

The Rochester Scholar



*A Publication of the Rochester Board of Education
Volume 1—Premier Issue*

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Rochester Scholar, the Board of Education's Newsletter. This publication will provide you with information on the happenings of the Board and pertinent information on the Educational successes of the Rochester City School District.

I am excited about this school year and the great opportunity to have significant impact on the lives of our 25 thousand plus students in our District!

A special welcome to Superintendent Terry Dade who begins his first school-year as the leader of the RCSD. My colleagues on the Board of Education and I are confident that he will transform the district in the areas of student performance, parent and student engagement, a reduction in chronic absenteeism, and a continued increased in the graduation rate.

To our students, I extend my best wishes for a great year filled with wonderful opportunities for learning, new friends, and memories to last a life-time!

To our teachers and staff, my sincerest gratitude for all you do to educate our children and create the best atmosphere for learning throughout the year.

And finally to our parents and community, thank you for your investment and involvement in our children. We are blessed to have you as partners in ensuring your child receives the best education to prepare them for their future.

Sincerely,

Van Henri White
President



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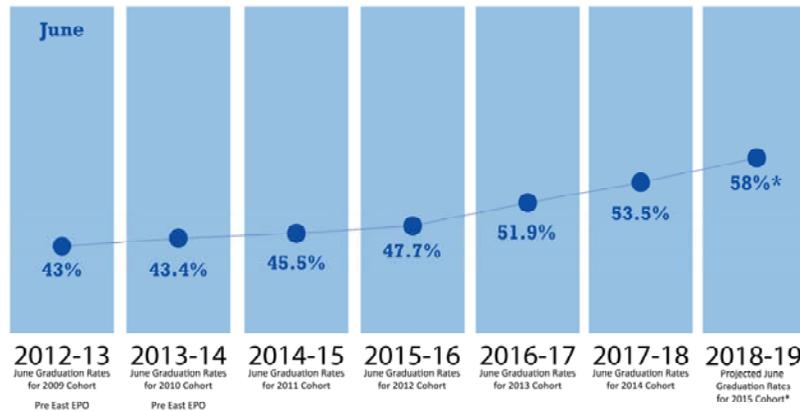
IMPORTANT DATES

- 11/5 Committee of the Whole—Policy
- 11/7 Business Meeting
- 11/12 Committee of the Whole—Finance
- 11/19 Committee of the Whole—Community and Inter-Governmental Relations
- 11/21 Business Meeting
- 11/23 National Family Engagement Day

GRADUATION RATES CONTINUE TO CLIMB



RCSD Graduation Rates Over the Years



*Results not confirmed by NYSED

RCSD Graduation rates rose to a 12 year high of 62.6% and East High School's rate increased to 68%.

I want to extend my sincerest gratitude to the District leadership, staff, and countless people in transforming this District and changing the lives of students and families throughout this community.

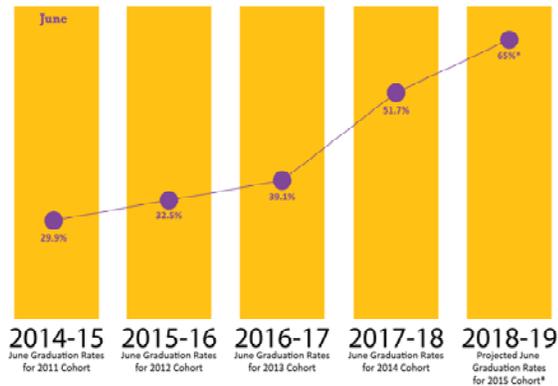
This is not a celebration story, as we still have great strides to make. Rather, this is an acknowledgement of the great work that has taken place to get us to this milestone.

To my colleagues on the Board of Education, thank you for your continued leadership and dedication to the children and staff in this District. This is a team effort, and the results are a result of a Board that is working hard to strengthen as a team to achieve gains such as the growth in the graduation rate.

In order to continue this trajectory, we must boldly address the issues that impact our children as a unified community targeting the same goal.



East Graduation Rates Over the Years

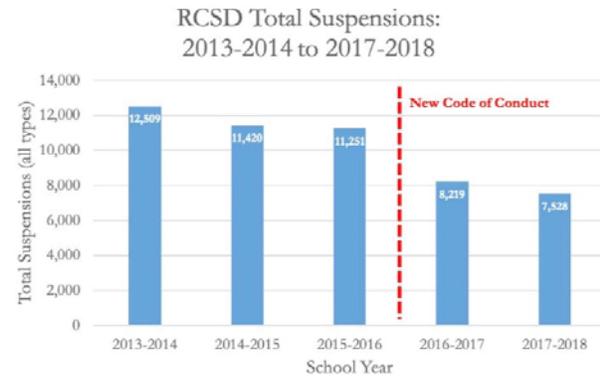


East EPO Established in 2018 for the 2012 cohort.
*Results not confirmed by NYSED

STUDENT SUSPENSION RATES DROP

The student suspension rate has had a marked decline in the last two years, dropping from 11,251 suspensions in the 2015-16 school year to 7,528 suspensions last year.

Increased implementation of social-emotional supports; greater opportunities for students to engage in alternative to suspension programs; the establishment of Help Zones, on-going Professional Development, and maintenance of



quality Student Support Services are attributes of this decrease.

Great work to all involved in achieving this reduction.

Increased implementation of social-emotional supports are attributes of this decrease in Student Suspensions.

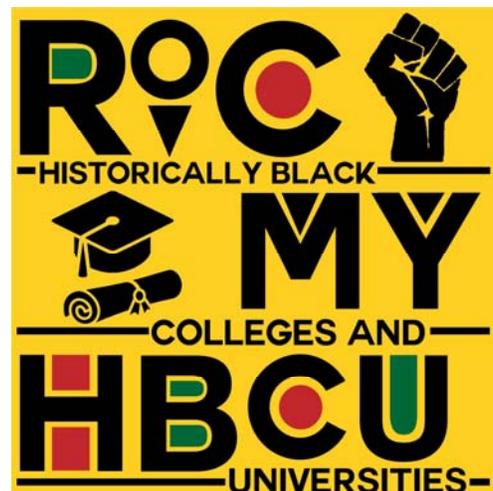
HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES COLLEGE FAIR RETURNS TO ROCHESTER

The HBCU College Fair returns for the sixth consecutive year on November 18th. Hundreds of students from Monroe County converge at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center and attend workshops that focus on preparing for college, how to pay for college, and a career tour zone with participating area organizations.

A *College Readiness and Parent Workshop* is offered as a pre-event to help facilitate the college navigation process for all involved.

Last year, 1,500 Students were in attendance and 308 were accepted to a participating HBCU through on-site admissions. A total of \$2,522,840 in scholarships were also awarded.

This year, the HBCU Committee has taken the program *on the road* visiting all high schools, meeting with 11th and 12th grade classes, coordinating with counselors, and conducting information sessions and college readiness workshops.




Hispanic Heritage Celebration
Muchos Países, One Voice



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH: BOARD RECOGNIZES SCHOLARS AND DEDICATED COMMUNITY MEMBERS

The Rochester Board of Education commemorated Hispanic Heritage Month by honoring students who have demonstrated exemplary scholarship, community service, and leadership. 29 Scholars were recognized for their academic achievement of maintaining a grade point average of 4.0 and higher.

Special Awards were presented to the following students in honor of their unique achievements and contributions:

Roberto Clemente Student Award:

Wilfredo Santana, Roberto Clemente School #8

Volunteer Youth Award:

Jarenid Narvaez, James Monroe High School

Academic Excellence Achievement Award:

Dariel Ravelo-Ramos, School of the Arts

The Board of Education paid tribute to the following individuals for their dedication of time and talent to the District and to the Rochester community:

Education Volunteer Award:

David Benitez, Rochester Institute of Technology

Community Service Award:

**Hector Arguinzoni, Air Personality,
El Poder Radio Station FM 97.1**

BOARD MEMBERS

Van Henri White, President
Board Liaison to: Schools 17, 43, 50, 54, 57, Edison Career and Technical High School, East High School Upper School, East High School Lower School, and Youth and Justice Program

Cynthia Elliott, Vice President
Board Liaison to: Schools 3, 9, 22, Leadership Academy for Young Men, Rochester International Academy, Vanguard Collegiate High School, and Integrated Arts and Technology High School

Judith Davis, Commissioner
Board Liaison to: Schools 5, 34, 39, and 44; Joseph C. Wilson Foundation Academy, Northeast College High School and Northwest Junior High School at the Douglass campus, and LyncX Academy.

Dr. Elizabeth Hallmark, Commissioner
Board Liaison to: Schools 8, 12, 15, 35, 53, 58, School of the Arts, North S.T.A.R. Program

Beatriz LeBron, Commissioner
Board Liaison to: Schools 2, 7, 10, 16, 19, 29, James Monroe High School, Young Mothers and Interim Health Academy, Home Hospital Instruction Program, Bilingual Language Literacy Academy and All City High School Program

Willa Powell, Commissioner
Board Liaison to: Schools 23, 25, 28, 33, 45, 46, 52, P-Tech High School Program, School Without Walls

Natalie Sheppard, Commissioner
Board Liaison to: Schools 4, 20, RISE Community School (formerly 41), 42, Rochester Early College International High School, OACES Program, Joseph C. Wilson Magnet High School, and Rochester Early Childhood Education Center

Rochester City School District

Board of Education

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