

- ◆ No unregistered speaker may address the Board and no individual may speak on behalf of a registered speaker.
- ◆ Individuals who do not reside within the City of Rochester do not have the privilege of speaking at meetings, except when exception is granted by the chair of the meeting at which they are requesting to speak.
- ◆ Subject to having received appropriate warnings a speaker who violates (Policy 2300 Board By-Laws Section K) by, for example, disrupting the orderly conduct of the meeting or engaging in actions or making statements that are intended to place an individual in fear or cause emotional harm, threatening, stalking or seeking to coerce or compel a person to do something against their will, or violating a time limit, may be requested to leave the Board meeting.

**Q: What happens in Executive Session?**

- ◆ The Open Meetings Law of New York State places limits on what can be discussed in Executive Session. Topics are usually confined to legal matters, negotiations, and confidential personnel items where only members of the Board, key staff members invited by the Superintendent, and such other individuals as the Board may chose, may be present.

**Q: How to become a Board Committee Representative?**

Parents/Legal Guardians of a current RCSD student in Prek-12th grade or an RCSD students in grades 8th -12th grade interested in becoming a Board Committee Representative may apply here <https://www.rcsdk12.org/boerep>

**Q: How to view Board Meetings?**

All meetings are held at Central Administrative Offices, 131 West Broad Street, Conference Room 3A/B and can be viewed on the District’s website, Facebook and YouTube pages, [www.rcsdk12.org/meetings](http://www.rcsdk12.org/meetings). You may also view the meeting agenda and the BOE Upcoming Events using this link <http://www.rcsdk12.org/boarddocs> and QR Code.



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RCSDNYS>

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/@rochestercityschooldistrict8327](http://www.youtube.com/@rochestercityschooldistrict8327)



**Community Guide for School Board Meetings**

**Rochester City School District Board Members**

- Camille Simmons, *Board President*
- Amy Maloy, *Vice President*
- Cynthia Elliott, *Commissioner*
- Jaqueline D. Griffin, *Commissioner*
- Beatriz LeBron-Harris, *Commissioner*
- James Patterson, *Commissioner*
- Isaiah Santiago, *Commissioner*

**District Administration**

- Dr. Demario Strickland, *Interim Superintendent*
- Ruth Turner, *Deputy Superintendent*
- Lashara Evans, *Chief of Staff*

Board of Education  
 Central Administrative Offices  
 131 West Broad Street  
 Rochester, NY 14614  
 Phone: (585) 262-852

<https://www.rcsdk12.org/boe>  
[boardofeducation@rcsdk12.org](mailto:boardofeducation@rcsdk12.org)

## Welcome to the Rochester Board of Education

Welcome students, parents, community members and staff. This brochure is designed to be a reference for those attending Board meetings and seeking to learn more about the Board of Education.

### Q: What are the Responsibilities of the Rochester Board of Education

The Board of Education is a seven member board elected by the citizens of the City of Rochester to direct and oversee the operations of the City School District. Board Commissioners serve four-year terms.

Among the duties of the Rochester Board of Education are the following:

- ◆ Setting the strategic direction of the District through policy development and adoption;
- ◆ Appointing the Superintendent of Schools;
- ◆ Promoting an alliance of teachers, administrators, students, parents, citizens government, and community resources;
- ◆ Working to secure adequate resources for maximizing student learning;
- ◆ Ensuring the wise use of community educational assets and resources;
- ◆ Serving on Board committees, addressing the areas of Audit, Community & Intergovernmental Relations, Equity in Student Achievement, Finance & Resource Allocation, Human Capital, and Policy Development.
- ◆ Representing the best interests of the citizens of the City of Rochester through effective leadership.

## Types of School Board Meetings

### Committee Meetings:

Board of Education standing committees meets on most Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. to consider items for discussion by the full Board. The Board meets as a Committee of the Whole with one Commissioner serving as Chair.

### Business Meetings:

The Board of Education convenes once a month on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. to convene and make decisions on matters that are crucial to the organization's governance and strategic direction.

### Public Hearing:

The Board of Education invites students, parents, staff and city residents to express their views, opinions, or concerns on a particular issue or proposal. These hearings are typically held to gather input from affected city residents and stakeholders before making decisions on matters that could impact the community.

### Special Meeting and Board Work Session:

The Board of Education meets on occasion to address specific urgent matters or to delve deeply into particular issues that require discussion. City residents may address the Board at a Special Meeting only on agenda topics.

## Commonly Asked Questions

### Q: Will I have an opportunity to address the Board?

- ◆ Only individuals who have registered to speak by noon the day of the meeting may address the Board.
- ◆ Speakers who wish to register are directed to contact the Office of the Board of Education by emailing [boardofeducation@rcsdk12.org](mailto:boardofeducation@rcsdk12.org) and provide their name, telephone number, home address, their affiliation to the Rochester City School District, and the topic on which they wish to speak. For Board Committee meetings and Special Meetings, speakers shall address only topics related to the meeting agenda.

- ◆ Registered individuals are able to speak during the time allotted on the agenda “Speakers Addressing the Board of Education.
- ◆ Speakers will be heard in the order of students, parents, city residents, and staff in the order of registration.
- ◆ Written comments are also welcome and can sent to [boardofeducation@rcsdk12.org](mailto:boardofeducation@rcsdk12.org)

### Q: Are there any rules regarding public comment?

- ◆ Each registered speaker may address the Board for up to three (3) minutes. Speakers utilizing translators, including American Sign Language, may address the Board up to six (6) minutes; the six (6) minutes include up to three (3) minutes for speaker comments and the remaining minutes for translation.