



# RSD Community Newsletter

January 2023

*Encuentre opciones de traducción en la parte superior de la página. Find translation options at the top of the page.*

## Budget Reallocation/Reduction Process

### We Need Budget Committee Members

Dear Rochester Parents and Community,

Happy New Year! I find it hard to believe that students have been back from winter break and engaged in learning for 3 weeks. The first semester quickly comes to a close next Tuesday (1/24). This month as I have been out in buildings, I have seen students being challenged to think, working as teams to problem solve and kids engaging in productive struggle to achieve their learning. Our classrooms are exciting places to visit where quality teaching and learning are taking place.



To ensure funds are in place to support student learning, every year at about this time we begin the development of the following year's budget. To remain fiscally sound, as we develop the 2023-2024 school year budget, we need to plan for approximately \$1,000,000 less revenue than during the 2022-2023 school year. This reduction is due to the expiration of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds. To different degrees, all schools in the state received one-time ESSER funds to provide additional resources to students during the COVID-19 pandemic. The

funding was one-time and temporary. To work within current state funding, RSD needs to reduce budget expenditures by \$1,000,000 for the 2023-2024 school year and may need to make a similar reduction for the 2024-2025 school year. The reductions in the 2024-2025 school year will be pending RSD student enrollment and future state education funding.

To ensure thoughtful decisions are made about where budget reductions should come from, ALL members of the Rochester community are being asked to submit budget saving ideas. All quantifiable budget saving ideas will be reviewed by the budget committee. We need input from parents, students, and community members. Everyone's ideas are valued. Please share your ideas to save RSD money in the upcoming years on the [Budget Survey](#). More information about the budget, and the budget reallocation/reduction process can be found on the [RSD website](#).

A budget committee will be formed to prepare recommendations of reductions for the school board. If you are interested in being a part of the budget committee, please complete this short [Budget Committee Application](#). The budget committee will include stakeholders from throughout our school community as outlined below:

- 2-3 Students
- 10 community members including parents & non-parents
- 5 Classified Staff (1 classified employee per building and 1 RESP Leader)
- 5 Teachers (1 certificated employee per building and and 1 REA Leader)
- 2 Custodial/Maintenance Staff
- 4 Principals
- 4 Directors
- 1 District Office Staff

Your voice is very important in this process. Please provide your suggestions and ideas on the budget survey and consider applying for the budget committee. Together we will make the best decisions possible for our kids.

Jennifer Bethman  
Superintendent

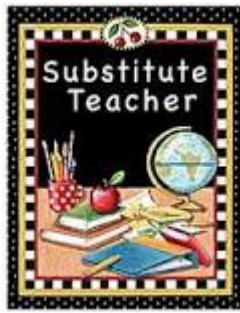
## IMPORTANT DATES

- January 24** - End of 1st Semester
- January 27** - No School, Semester Break
- February 20-21** - No School, Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break
- March 28-31** - Parent/Teacher Conferences, 1/2 days for students
- April 3-7** - No School, Spring Break



## SUBSTITUES NEEDED

Teacher Substitutes Are Needed!!



We are in need of substitute teachers. Often when teachers are sick we do not have enough substitutes to cover all the openings. That leads to many teachers and administrators needing to work with additional kids in their classroom or give up their only planning period to assure students are with a teacher.

Support our kids and teachers and become a substitute. Even if you only want to sub for a few days a month your work would help a great deal. As a substitute, you choose the days you work and even the buildings you work in.

To be a substitute, we are looking for people with:

- a desire to work with students
- some college experience as a student
- flexibility to work a few days a month or more

Substitute teachers in Rochester make \$160 a day to begin with the pay increasing to \$258 a day. Online training is provided. For more information you could talk with a building principal, go to [RSD website](#), or contact [Lewis County Substitute Cooperative](#). Become a part of the Rochester Team!

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## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

### Fall 2023 Kindergarten Registration

Share the news! Fall 2023 Kindergarten registration opens March 6. We want all our new Warriors to get registered so they are prepared for school and teachers are hired. Watch for more information about the registration process. It will be available in the February Community Newsletter.



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## WHAT IS TITLE I?



### Title I - Program to Address Performance Gaps

The Title I program is a federally funded program that works to address the performance gaps between student groups at RPS, GMES, and RMS by offering services and interventions to support struggling learners. Information about this important program can be found on our [district website](#). If you have questions about Title

I, you can reach Maggie Evans, Director of Interventions and Enrichment at [mevans@rochester.wednet.edu](mailto:mevans@rochester.wednet.edu).

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# PAPER - Free Tutoring for Middle and High School Students

PAPER is a tutoring and homework-help service that Rochester middle and high school students can access. They provide academic support to students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The tutors are trained educators, so students can log in, ask questions, and work through problems in real-time. All middle and high school students have been provided the information needed to log into this resource. [Information about PAPER.](#)

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The logo for PAPER, featuring the word "PAPER" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

## PeachJar Flyers

We are now using Peachjar to distribute electronic flyers to our families through email. Peachjar is the leading digital flyer management system used by over 17,000 schools across the country. This change brings efficiencies that save considerable time and ensure that flyers make it home. You can check out the approved flyers on each school's website by [clicking the Peachjar | E-Flyers link](#) on the homepage.

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## Non Discrimination Statement

Rochester School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, the use of a trained guide dog or service animal, or any other basis prohibited by law. We also provide equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Civil Rights Coordinator: Jennifer Bethman (360) 273-9242, [jbethman@rochester.wednet.edu](mailto:jbethman@rochester.wednet.edu)

Title IX Coordinator: Will Maus (360) 273-5958, [wmaus@rochester.wednet.edu](mailto:wmaus@rochester.wednet.edu)

504/ADA Coordinator: Laura Staley (360) 273-5536, [lstaley@rochester.wednet.edu](mailto:lstaley@rochester.wednet.edu)

Address: 10140 Highway 12 SW, Rochester, WA 98579.

Rochester School District is an Equal Opportunity School District. If you need interpretation of this document, please call the RISE Center at [360.858.1818](tel:360.858.1818). You can also select the Translate option at the top of the page to select a language for translation.

*El distrito escolar de Rochester es un distrito escolar que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades. Si necesita interpretación de este documento, llame al Centro RISE al 360.858.1818. También puede seleccionar la opción Traducir en la parte superior de la página para seleccionar un idioma para la traducción.*

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**Jennifer Bethman**

Jennifer is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters