



Lesli Myers-Small, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Rochester City School District
131 West Broad Street
Rochester, New York 14614
lesli.myers-small@rcsdk12.org
www.rcsdk12.org

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Dr. Jeffrey Kaczorowski, Professor & Vice Chair for Community, Golisano Children's Hospital
601 Elmwood Avenue
Rochester, NY 14642

Dr. LeKayah Wilson, Director of Community & School-Based Health, Rochester Regional Health
1425 Portland Avenue
Rochester, NY 14621

Dear Drs. Kaczorowski and Wilson:

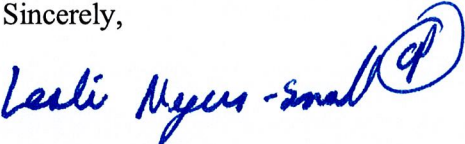
On behalf of the Rochester City School District (RCSD), I am pleased to extend this letter of support for your proposal to significantly improve mental health care for Rochester students through a partnership with UR Medicine/ Golisano Children's Hospital and Rochester Regional Health (RRH). Our number one health concern for our students is mental health. I understand that UR Medicine and RRH will work together as one Department of Pediatrics to provide telehealth in all RCSD schools, thereby doubling the current number of school-based mental health centers. This improved care could not come at a better time. Many Rochester scholars continue to suffer from the effects of the pandemic, and violence and systemic racism are having a tremendous impact on the entire community. Every day students struggle to function because of mental health issues, and they seek out school counselors and school nurses. As is true everywhere in our community and our country, we need more help.

The Rochester City School District has appreciated its collaboration with you, your institutions (UR Medicine and RRH), and your pediatric colleagues during the pandemic to help reopen schools, provide immunizations, and make needed health care and preventive visits accessible to children and youth. We know that you already partner with the District in many ways, including telehealth at some schools and in our school-based health centers. This work is built on our partnership and trust, and through this initiative it will advance to a new level that will be transformational for Rochester students and families.

The District understands that it is not receiving funding from this initiative but will fully support it with time from key staff in school-based health and mental health areas. RCSD will facilitate opportunities to work with schools so that your teams can help our students. District administrators, teachers, and staff will also have opportunities to improve health and especially behavioral and mental health.

The Rochester City School District looks forward to the start of this important work and appreciates your coordination of efforts in response to the current crisis across Rochester's community of pediatrics and child mental health providers. We believe that all of us working together toward a common goal will have immediate impact. Thank you for creating this plan that will sustain activities beyond the project funding and thank you to Monroe County for helping us all continue to help Rochester children and families.

Sincerely,



Lesli Myers-Small
Superintendent of Schools