



# Why Choose School 8: Essential Elements Highlights

# **Engaging Enrichment with an Academic Focus**

As an EL Education school, School 8 provides enrichment opportunities through the Expedition Model of curricular instruction. Expeditions are lengthy units of study in which students become experts on specific topics through authentic learning opportunities, such as:

**Expedition Kick-off & Culmination** – Each expedition begins with an engaging kick-off experience, designed to hook students into the topic of study. Students also have an opportunity at the end of their expedition to showcase their learning during culminating celebrations. RC8 hosts two Exhibition Nights designed for this purpose.

**Field Studies** – Instead of the typical field trip, RC8 students participate in trips into the community with an authentic purpose intended to enhance their learning about a particular topic. Some recent field study locations have been the Rochester Museum and Science Center, The Strong National Museum of Play, Ganondagan State Historic Site, Mt. Hope Cemetery, and the National Warplane Museum in Geneseo.

**Visiting Experts** – Students and staff recognize the importance of relying on those with the most knowledge of a topic to augment their learning to the next level. Expedition experts in the past have included local beekeepers, the ZooMobile, newspaper journalists, and historical impersonators, among others.

**Service Learning** – Students and staff value the impact that true learning can have on the community. Service learning projects give students a chance to apply their learning to issues facing the school community and the community as a whole. From environmental work to community activism, Service Learning gives purpose to the academic work students do.

Case Studies – Within each learning expedition, there are embedded case studies that require students to dive deeper into an aspect of the topic they are studying. This allows students to become experts in their own right, and gives them the confidence to share their learning with others.





# **Community Partners**

School 8 works with the following community partners to enrich the educational experiences of its students, while continuing the strong commitment to academic excellence.

#### **AmeriCorps**

 Provides a variety of services to students, including youth development, social development and recreation, and educational support

#### **Center for Youth**

 Provides emotional supports and behavioral instruction to students

## **Hillside Work Scholarship**

 Provides 7th & 8th grade students skills for college and career readiness

#### **Pathways to Peace**

 Pathways to Peace was initiated as part of a comprehensive effort to safeguard the lives of at-risk youth, diffuse potentially violent situations, and help them get on a track to a better life

### **Rochester Rotary**

- School 8 has been Rochester Rotary's adopted School since 1994. The combined efforts of the faculty and staff of Roberto Clemente School 8 and volunteers from the Rochester Rotary Club make up a unique partnership that is determined to improve the future of our community's young people
- Provides academic and social supports to students throughout the school day

#### The **SMILE**mobile

Provides dental services to students

## **St. Thomas Episcopal Church**

Provides academic supports to students during the school day

#### **YMCA**

• Provides wrap-around care services for students, including a hot meal and transportation home (from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.)

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