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Media Contact: Marisol Ramos-Lopez, 585-455-2844, Marisol.Lopez@rcsdk12.org

UPDATED: Naming/Renaming Schools in the RCSD: What is in a Name? Honor, Heart, Promise, Memory, History, and the Future

Who:

RCSD students, families, staff, and community members

What:

Input on Naming/Renaming Schools

When:

Names to be submitted by Wednesday, January 24, 2024

Details:

The Rochester City School District continues to seek input from the community on the naming of five new schools and two other schools for the 2024 – 25 school year. Submissions are being accepted via e-mail at publicforum@rcsdk12.org until Wednesday, January 24, 2024. The new school names must be submitted to the State Education Department by March 1, 2024.

"A school name is the reflection of the bright things in our District, our heart, promise, shared history, and future," said Hazel Roberts, a student at Joseph C. Wilson Magnet High School Commencement Academy. "Invest in Tomorrow by helping us name our schools. We could not think of a better voice than that of our District family. Come have a seat at the table, your voice is needed."

In November, Superintendent Dr. Carmine Peluso launched [Invest in Tomorrow](#), the District's vision for the future as it begins implementation of the comprehensive school reconfiguration plan, which includes the creation of four new middle schools and one new high school. Middle schools (7-8) will focus on preparing students academically and emotionally for high school, promoting athletics through physical fitness, sportsmanship, and personal growth, and providing programs and nurturing spaces so every student can thrive. Beginning in the 2024-25 school year, the District will implement a new grade structure for elementary (PreK-6) and high schools (9-12).

Additionally, we will rename schools #34 and #46 to continue our journey to remove the names of those who were slave owners and segregationists in our City, and replace them with leaders who are unifiers, trailblazers, and have made significant impacts transforming our community.

It is the policy of the Board of Education to name city schools after worthy and well-known persons or to symbolize a cherished value or ideal. This public forum allows students and families to have a voice in naming these schools:

- Middle school at 200 Genesee Street
- Middle school at the Dr. Freddie Thomas campus
- Middle school at the Charlotte campus

- Middle school at the Jefferson campus
- High school at the Franklin campus
- Louis A. Cerulli School No. 34
- Charles Carroll School No. 46

In recent years, the Board of Education has voted to rename School No. 16 in honor of Dr. David and Ruth Anderson, School No. 3 in honor of Dr. Alice Holloway Young, and School No. 12 in honor of Anna Murray-Douglas.

Final recommendations will be provided for a Board of Education vote on February 13.

Office of Communications
Rochester City School District
131 West Broad Street
Rochester, NY 14614
585-262-8162

