



More & Better  
Learning Time

## FACT SHEET

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.  
SCHOOL NO. 9

Focus

Community-based, wrap-around services and STEM  
(Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)



## Why Choose School 9: Essential Elements Highlights

### Engaging Enrichment

Student schedules include exciting enrichment electives beyond traditional Rochester City School District classes. Sample enrichment classes include:

**American Sign Language** — introduces communication in ASL. Other topics covered include deaf culture, the comparison of languages, and an introduction to becoming bilingual and/or multilingual.

**Borinqueen Dance** — students learn about the Latin culture and fusion of African, Taino-Arawak, and Spanish influences on Caribbean folkloric and Modern Latin dance

**Cooking** — covers the basics of cooking, including food preparation, kitchen safety measurement, and baking techniques

**Crochet for a Cause** — students gain the basics of crocheting while completing a final project to be given to a Rochester area organization in need

**Dance Movement** — students learn the basic structure and elements of dance, and self and cultural expressions through modern, beginner ballet, contemporary, cultural movement and hip hop

**Explorers' Club** — students learn to observe and think scientifically about the world around them

**Game Star Mechanic** — students plan and create original games with an easy-to-use design tool

**Gym Anatomy** — students learn about the parts of anatomy used in gym class, and they exercise and play sports every day

**Karate** — students can improve their physical and mental health, build self-esteem, strengthen self-confidence, and improve academic performance by raising levels of energy, focus, and concentration, and learn and master self-defense techniques

**MLK Earthquake Steppers** — helps build teamwork skills, self-esteem, discipline, determination, and leadership

**MLK in the News** — students conduct online research to find amazing, unbelievable, or funny news stories from around the world. They write a summary of the story and edit the summary using iMovies to create their own segment of the news, which is broadcast to the entire school.

**MLK Newspaper** — helps promote the art of writing, through the re-telling of fairy tales and rhymes, providing writing prompts, using local newspapers, creating cards, sharing weekend and life stories, and song listening and lyric writing

**Music Production** — students learn how to produce and create tracks using a variety of recorded and virtual instruments, and they write and record lyrics to create their own original songs including several music genres

**Science Club** — explores the world of science through hands-on projects and experiments

**Spanish** — covers basic Spanish conversational and grammar skills, as well as different aspects of the different Spanish cultures from various Spanish-speaking regions (e.g., Spain, Caribbean, South America, and Central America)

**STEM** — focus is on inquiry through problem-based learning in all content areas. Students accomplish complex tasks such as building an array of bridges to support multiple weights, constructing towers that can withstand the push of wind and the pull of gravity, and designing water wheels that can move with the flow of water.

**Swimming** — students swim every day, and have the opportunity to practice and fine-tune basic swimming skills

**Visual Arts** — students create art through various forms such as sculptures, graphics, comics, and murals

*"We are very happy with the way the program has been running at the school. We are so thrilled about the success of the program that we would love to turn the kindergarten group into a year-round troop."*

Silvia Widish  
Girl Scouts of Western New York

## TIME Collaborative School

- School 9 participates as a TIME Collaborative school with the National Center for Time & Learning (NCTL) to provide high-quality learning time, within an expanded school day.
- As a TIME Collaborative school, School 9 offers students an additional 300 hours of school time per year (an additional 40 to 50 minutes of daily instructional time) – the equivalent of eight more weeks of school than the typical school year. (The expanded school day is from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.)
- The school strives to achieve NCTL's Seven Essential Elements: 1) Focused school-wide priorities; 2) Rigorous academics; 3) Differentiated supports; 4) Frequent data cycles; 5) Targeted teacher development; 6) Engaging enrichment; and 7) Enhanced school culture.

NATIONAL CENTER ON  
**TIME & LEARNING**

## Community Partners

School 9 works with community partners to enrich the educational experiences of its students, while continuing the strong commitment to academic excellence.

**Baden Street Settlement**

**Borinquen Dance**

**Girl Scouts of Western New York**

**IBERO**

**Nazareth College / Mercier Literacy**

*"It's been an absolute pleasure to work at School No. 9. The children are full of energy and enthusiasm about the clubs! It was of great satisfaction to see them learn each week a new concept, researching, writing, reporting, and embellishing their documents."*

Rachel Serrano  
IBERO partner and Pastoral Administrator  
River Citychurch

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