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RCSD Music Teacher Selected for Global Learning Opportunity



(April 17, 2025) The Rochester City School District is proud to recognize Zach Arenz, a music teacher at Flower City School No. 54, for being named a 2025 Grosvenor Teacher Fellow. This program is a partnership between National Geographic and Lindblad Expeditions.

Mr. Arenz is one of just 35 educators selected this year from 20 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and three Canadian provinces. The 2025 cohort includes a diverse group of educators representing subjects ranging from music and world languages to agricultural science and computer programming.

This summer, Mr. Arenz will travel to Iceland and East Greenland for a hands-on professional development experience, learning alongside scientists and fellow educators in one of the world’s most ecologically and culturally significant regions.

For Mr. Arenz, the fellowship’s mission is deeply personal. “Despite the challenges our students face, such as poverty, food insecurity, and trauma, our resilience and creativity shine,” said Mr. Arenz. “What we lack in materials, we make up for in strong relationships and determination.”

Mr. Arenz began teaching in the Rochester City School District in 2013. Before joining the District, he taught music in Sweden, where he helped students prepare for high school and future careers by developing academic and social goals.

In addition to this latest recognition, Mr. Arenz was named the 2024 New York State Teacher of the Year in September 2023. Over the past year, he has represented educators across New York State at various local and national events, including two visits to the White House.

The RCSD congratulates Mr. Arenz on this exciting opportunity and thanks him for his continued dedication to students, families, and public education.