

RCSD ACADEMIC PLAN UPDATES

Dr. Shelley Jallow
New York State Monitor
November 8, 2022



Statutory Authority of the Rochester State Monitor

Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2020 requires the Commissioner to appoint a Monitor to the Rochester City School District to provide oversight, guidance and technical assistance related to the academic and fiscal policies, practices, programs and decisions of the District, the Board of Education, and the Superintendent.

On May 26, 2020, I was appointed by Interim Commissioner Tahoe to be the monitor of the Rochester City School District.

On August 6, 2021, Commissioner Betty Rosa informed the RCSD of additional conditions for spending CRSSA and ARP funding. Those conditions included authorizing the State Monitor to approve CRSSA and ARP spending plans prior to submission to NYSED for final approval.

Responsibilities of The Monitor

- Serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Board.
- Assist the Board in adopting a conflict of interest policy that ensures board members and administrators act in the District's best interest.
- Work with the Board to develop a proposed academic improvement plan and proposed financial plan for the District no later than November 1, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year and the four subsequent school years.
- Beginning with the 2021-22 school year budget, ensure that the budget is balanced and consistent with the District's long-term financial plan.

Responsibilities of The Monitor

- Provide semi-annual reports on the academic, fiscal, and operational status of the District.
- Assist in resolving any disputes and conflicts between the Superintendent and the Board and among members of the Board.
- Authority to disapprove travel outside the State paid for by the District;
- Recommend cost saving measures including, but not limited to, shared service agreements; and;
- Notify the Board in writing regarding violations of the academic and/or financial plan. .
- Beginning with the 2021-22 school year budget, ensure that the budget is balanced and consistent with the District's long-term financial plan.

RCSD Academic Plan

Table 5

Turn Around Leadership

Table 7

Talent Development

Table 9

Instructional Transformation

Table 11

Culture Shift

Table 13

Systems, Resources, and Structures

RCSD Academic Plan Update

Total Recommendations

108

Current

35

Modified

34

Removed

16

New

23

Table 5 Turn Around Leadership

Current

8

Modified

5

Removed

2

New

4

- Board will vote to approve a permanent superintendent by July 1, 2023.
- Board approves new RCSD high school graduation requirements more aligned to college and career readiness for implementation starting with the 2025 cohort.
- Board will submit approved FMP facilities and educational plans to SED by January 31, 2023.
- Board will receive a draft of a new RCSD Strategic Plan by May 31, 2023 and will vote on a final draft of the new 5-year RCSD Strategic Plan no later than October 31, 2023.

Table 7: Recommendations for Talent Development

Current

3

Modified

5

Removed

3

New

0

By December 30, 2020, the Deputy of Operations and Systems Innovation shall establish a task force to study 1) District geographic zone configurations and 2) District school zone configurations.

2. By April 15, 2021, the Task Force shall share new zone configurations recommendations.

3. By May 2022, funding for Phase I of a Board-approved implementation plan to change the geographic configuration and the staffing of RCSD Zones shall be included in the District budget. (M)

Establish Zone Offices led by Chiefs of Schools with staff to support each zone. **Elevate the authority and responsibilities of the Chiefs of Schools. The staff should minimally include staff developers for math, ELA, science, social studies, special education, English as a new language/bilingual education, and data beginning SY23/24.**

Table 9, Instructional Transformation

Current	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify specific research and evidence-based transition strategies to be systemically used on an annual basis for grade 8 and grade 9 students beginning immediately.
Modified	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve summer school programming, beginning summer 2023, through the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Earlier communication to staff and families of detailed summer school programming○ At least ten hours of staff training on instructional components and expectations, progress monitoring○ A mandated scope and sequence○ At least ten hours of training for summer school administrators on curriculum, program design, progress monitoring, etc.○ Greater focus on standards○ Reduced costs
Removed	4	
New	18	

Table 9, Instructional Transformation

Current

12

- Create, implement and budget a city-wide, district led early literacy and early numeracy initiative for RCSD families with children ages 0 - 5 beginning with a first draft March 1, 2023 and full implementation no later than October 31, 2023.

Modified

16

- Restore the community school model with fidelity throughout the district, with evidence of the 4 pillars of the community school model. The restoration plan should be implemented with training, funding and benchmarks for accountability beginning Fall 2023 and should continue until at least 70% of all school are following the model within the next 3 years.

Removed

4

New

18

- Coordinators should submit a monthly report, structured around the 4 pillars, to chiefs, with a copy to the state monitor.
- Coordinators should be transferred from schools that consistently do not adhere to the guidelines and standards of the research-based community school model.

Table 9, Instructional Transformation

Current	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gather feedback from SBMT, Receivership Principals, Receivership chiefs to identify the largest district created barriers preventing Receivership schools from making demonstrable improvements, i.e. student placement, special education practices, transportation, staffing, etc. Once identified, district leadership in collaboration with chiefs supervising Receivership schools will implement a plan of action for district leadership to facilitate removal of identified barriers throughout the district.
12	
Modified	
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish a district program for identification and support of under-credited lower classmen high school student
Removed	
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase graduation requirements to better align with the knowledge, skills and attributes for a RCSD graduate to be fully prepared for college and career.
New	
18	

Table 11, Culture Shift

Current

3

Modified

1

Removed

1

New

0

Continue the process of increasing membership in the PAC. Increase visibility and partnership between PAC, District leadership, and the schools.

1. The Board shall approve bylaws for the PAC by March 1, 2021.

2. By March 15, 2021, October 31, 2023 guidelines for facilitating a Parent Teachers Organization (PTO) or a Parent Teachers Association (PTA) shall be forwarded to principals and Chiefs. Each school in the district shall have an active PTO or PTA and SEPTA where appropriate.

3. The Superintendent shall have regularly scheduled PAC meetings beginning April 1, 2021.

The Superintendent or designee will meet with the Executive Steering Committee of School-Based Planning Teams quarterly to exchange information on needs and opportunities to improve outcomes for RCSD students.

Table 13, Systems, Resources, and Structures

Current

9

Modified

7

Removed

6

New

1

Actions should be taken to incorporate a phase in of professional learning communities (PLC) in the master schedules of every RCSD school and program. The PLC initiative should be implemented using research-based models like Dufour, Slegers, etc. Efforts to accomplish this task should be documented in quarterly reports beginning January 2023.

Violations

Current

Academic

7

Financial

3

Proposed

Academic

14

Financial

5