

Welcome!



The State Of Our Schools • February 6, 2013



High Expectations



The State Of Our Schools

Rochester City School District • Bolgen Vargas, Superintendent of Schools • February 6, 2013

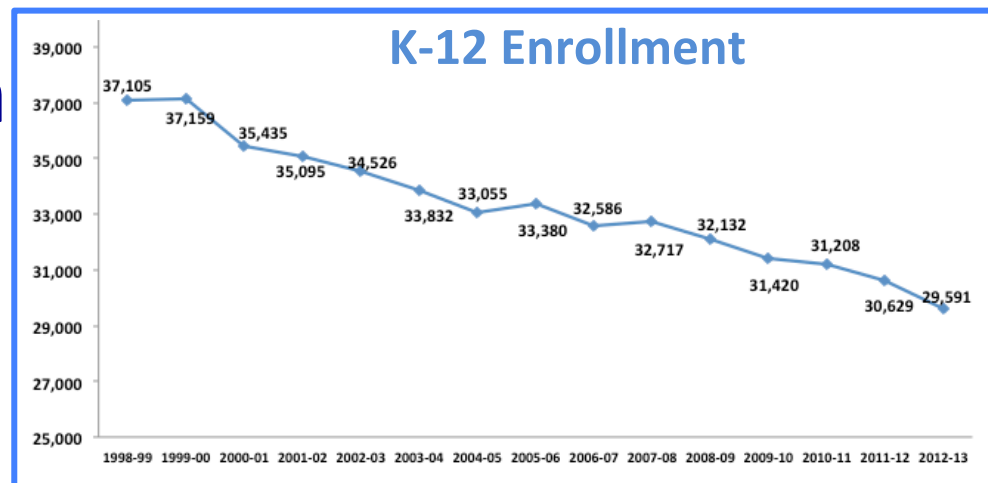
We Cannot Succeed Alone

THANK

YOU!

Our District Faces Major Challenges

- 55 schools in urgent need of improvement
- Lowest test scores in the state
- 48 percent graduation rate
- These numbers will get worse before they get better
- Projected budget gap of \$50.2 million in 2013-2014
- Declining enrollment



Yes, We Will Succeed!



By creating a District that is highly disciplined and highly accountable, with high expectations for adults, students and the community

Three Immediate, Essential Tasks

- Improving student achievement
- Allocating resources more efficiently
- Engaging families and the community



Improving Student Achievement

- More instructional time and support
 - Expanded day in 10 schools next year
- Reading by third grade
 - We will add resources for K-3 instruction
- Common core curriculum
 - Fully implemented next year
- Making neighborhood schools a first choice for families
 - Rigorous curriculum, art, music, P.E., extra-curricular activities and support
- Requiring attendance, behavior, and effort
 - Ongoing effort with community partners, families, staff
 - We will ensure safety and set high expectations for students



Allocating Resources More Efficiently

- Close the gap while funding our priorities
 - Expanded learning
 - Reading by third grade
 - Implementing the common core curriculum
 - Improved attendance
 - Strengthening neighborhood schools
 - Facilities Modernization Plan
- Find efficiencies
 - Health, transportation, facility, and administrative costs
- Ask the community for input
- Maintain financial stability, sustainability with a well-planned process

Engaging Families and Community

- Communication and customer service

- At least five public meetings per month
- Email responses within 48 hours
- Simplifying student registration
- Parent parking at Central Office



- Soliciting family involvement

- ParentConnect software
- Recruiting parent and father groups
- Parent survey this year



- Welcoming community partners

- Business, higher education, non-profit and faith communities

Our Long-Term Goals

- **Attendance** 95% District-wide
- **Reading** 90% proficiency by third grade
- **Achievement** More than 60% of students in grades 3-8 meet or exceed state growth targets
- **Graduation** 70% of students get a diploma
- **School quality** Zero schools on Priority list

Change is Starting to Happen

- We have a new leadership team
- District finances are under control
- We have accurate data to make informed management decisions
- Teachers and administrator reviews emphasize accountability
- Common core curriculum will be in place next year
- Facilities Modernization Plan is moving forward
- 9 schools removed from Priority list in 18 months
- Thousands of students are reading at home
- Community is engaged in reducing truancy
- Leading national funders support our approach



Our Schools Are Ready

- Our teachers, administrators and staff are responding to the call to have a disciplined, accountable District with high expectations
 - APPR
- Our staffs are working together to offer more students an expanded day
- The entire District is focused on instruction
 - Common core curriculum



Our Children Are Ready to Meet High Expectations

If we work together—with common purpose and relentless focus—Rochester can become the best place in urban America to teach, work in, and attend a school. All of our schools will be lighthouses for kids in their neighborhoods. Parents will be proud to send their children to Rochester schools.

A group of diverse children, including boys and girls of various ethnicities, are smiling and waving. They are wearing colorful clothing, such as a green shirt and a pink and white patterned shirt. The background is slightly blurred, suggesting an indoor setting like a classroom or school hallway.

Balgenberg



***Enjoy your evening-
and READ!***

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