



School Without Walls

480 Broadway
Rochester, NY 14607
(585) 546-6732
www.rcsdk12.org/SWW

Principal: Idonia Owens
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Parent Contact: Freda Miller
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FACTS

Uniforms: **No**
Busing: **RTS**
Student Enrollment: **265**
Foreign Languages: **Spanish**
Honors Classes: **Yes**
Tutoring/After School: **Yes**
Summer Programs: **No**
Advanced Placement (AP): **Yes**
English Language Learners: **Yes**
Health/Wellness Center: **No**
Extended/Expanded Day: **No**
Business/College/Faith Partnerships: **Various community connections for the purpose of community service**
Student-Parent School Compact Agreement required: **Yes**

WHAT EVERY FAMILY MUST KNOW

If you are an independent learner who prefers real-world projects and presenting your own work to classroom lectures, tests and letter grades, School Without Walls is for you. We are one of the oldest alternative schools in the country and award diplomas based on portfolios and senior projects rather than Regents exams. We use the community as a base for learning and expect students to perform community service as part of their work. We believe in developing the spirit, mind and body with a full range of physical education and sports opportunities. It should be noted that, due to NCAA requirements, we are not the best fit for a gifted student athlete.

In addition to completing a compact agreement, School Without Walls expects prospective 9th graders to visit for an in-person interview before selecting the school in the lottery.

SCHOOL FEATURES

- Emphasizes critical thinking and responsible citizenship with a focus of honoring all students' learning styles.
- Practices a learner-centered interdisciplinary philosophy in which the needs and interests of students, as well as the demands of society, form the school curriculum.
- Supports graduation-by-exhibition in which students must prove, through portfolios, project presentations, and oral defenses, that they are competent and ready to enter college or the world of work.
- Encourages students to pursue independent study projects and classes at colleges.
- Requires students to give back to the community through 2.5 hours of volunteer service each week.
- Offers students the opportunity to earn the Certificate of Employability, which is endorsed by employers throughout Rochester who consider it when making hiring decisions.
- Provides opportunities for all students to be involved in the management of the school and in the decision-making and problem-solving of important schoolwide issues.
- Requires all students to have an advisor who conducts personal student conferences every two weeks.