

Glossary of Useful Terms and Acronyms

21st Century Community Learning

Program established by Congress to award grants to rural and inner-city public schools. Program supports the creation of community learning centers that provide academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for children, particularly students who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools. The program helps students meet state and local student standards in core academic subjects.

Actuals

The amount the District has spent in a given period as opposed to original budget estimates.

Adopted Budget

The annual financial plan, listing estimated revenues and expenditures for a fiscal year, and is formally adopted by the Board of Education. Before the budget is adopted, it is known as the Proposed Budget.

Advanced Course Access

New York Equity Coalition that invests in infrastructure that supports more access to advanced coursework.

Amended Budget

A budget with adjustments to the original budget that has been adopted by the Board of Education.

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP)

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (H.R. 1319) into law. The \$1.9 trillion package, based on President Biden's American Rescue Plan, is intended to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, including the public health and economic impacts.

Appropriation

A sum of money or total of assets devoted to a special purpose.

Average Daily Attendance (ADA)

The total days of attendance for a period divided by the number of days in which school is in session.

Balanced Budget

A budget in which income/revenues equal expenses.

Balancing Act

Online budget simulator designed to give members of the community a voice in the District's decision-making process.

Basic Educational Data System (BEDS)

System for collecting district/school student enrollment and staff counts set up by the New York State Education Department. The data is then submitted to the State Education Department.

Bilingual Education

Programs designed to help students who have limited English proficiency (primarily geared towards Spanish and/or Latin American dialects).

Bond Anticipation Note

A note which may be redeemed using the proceeds from the future sale of a serial bond. A note is a short-term borrowing instrument, usually requiring repayment within one year of issuance.

Board of Regents

New York State Education Established body that is responsible for the general supervision of all educational activities within the State.

Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) of New York State

BOCES have been partnering with school districts for 70 years to help meet students' evolving educational needs through cost-effective and relevant programs.

Budget Adoption

Proposal and acceptance of an operating budget.

Cash Capital

The cash capital expenditures are for the purchase of equipment, textbooks, library books, and building renovations. Cash capital appropriations exclude those renovation projects that require the use of borrowing. The cash capital expenditures are distributed in each program and departmental budget.

CFC Career Pathways

Catholic Charities Family and Community Services Pathways. Had programs to enhance employment skills of those struggling with recovery from various hardships.

Chapter 47 Tuition

Group Home tuition costs, both public and private.

Chapter 66 Tuition

Public Developmental Center tuition costs.

Chapter 348 Tuition

Student Aid, Education Stability Fund tuition costs.

Chapter 721 Tuition

Transportation Costs, Intermediate Care Facility/Individualized Residential Alternative costs, both public and private.

Charter School

A publicly funded school utilized by Rochester City School District that remains independent from the District itself.

Committee on Pre School Education (CPSE)

Committees on Preschool Special Education are groups of people appointed by the Board of Education in each school district in New York State to identify and evaluate three- and four-year-old children who have special educational needs

Community Site Coordinators

Third-party organization working for Rochester City School District to train staff, delegate tasks, and oversee the communication of programs to the public.

Consent Decrees

A court order which requires the District to meet a series of performance benchmarks.

Contractual Services

Services needed that could not be performed in house that required outside third-party involvement.

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSA)

On December 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 was signed into law. The CRRSA Act authorizes funding for a second Education Stabilization Fund to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.

Corrective Action Plan

Method of documenting a problematic situation, identifying its root cause and corrective action plan.

Debt Service

The District's debt service is maintained in the Debt Service Fund which resources for the payment of general long-term debt principal, interest and related costs. Debt service includes taxable bond principal and interest, Revenue Anticipation Note interest, Bond Anticipation Note principal and interest, and capital leases. The cash that is required to cover the repayment of interest and principal on a debt for a particular period.

Deficit

The amount by which expenses exceed revenues in a fiscal year.

Educational Partnership Organization (EPO) for East High School

On February 11, 2015, the New York State Education Department delivered its final approval to the plan for the University of Rochester to serve as the Educational Partnership Organization (EPO) for East High School, beginning in July 2015. The plan is based on a belief that with sustained focus on great teaching, dynamic curriculum, and appropriate social-emotional support, school can become a place where all of our young people can find success.

English Language Learners

Programs for students whose first language is a language other than English.

Employee Benefits

The direct expenditures, other than salaries, associated with employee compensation. In the budget, employee benefits are not distributed by programs or departments. Benefits include retirement system contributions, social security contributions, medical and dental insurance, workers' compensation, unemployment payments and life insurance.

Employment Prep Education (EPE)

Employment Preparation Education is a program that provides state aid to public school districts and BOCES that offer educational programs for adults leading to a high school diploma or a high school equivalency diploma.

Enrollment

The total number of students enrolled, whether resident or non-resident, at a site or home-bound or in a qualifying alternative program. Enrollment is not the same as Average Daily Attendance (ADA). Enrollment will exceed ADA, since not every student achieves perfect attendance.

Extended School Year (ESY)

Extended school year services are special education and related services that are provided to a student with a disability beyond the regular school year in accordance with his/her IEP. The need for ESY services must be determined annually on an individual basis by the Individual Education Program (IEP) team.

Fiscal Year

RCSD operates on a fiscal year beginning on July 1st and ending on June 30th.

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Positions

Mathematical equivalency to one full-time position based upon each and every respective job description. Standards hours need not remain consistent across all Full-Time Equivalent Positions.

Home School Assistant

Rochester City School District staff member involved in implementing strategies to increase the levels of parent involvement, provide and connect parents to resources that are available to their child, assist in the communication from school-to-home/home-to-school, and empower parents and guardians to be leaders in school. All to support their child's education.

Individualized Education Programs (IEPs)

An Individualized Education Plan (or Program) is also known as an IEP. This is a plan or program developed to ensure that a child with an identified disability who is attending an elementary or secondary educational institution receives specialized instruction and related services.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a piece of legislation that ensures students with a disability are provided with a Free Appropriate Public Education that is tailored to their individual needs.

Interfund Transfers

An accounting transaction which moves fund balances (reserves) from one fund to another fund. By definition, transfers cannot occur within the same fund. Interfund transfers as a source of budget represent District funding through different fund sources than those specific to a program.

Maintenance of Effort (MOE)

Required review within Rochester City School District, specifically the Special Education Department, required in order to validate whether or not the district has maintained a specified level of financial effort in the health area for which Federal funds will be provided. The review is mandatory in order to receive Federal Grant Funds.

Management System

A set of policies, processes, and procedures used within Rochester City School District to ensure that it can fulfill the tasks required to achieve its objectives.

McKinney-Vento Act

The McKinney-Vento Act states that children and youth who lack "a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence" will be considered homeless. McKinney-Vento eligible students have the right to receive a free, appropriate public education; enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment, or having missed application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness; enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents; continue attending the school of origin, or enroll in the local attendance area school if attending the school of origin is not in the best interest of the student or is contrary to the request of the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth; receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if requested by the parent or guardian, or by the local liaison on behalf of an unaccompanied youth; and receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to each student's need.

Mentor Teachers

Specially selected teachers who receive a stipend to work with inexperienced teachers on improving curriculum and instructional practices.

Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)

Systematic, continuous improvement framework in which data-based problem-solving and decision making is practiced across all levels of the educational system for supporting students.

My Brother's Keeper (MBK)

New York State Education Department initiative aimed to "Change the Narrative" of boys and young men that are minorities, by closing and eliminating the opportunity gaps that they face and helping them reach their full potential.

New York State Comptroller

State Chief Fiscal Officer (CFO) empowered to ensure that Rochester City School District uses taxpayer money effectively and efficiently to promote the common good.

Office of Parent Engagement = Serves our district parents, students, and school in support of academic success for all students.

Parent Liaison

A Rochester City School District staff member (opposed to a volunteer), who works to bridge the communication between the school environment and home by helping parents get the information, help, and support they need to ensure their child's academic and social success in school.

Parent University

Collaboration of resources and course offerings to help parents become full partners in their children's education.

Primary Project

A national evidence-based program that helps children in Pre-K through third grade who show emerging school adjustment difficulties and provides them with one-on-one time with a specifically training and supervised paraprofessional adjust to school, gain confidence and social skills.

Program Initiatives

Program emphasizing the opportunity to act or take charge to improve education for students.

Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCB)

Qualified School Construction Bonds are a U.S. debt instrument created by Section 1521 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. QSCBs allow schools to borrow at a nominal zero percent rate for the rehabilitation, repair and equipping of schools.

Rochester Joint Schools Construction Board (RJSCB) Subsidies

Created by the New York State Legislation in 2007 in order to provide the City of Rochester and the Rochester City School District greater capability to meet the educational needs of its school children.

ROC Restorative Team

District empowered group focused on building, maintaining, and repairing relationships among all members of a school community through social justice education and anti-racism resources.

Special Education Itinerant Teacher (SEIT)

A Special Education Itinerant Teacher provides specialized individual or group instruction and/or indirect services to students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).

State Monitor

Provides oversight, guidance and technical assistance related to the educational and fiscal policies, practices, programs and decisions of the school district, the Board of Education, and the superintendent. Appointed by the State of New York.

Strategic Plan

Document used to communicate District goals and all other critical elements and actions needed to achieve district goals.

Stakeholders

A party that has an interest in an organization and can either affect or be affected by that entity. In the case of the Rochester City School District, this includes but is not limited to students, parents, school faculty and staff, the board of directors, and the Rochester Community as a whole.

Special Education (SPED)

Special Education is a category of programs that deliver educational services to students with diverse special needs. These programs provide instruction and services specially designed to meet each special education student's unique needs. Programs include classroom instruction, home instruction, instruction in hospitals and institutions, or other settings. The Federal Law that supports special education and related services is the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Types of disabilities include learning disabilities, emotional disturbance, speech and language impairments, orthopedic impairments, hearing and vision impairments, cognitive impairments, autism and medical fragility. State Aid The primary type of State Aid is provided through Foundation Aid, which can be used for any purpose or program.

Teacher Center Rochester

Professional learning center in the Greater Rochester Area. New York State. Teacher Centers are the largest professional learning communities in New York State, working towards the implementation support for NYS and federal education initiatives dedicated to high quality, job-embedded and student focused professional learning experiences.

Teachers of Tomorrow

Alternative certification program provider.

Title I

This federal program provides funds for educationally disadvantaged (low-income) students. Title I monies are intended to supplement state and District funds, with schools involving parents in deciding and monitoring how funds are spent. Title I is the largest federal program included in the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. Funds are generated based on poverty. The use of the funds is determined by need. The District was reviewed by the New York State Education Department (NYSED). Changes implemented by this visit included establishing an objective and consistent method for allocating funds to schools in keeping with the intent of Title I and to provide equitable distribution of the funds. The allocation to schools will hold schools to a higher level of accountability for results, give parents greater choices and opportunity for input, and promote teaching methods that work.