

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

The first few weeks of school can be busy as we transition to new routines, build new friendships, make memories, learn, and have adventures. As we continue moving through the fall season, I look forward to seeing the continued blossoming of our students.

As the first marking period comes to a close on November 6th, this is an important time for reflection, celebration, and continued growth. Report cards are scheduled to be mailed mid-November. I encourage our families to review them with their children, celebrate progress, and partner with their school teams around the supports needed for continued success.

Strong attendance remains essential to student achievement. Every day in school matters. Our shared commitment to **#STRIVEFORFIVE** reminds us that students thrive when they are present, engaged, and connected to learning. I am ever so grateful for the resilience, tenacity, and

dedication of our students, families, staff, and community partners. Together, we can continue helping our children show up ready to learn.

Literacy also remains at the heart of every child's academic journey. Whether reading at home, engaging in classroom learning, or receiving encouragement from a caring adult, our students benefit when families and schools work together to build confidence, curiosity, and strong foundations for lifelong success.

Thank you for your continued commitment to our students. Together, our amazing students, families, staff, and community partners continue to make the Rochester City School District stronger.

With Gratitude,

Camille Simmons
Board President

Board Upcoming Public Meetings

Tuesday, November 10, 2026:
Speaker Forum (5:30pm)

Tuesday, November 17, 2026:
Work Session (6pm)

Thursday, November 19, 2026:
Business Meeting (6pm)

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

Tuesday, December 8 2026:
Audit Committee (6pm)

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

Thursday, December 17, 2026:
Business Meeting (6pm)



Student Outcomes Focused Governance

Student Outcomes do not change until adult behaviors change.

Have you been locked in with us on our progress? If not, no worries. Let's catch you up!

The Board has been engaging in progress monitoring, allowing the opportunity to evaluate the alignment between the community's vision, which creates Board goals (goals towards student outcomes), and the District's reality (current student performance/growth).

What does this look like in Board meetings?
At the end of the monthly Board Work Session Meeting agendas, there is a "Progress Monitoring Report" category. The Superintendent provides the Board with an attached report based on the agreed progress monitoring calendar. When watching the monthly Work Ses-

sion, you will notice that Commissioners do not ask questions during this section. Instead, after the Board Work Session, Commissioners have the opportunity to review the report and submit questions to the Superintendent before the upcoming Board Business Meeting.

During the monthly Board Business Meeting, the Board and Superintendent discuss the progress monitoring report. This discussion takes place under the "Superintendent's Report" category on the agenda. Monitoring is about understanding how reality matches the Board's adopted goals. The Board's curiosity is focused on what is true for students, not on what adults are or are not doing.

Since July 2025, the Board has worked towards intentionally choosing relevant agenda items and reducing meeting time in order to implement the adopted Stu-

dent Outcomes Focused Governance model. At least 50% of the Board's meetings will be dedicated to monitoring progress toward the community's vision (goals towards student outcomes) and the District's reality (current student performance/growth).

To stay updated with progress monitoring, view Board agendas for Work Sessions and Business Meetings at <http://www.rcsdk12.org/boarddocs> and/or tune into Board meetings at <https://www.youtube.com/@rochestercityschoololdistrict8327> or <http://www.rcsdk12.org/rcsdvtv>.

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

Board Responsibilities Facts

Based on Policy 2111.1, Board Member School and Department Visits, an individual Board member's rights are no greater or different from those of any other individual.

Unless specifically authorized to act on behalf of the Board of Education, a Board member has no right to make an official visit to the schools or departments for the purpose of inspecting the schools or departments, gathering information, or giving directions to any employee of the District. The Board member's observations shall solely be to inform the Board's understanding of progress toward goals and guardrails and be communicated through established governance channels.

The Board authorizes that each year the Board President may designate Board members as liaisons to particular schools for the purpose of official visits.

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/rcsdvtv.

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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