

**Resolution No 2004-05: 97**

**By Member of the Board Porter**

Whereas, The Rochester City School District has an operating gap of \$13.6 Million for the 2004-05 school year whose closing would mean devastation to the District's educational programs and opportunities for Rochester City School students, and

Whereas, The Rochester City School District and Rochester Board of Education have put numerous new policies and procedures into place to improve fiscal management and operating practices, as well as in responding to the Deloitte and Touche audit of May 2002, and

Whereas, The Rochester City School District and Rochester Board of Education have continued to make their finances an open book to their critics and the community at large, and

Whereas, The Rochester City School District despite these changes continues to be criticized for perceived fiscal mismanagement, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Rochester Board of Education hereby supports a Four Part Initiative that Request the New York State Comptroller's Office conduct an audit of the Rochester City School District finances, which includes quantitative and qualitative analysis leading to recommendations on how to improve the financial health of the District; Formation of a Blue Ribbon panel to include nationally recognized experts that will study the financial and academic programs of the Rochester City School District and offer appropriate recommendations that will be made public; Request a meeting in Rochester, Albany, or the New York office with the Speaker of the Assembly, Mr. Silver, and members of the local state delegation to discuss support for the aforementioned components and the need for a \$20 million lottery spin-up no later than 5:00 p.m. Monday, August 23, 2004; and Request a commitment from the Speaker of the Assembly to place the spin-up legislation on the floor of the Assembly for a vote at the next convening of the Assembly.

**Seconded by Member of the Board Bowers**

**Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Powell absent**