year, the Board meets the first Tuesday at 6pm for Audit Committee meetings. Periodically, the Board may convene for other public meetings. For the Board's most up to date calendar, visit www.rcsdk12.org/calendar.

WHERE ARE BOARD MEETINGS HELD:

Unless otherwise specified, all Board meetings can be accessed in-person at 131 West Broad Street, 14614 in Conference Room 3A/3B, or online at www.rcsdk12.org/youtube or www.rcsdk12.org/rcsdtv.

WHERE ARE BOARD MEETING MATERIALS:

All Board meeting agendas and materials can be found at www.rcsdk12.org/boarddocs. Meeting materials are typically available two days prior to the meeting. You can sign up to speak at www.rcsdk12.org/speaktotheboard.

Can Someone Please HELP ME?!

Families and staff sometimes contact the Board Office because they are unsure where to go.

While we are always happy to assist, the fastest way to resolve most concerns is to contact the appropriate District department directly.

Start Here:

RCSD Family Services: www.rcsdk12.org/familyservices

Let's Talk! – Customer Service Platform: www.rcsdk12.org/letstalk

Clear communication helps us resolve concerns quickly and stay focused on student success.

Looping Into Policy

www.rcsdk12.org/policyreview



We're on the Web!

www.rcsdk12.org/boe



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