

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Eric Jay Rosser

October 29, 2026



ROCHESTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

TRANSITION TO NY INSPIRES

ONERCSD



OVERVIEW OF STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

- Established a College, Career, and Civic Readiness (CCCR) Goal (Board Goal)
- Created the Department of College, Career, and Civic Readiness (CCCR) in response to the Portrait of A Graduate and NY Inspires
  - Dedicated CCCR Counselor and strategic programming in all RCSD middle and high schools
- Expanding Post-Secondary Readiness Policy to include College, Career & Civic Readiness
- Developing a CCCR Exposure Index: Real-time tracking across access, participation, and outcomes for grades 6 through 12



MIDDLE SCHOOL → HIGH SCHOOL

- **Explore** career interests and student strengths using SchooLinks career interest surveys starting in grade six
- **Expose** students to high-skill, high-wage, and in-demand career opportunities through the strategic alignment of high school selection process and emerging diploma options
- **Embed** real-world learning, strengthening regional partnerships, structured work-based learning, internships, and comprehensive programs of study directly into continuous middle-to-high-school pipeline

1. ASSESSMENT STRATEGY & PORTFOLIOS

- **Traditional Shift:** Moving away from overreliance on minimum Regents passing scores and basic CDOS requirements toward rigorous capstones and performance defenses.
- **Assessment Of/For Learning:** Unpacking the "why" of each assessment (CFA vs. Benchmark) to inform instruction and guide Focus Groups aligned with the Portrait of a Graduate.

2. INSTRUCTIONAL MINDSET

- **PBL & Portfolio Transition:** Transitioning Tier 1 instruction from coverage (breadth) to student-centered Project-Based Learning (PBL) and portfolio defenses (depth).
- **Grading Strategies:** Evaluating grading practices to ensure marks accurately reflect prioritized standards mastery and authentic demonstration of learning.

3. EQUITABLE PROGRAM ACCESS

- **Expanding Access & Opportunity:** Expansion of Seal of Biliteracy and Seal of Civic Readiness, broadening district-wide participation in rigorous AP, IB, CTE and specialized pathways through the Virtual Academy of Rochester, intradistrict offerings, and improvements in High School Selection Process.
- **Proactive Growth & Readiness:** Strengthening foundational reading and math skills to empower student success, elevate multiple graduation pathways, and unlock advanced coursework.

4. STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATION & PLANNING

- **Counselors & Registrars:** Establishing clear, consistent messaging to ensure proactive course planning ahead of NYSED updates.
- **Timeline Alignment:** Aligning early advising cycles starting November 1 with emerging diploma options and student pathway choices.
- **Budget Priorities:** Building on success, capacity building for instructional shifts.

KEY ACTIONS

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NEXT STEPS

- **District Implementation Teams:** Cross-functional teams to anchor local vision and map the *NY Inspires* framework into the P-12+ scope and sequence
- **Operationalize the MS-to-HS Continuity Pipeline:** Explore, Expose, Embed – Personalized Learning Pathways
- **Scale Professional Development:** Leverage internal expertise to lead peer-to-peer PD on performance tasks, rubrics, and defense-of-learning models
- **Deploy the CCCR Exposure Index & Framework:** Track Access, Participation, and Outcomes for Grades 6–12 and Post-Secondary Readiness Framework



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HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

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DO THE RIGHT THING AWARD – QUINCI GRANDERSON

- Quinci is a fourth-grade student at School No. 22
- Nominated by Assistant Principal Michele White



GOLDEN APPLE AWARD – PAIGE PTUCHA

- Paige Ptucha, special education teacher at School No. 16
- Nominated by Teaching Assistant Serenity Brown



GOLDEN APPLE AWARD – TARA JONES

- Tara Jones, elementary teacher at School No. 54
- Nominated by Social Worker Jamie Hearn







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NATIONAL PRINCIPALS MONTH

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SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION WEEK



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POSTSECONDARY POSSIBILITIES MONTH

SchooLinks

- Career exploration (grades 6-12)
- Connect personal interests to future educational opportunities

Course Planning

- Targeted scheduling with counselors (grades 9-12)
- Match course selections to graduation requirements, college, career, or military goals



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POSTSECONDARY POSSIBILITIES MONTH

SUNY Free Application Weeks

- Apply to up to five SUNY schools (Oct. 19 – Nov. 2)
- No application fee

FAFSA Fests

- Free help with FAFSA and TAP applications
- Held at RCSD high schools and community centers



DIGITAL RESOURCES **SURVEY**

NYSED requirement to survey students and families about home technology and internet access

- Parents/guardians complete for grades K-6
- Grade 7-12 students complete in school
- Administration window: October 26 – January 15



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