

# E. SCHOOLS + COMMUNITY CENTERS [SCC] ACTION PLAN

GOAL	STRATEGIES	PARTNERS
<p><b>SCC-1</b>  <b>Improve conditions for students to ensure a healthy and nurturing environment for learning that is targeted at key success indicators.</b></p>	<p>SCC-1a Continue to support the ROC the Future initiative, ensuring the myriad community partners in education, childhood development, social services, community development, and economic development are fully coordinated and unified in their strategic investment in public schools.</p>	<p><b>ROC the Future</b>, Community Groups/Funders RCSD, City</p>
	<p>SCC-1b Continue to address conditions that indirectly affect school performance and a healthy environment for students such as reducing crime, deconcentrating poverty, addressing structural racism, improving access to stable, quality housing, and attracting job opportunities.</p>	<p><b>City</b>, RPD, RMAPI, Housing Developers, Chamber of Commerce, GRE, RCSD, ROC the Future</p>
	<p>SCC-1c Strengthen linkages between education institutions, employers, and economic development partners. Educational programs and degrees should be regularly modified to meet the workforce demands of local industries. Additional creative pipeline programs should be developed to provide multiple viable options for RCSD students.</p>	<p><b>City</b>, Education Institutions, Chamber of Commerce, GRE, Business Community, ROC the Future</p>
	<p>SCC-1d Support and expand Educational Partnership Organization (EPO) agreements with the University of Rochester, SUNY Geneseo, and other colleges and universities.</p>	<p><b>RCSD</b>, UR, SUNY Geneseo, Education Institutions</p>
	<p>SCC-1e Continue to partner with and support the Warner School of Education's Center for Urban Education Success (CUES) at UR. CUES is studying urban success models throughout the country and helping apply those best practices to Rochester schools, in particular through the UR's partnership with East High School.</p>	<p><b>RCSD</b>, UR</p>

**Notes:**

1. Partners listed in bold are recommended to lead the implementation of that strategy.
2. For a list of partner acronyms see [Appendix A](#).

GOAL	STRATEGIES	PARTNERS
<b>SCC-1</b> <b>Improve conditions for students to ensure a healthy and nurturing environment for learning that is targeted at key success indicators.</b>	SCC-1f Encourage better student-based data development and sharing between DRYS, RPL, and the RCSD. With strategies such as a universal ID card used for all three networks, administrators can better track a child's access or lack of access to community facilities and programs.	<b>City</b> , RPL, RCSD, ROC the Future
	SCC-1g Develop a district-wide strategy to address race and cultural competence as it relates to hiring practices, curriculum, and school environment.	<b>RCSD</b>
	SCC-1h Utilize the findings of the Mayor's community input sessions on opportunities and challenges facing the RCSD (December 2018) to identify additional strategies. This includes the potential for the City of Rochester and RCSD to have a more formal relationship around budgeting, communications, facilities investments, and providing services at community schools.	<b>City</b> , RCSD
	SCC-1i Continue to train staff and deploy progressive strategies related to school culture and behavioral challenges such as restorative practices, de-escalation techniques, and trauma-informed approaches.	<b>RCSD</b> , Community Groups/Funders

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<p><b>SCC-2</b> Nurture a culture of positivity around public school options and benefits in order to encourage current residents and students and to help rebuild the city's population.</p>	<p>SCC-2a Recognize and promote the positive outcomes, unique programs, and successful individuals coming from city schools. Work to change the negative narrative around city public schools, understanding that the root causes of the schools' issues are largely regional and not centered only on RCSD administration and/or city residents. The Greater Rochester region plays a role in and is directly impacted by outcomes of the city public schools. It is the responsibility of everyone in the region to address concentrated poverty and drive positive messaging to create better outcomes for city public schools.</p>	<p><b>RCSD</b>, City, Community Groups/Funders, Monroe County</p>
	<p>SCC-2b Develop promotional videos, websites, and other materials aimed at celebrating the people, programs, and benefits of a public school education in Rochester.</p>	<p>RCSD, City, ROC the Future</p>
	<p>SCC-2c Expand the RIT (Destler/Johnson Rochester City Scholars Program) and UR (Rochester Promise Initiative and IB program at Wilson) tuition benefits to offer scholarships on a sliding scale of income. Making these benefits available to middle class families will incentivize more families to consider city living, having an impact that substantially transcends educational issues and supports the larger vision and Goals of <i>Rochester 2034</i>.</p>	<p><b>City</b>, RCSD, RIT, UR, ROC the Future</p>

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<b>SCC-2</b> <b>Nurture a culture of positivity around public school options and benefits in order to encourage current residents and students and to help rebuild the city's population.</b>	SCC-2d Work with the business community, not-for-profits, and other partners to develop a full scholarship program for students graduating from public high schools in the City of Rochester. This program could be modeled after the Kalamazoo Promise or the Say Yes to Education program present in Buffalo and Syracuse, all of which are primarily funded by community donors. In our Upstate NY neighbors, guaranteeing a scholarship to graduates for at least the level of state school tuition, regardless of a family's income, has improved graduation rates, inspired students to greater achievement and focus, and even attracted more middle class families to move to or remain in the city.	<b>RCSD</b> , City, Education Institutions, Business Community, Community Groups/Funders, ROC the Future
	SCC-2e Implement the strategies identified in the RocCity Coalition's Vision 2025 plan, particularly those related to education, recognizing that attracting and retaining young professionals and young families and engaging them in the work of improving educational opportunities and outcomes in the city is critical.	<b>RocCity Coalition</b> , City, RCSD, Community Groups/Funders
	SCC-2f Engage young professionals living in the city about the benefits of remaining in the city and the various viable schooling options. Too often people form their opinions about city schools based on local media, conventional education statistics, and widespread perceptions. Prior to starting a family, this demographic should gain more firsthand exposure to the solid schooling options through interface with parents and students.	<b>City</b> , RocCity Coalition, Chamber of Commerce, RCSD, Charter Schools, Education Institutions

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<p><b>SCC-3</b> Reposition public facilities to serve as, or support, multi-purpose community centers.</p>	<p>SCC-3a Implement the strategies and projects identified in the Rochester Public Library Branch Facilities and Operation Plan, which will help redefine libraries as resource centers for neighborhoods.</p>	<p>RPL, City, Neighborhood Groups, Community Groups/Funders</p>
	<p>SCC-3b Examine additional opportunities for co-locating community facilities and programs. Between the rec centers, libraries, neighborhood service centers, colleges/universities, fire stations, and even police stations, there is the potential to site future facilities on or nearby existing facilities. Various public services could be co-located at these facilities such as health clinics, senior centers, senior housing, childhood development centers, day care, after-school programs, and employment services. Other types of services may be explored, such as not-for-profits, satellite college campuses, fitness centers, or medical offices. Co-location can offer cost savings, community integration, and intergenerational support.</p>	<p><b>City</b>, RPL, RFD, RPD, ROC the Future, Education Institutions</p>
	<p>SCC-3c For those facilities already co-located, such as the library and rec center on the School No. 12 campus, each of the entities should continue to look for ways to better coordinate programming and shared facilities. Additionally, facilities should be made more available for community partners to expand their offerings that are directly or indirectly tied to educational outcomes.</p>	<p><b>City</b>, RPL, RCSD, Community Groups/Funders</p>

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GOAL	STRATEGIES	PARTNERS
<b>SCC-3</b> <b>Reposition public facilities to serve as, or support, multi-purpose community centers.</b>	SCC-3d Increase the number of neighborhood and/or community schools. This effort should include consideration of the benefits that go well beyond education, especially the overall health of neighborhoods and the environmental and economic benefits of dramatically reduced transportation service. This would require addressing the State's formula for busing reimbursement.	<b>RCSD</b> , City, ROC the Future, Community Groups/Funders
	SCC-3e Provide support to early intervention programs run by community partners. Examples include GROW-Rochester, which integrates screenings for three-year olds to identify physical, social, and developmental needs and the All Kids Thrive initiative, which promotes a universally accessible system of holistic supports for children birth to age eight and their families. This support could include making available City-owned facilities for program aspects requiring community spaces.	<b>City</b> , ROC the Future, GROW-Rochester, Kids Thrive Initiative, Community Groups/Funders
	SCC-3f Promote schools as platforms to provide multiple support services, such as extended learning programs, nutrition counseling, free or subsidized breakfasts and lunches, and health services to low-income families in the community.	<b>RCSD</b> , ROC the Future, Community Groups/Funders
	SCC-3g Create after-school programs for students and adult community members that incorporate a variety of educational and recreational activities, such as art programs, English as a Second Language (ESL), adaptive athletic programs, and General Education Development classes.	<b>RCSD</b> , RPL, Education Institutions, Community Groups/Funders

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<p><b>SCC-4</b> Provide educational facilities and programs of the highest quality, enriching the student experience through stronger connections to their community, the arts, and the natural environment.</p>	<p>SCC-4a Complete the implementation of The Path Forward and Facilities Modernization Plan, positioning teachers and students to have access to highly innovative, updated, and tech-savvy buildings and facilities.</p>	<p><b>RCSD</b>, City</p>
	<p>SCC-4b Develop and enhance arts programs that provide opportunities to students that might not otherwise be possible with the RCSD’s constrained budget. Examples include the ROCmusic program and the City’s Roc Paint Division.</p>	<p>RCSD, City, ROC Paint Division, Arts Community, Community Groups/Funders</p>
	<p>SCC-4c Support development of educational curriculum and facilities focused on Genesee River, including efforts of Corn Hill Navigation and the Genesee River Alliance.</p>	<p><b>RCSD</b>, City, Genesee River Alliance/ RiverWatch, Corn Hill Navigation, Education Institutions</p>
	<p>SCC-4d Support the development of a nature center in Maplewood Park, serving as a hub for nature-based educational enrichment and expeditionary experiences.</p>	<p><b>City</b>, RCSD, Genesee River Alliance/ RiverWatch, Education Institutions</p>
	<p>SCC-4e Support the growth and reach of organizations like Teen Empowerment that foster dialogue and leadership development among young people and are engaged with RPD and other stakeholders.</p>	<p><b>City</b>, Center for Teen Empowerment, Community Groups/Funders</p>
	<p>SCC-4f Expand outdoor classroom opportunities along the Genesee River and throughout the City’s park system.</p>	<p><b>City</b>, RCSD, Genesee River Alliance/ RiverWatch, Education Institutions</p>

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GOAL	STRATEGIES	PARTNERS
<b>SCC-4</b> <b>Provide educational facilities and programs of the highest quality, enriching the student experience through stronger connections to their community, the arts, and the natural environment.</b>	SCC-4g Further connect middle and high schools with other parts of the existing and emerging educational ecosystem such as maker labs, innovation challenges, hack-a-thons, interactive art installations, online experiences, and colleges/universities.	<b>RCSD</b> , Community Groups/Funders, Education Institutions
	SCC-4h Encourage and support development of “sustainability curriculum” and environmental programming in schools, rec centers, and other community venues to educate students and adults about issues related to natural history, environmental stewardship, urban planning and ecology, sustainability, climate change, etc.	<b>RCSD</b> , City, Community Groups/Funders, Education Institutions
	SCC-4i Encourage and educate youth on healthy food by starting farming and garden programs at rec centers and RCSD schools.	<b>RCSD, City, Monroe County Cornell Cooperative Extension, Foodlink, Community Groups/Funders</b>
	SCC-4j Facilitate city planners and other design professionals going into schools and rec centers to educate students around careers and current issues in city planning and urban design. Identify opportunities for <i>Rochester 2034</i> to be part of the curriculum for student engagement.	City, RCSD
	SCC-4k Continue to implement cross-district / cross-municipal programs and initiatives that encourage regional partnerships, address concentrated poverty, and promote racial and socio-economic diversity in educational settings. Such efforts could include regional magnet schools, inter-district programming, college/ university partnerships, and strengthening the urban-suburban program.	RCSD, Suburban School Districts, Monroe County, Community Groups