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Participating Districts:

- Brighton
- Brockport
- East Irondequoit
- East Rochester
- Fairport
- Hilton
- Honeoye Falls-Lima
- Penfield
- Pittsford
- Rochester
- Rush-Henrietta
- Spencerport
- Webster
- West Irondequoit
- Wheatland-Chili

From the Director's Desk

Greetings,

Welcome back to school and Monroe One's Urban-Suburban Interdistrict Transfer Program. We are the nation's first and oldest voluntary desegregation program, and excited to be a part of your educational journey.

Amid daily changes and challenges, we thank you for your flexibility.

This newsletter will celebrate our class of 2021 and share important details for the upcoming school year.

First to note, Urban-Suburban will continue to host all program parent group meetings virtually.

Our office mailed out the Program Contact and Parent Group Meeting cards for the 2021-22 school year. Pre-registration for Parent Meetings is required and can be found on our website www.monroe.edu/US. Our first meeting is October 5th and the theme is "We are in This Together." Wear your school colors and bring your school spirit to this Zoom meeting!

Second, please ensure your contact information is current and you are receiving emails and phone communications from your school and the program. We are a program of Monroe One BOCES, so our electronic notices will come from Monroe One. If you are not receiving emails and voice messages, call us at **249-7045** to update your contact information.

Third, due to RCSD's severe bus driver shortage, there will be no before/after school extra-curricular activity transportation provided for our yellow bus riders at this time.

Urban-Suburban, RCSD transportation, and our district partners are working together and will keep families up to date as changes occur.

Lastly, it is exciting to see students in person again and attending the welcome back to school events! We are looking forward to a fulfilling year with you, your student and all of our stakeholders! At the heart of what we do is our commitment to ensure students and families have access to educational opportunities.

It doesn't happen without you. Thank you for your parental engagement, support, and partnership!

Sincerely,

Felicia A. Smith
Program Director



Urban Suburban

11 Linden Park, Rochester, NY 14625
(585) 249-7045

2021–2022 Virtual Parent Group Meetings

10.5

Tuesday, October 5, 2021
Open House
7:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 20, 2021
Transportation
12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m.

10.20

11.18

Thursday, November 18, 2021
Mental Health
7:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 14, 2021
Cultural Awareness
7:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m.

12.14

1.12

Wednesday, January 12, 2022
LGBTQ
12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 17, 2022
Financial Literacy:
Financial Aid/Scholarships
7:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m.

2.17

3.16

Wednesday, March 16, 2022
Teen Drug Use
7:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m.

About Parent Meetings

- ▶ Parent Meetings will continue to be virtual via Zoom. You may have an opportunity to attend an in-person parent meeting based on your District.
- ▶ These are the dates for Urban-Suburban Parent Meetings; however there may be conditions beyond our control that occur during the school year that may cause changes.
- ▶ We encourage you to complete your Parent Meetings early.
- ▶ Parents are required to attend a minimum of **2 meetings per year**. You are welcome to attend more. If you do not fulfill your meeting requirement, you will be referred to the Superintendent of your district.
- ▶ We recommend downloading the free Zoom app. For current program information, please visit our website at www.monroe.edu/US or call us at 249-7045 for assistance.

Urban Suburban Contacts

Monique Devries

Monique_Devries@boces.monroe.edu
585-249-7048



Brighton
East Rochester
Honeoye Falls-Lima
West Irondequoit
Webster

Shateela Hill

Shateela_Hill@boces.monroe.edu
585-249-7051



Brockport
Rush-Henrietta
East Irondequoit
Wheatland-Chili
Fairport

Latasha Pride

Latasha_Pride@boces.monroe.edu
585-249-7047



Hilton
Penfield
Spencerport
Pittsford

Stay Connected

Main Office: 585-249-7045

Website: monroe.edu/US

[Facebook.com/UrbanSuburbanProgram](https://www.facebook.com/UrbanSuburbanProgram)

Urban-Suburban Contacts

- ▶ Call the Main Office at **585-249-7045** for transportation-related questions and to keep us updated with any changes to your address, phone, email, or contact information.
- ▶ For student, family, and school-based project questions and concerns, please contact your district's dedicated **Education Specialist** (at left).
- ▶ We want to celebrate you! Families, please share your student stories, accomplishments and activities with Urban-Suburban.

Transportation Update

We share in your concern over the challenges facing transportation provided by RCSD this year.

While those details continue to change, please keep an eye on your email for updated messages from Urban-Suburban and check the website at monroe.edu/US.

As of September 13, RTS has made changes to the following routes:

- 3 Joseph
- 4 Hudson
- 5 Portland
- 8 East Main
- 11 Monroe
- 16 Genesee
- 22 Lake

Those buses will now have 30-minute service on weekdays from 6 am to 6 pm.

While Urban-Suburban is a program of Monroe One BOCES, RCSD is responsible for providing transportation for our students. In the event RCSD is closed, but your student's school is open, families will need to provide alternative transportation. This does NOT apply to families who have gotten a notice from their school saying transportation will be provided on these days.

Unfortunately, the driver shortage has also eliminated late buses for afterschool programs. This means Urban-Suburban students will have to take the bus at the regular dismissal time. They will not be able to stay late for extracurricular activities unless they have alternative transportation home.

Our team will continue to make every effort to keep families as up-to-date as possible.

Senior Checklist

- If you are an early graduate, notify the U-S office immediately at 249-7045.
- Please let us know your personal phone number and email address so that we can contact you directly regarding important senior updates throughout the school year.
- If you are interested in purchasing a graduation stole, visit us online at monroe.edu/US, the cost is \$30.
- Stoles are worn by seniors at the U-S Annual Awards Ceremony in the spring and high school graduations as permissible by your respective school. Please refer to your school's stole policy.
- Graduating students who are going to an accredited college/program can apply for the Urban-Suburban Scholarship.
- U-S Scholarship application will be available from February 18, 2022 until **April 17, 2022**. Further information will be mailed to your current school and home.
- Apply for Financial Aid! The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) begins October 1, 2021. Go to the website for more information on how FAFSA can make a difference in your financial cost to attend college (<https://studentaid.gov/>).
- For **FREE** help on completing the FAFSA process, call the Rochester College Access Network (RCAN) at 585-571-RCAN (7226) or email Sarah Johnston via email at sarah@rochestereducation.org
- After applying for FAFSA, you can also apply to the New York State Tuition Assistant Program (NYSTAP) which can award up to \$5,165.
- All senior photos are due by December 23, 2021. Email it to urban_suburban@boces.monroe.edu



U-S Scholarship Committee

We would like to publicly recognize and thank the incredible volunteers who made up our 2021 Urban-Suburban Scholarship Committee last year.

- Fairport parent **Damaris Torres**
- Pittsford parent **Stephanie Ward**
- High school counselor **Kristina Rasmussen**, East Rochester
- High school principal **Eric Windover**, Wheatland-Chili

This group of dedicated volunteers met on May 8 to conduct the important process of allocating money from the scholarship fund.

The scholarship was created in 1985 to commemorate Urban-Suburban's 20th anniversary. It has become a longstanding tradition. Scholarships are awarded each year with monies provided through voluntary contributions of annual family pledges and program fundraisers lead by parents.

Join Us This Year

If you have a student in grades 9-11, we would love to have you join our Scholarship Committee. Please send an email to Felicia Smith noting your interest in participating. Volunteers only meet once, with this year's meeting scheduled for **Saturday, May 7**.



Thank You

for Making the Program a Success

We are grateful for our parents, staff, schools and partners for their continued support.

Local companies like Wegmans continue to make donations for our students.

Last year's Parent Advisory Council's campaign raised almost \$4,000 to go towards the Urban-Suburban scholarship.

We humbly thank every single person who donated, and appreciate the commitment and work our Program Staff and PAC members put in throughout the year.

Welcome New Students



Welcome New Students



Congratulations to the Urban-Suburban 2021 graduating class!

The 2021 graduating class will soon begin the next phase of a magnificent journey. Many will pursue a post-secondary education, while others will go into the military or enter the workforce. Whatever path is chosen, we wish them nothing but success.

Brighton High School



Honesty Arnold
Buffalo State, SUNY
Brockport, or FLCC



Yousra Ghassat*
Major: Psychology



Natalie Gonzales
Monroe College
Major: Criminal Justice



Andrae Lenear
Major: English



Samuel Rivera
College/Major: Undecided



Faith Stanley*

Brockport High School



Breiann Brinkley
Entering Workforce



Virginia Max-Dixon*
Rochester Institute of
Technology
Major: Architecture



Adebola Olufemi*
University at Buffalo
(Spring 2022)
Major: Speech and
Hearing Science



Nayana Rivera



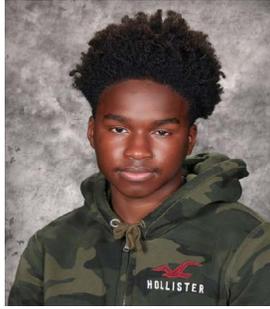
Kayla Wilson*
Rochester Institute
of Technology
Major: Undecided

** Urban-Suburban Scholarship Award Recipient*

East Rochester High School



Janai McCullough
Howard University
Major: Biology



Jalen Patterson
Finger Lakes
Community College
Major: Bio-Technology



Zachariah Singletary

Fairport High School



Jarmel Glass



Anaiya Griffin



Ashton Hall
Howard University or
North Carolina Agricultural
Technical; Major:
Computer Engineering



Jessenia Hernandez
Nazareth College
Major: Nursing



Eugene Jones
College: Undecided
Major: Engineering/Design



Zaire Lesesne



Kaevon Rice
Buffalo State College
Major: Undecided



Tiana Rice
Monroe Community College
Major: Undecided



Sarai Skerritt*
Daemen College; Major:
Professional Writing;
Rhetoric Specialization



Vatayjha Warfield



Jalyn Wynn
Alfred University or Clark
University; Major: Business
Minor in Art & Design

Eastridge High School



Alfredo Cadenas*
Monroe Community
College (Spring 2022)
Major: Writing/Art



Kierre Costner
Alfred University
Major: Sports
Management/Pre-Law



Nyasia Pritchette
Buffalo State
or Tampa University
Major: Nursing Biology



London Simmons
Entering Workforce



Anissa White
Real-Estate/Esthetician

Irondequoit High School



Journey Barcelona
College/Major: Undecided



Bri'Asia Brown



Sky Brumfield



Drianna Butler



JaiAsia Jackson



Jacob Kingsley



Imelda Kirui*
Rochester Institute of
Technology; Major:
Computer Science



Jashawna Luke
College: Undecided
Major: Business
Management



Julia Smith*
University of Buffalo
Major: Teaching

** Urban-Suburban Scholarship Award Recipient*

Mendon High School



Janai' Marshall*



Briten McKenzie-Baker

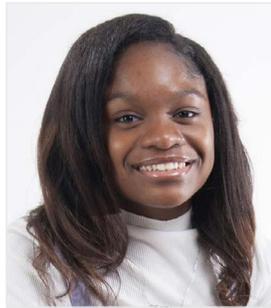


Keylanise Rivera*

Penfield High School



Ashley Buchanan
Rochester Institute of
Technology
Major: Dietetic and
Nutritional Sciences



Nhadia Hemphill



Yaa Korne*
University of Pittsburgh
Major: Rehabilitation
Science/Pre-
Occupational Therapy



Jemeah Scott
Alfred University
Major: Art & Design



Xzavier Stock*
Monroe Community
College; Major: Business
Management



Brianna Williams*
St. John Fisher College
Major: Nursing

** Urban-Suburban Scholarship Award Recipient*

Sutherland High School



Brielle Burgess*
Hampton University
Major: Nursing



Amariah James*
Southern University A&M
College; Major: Nursing



Jamal Lewis
Monroe Community
College; Major: Undecided



Malachi Minter



Jalyn Moorehead
Monroe Community
College or Geneseo
Major: Undecided



Lanasia Reid*
Monroe Community
College
Major: Biology/Pharmacy



John Rodriguez*
American University
Major: Law



Kennedy Sayres*
Hampton University
Major: Business
Marketing

Wheatland-Chili High School



Acacia Adams
Valedictorian
Nazareth College
Major: Biology



Andre' Clark
Long-term Goal:
Social Work or
Criminal Law



Justice Johnson
Keuka College; Major:
Biomedical Studies/Pre-
Veterinarian Medicine



Shayla Moore
James Madison
University
Major: Nursing



Aaryana Young
Russell Sage College
Major: Dentistry-
Orthodontist

* *Urban-Suburban Scholarship Award Recipient*

Student Spotlights

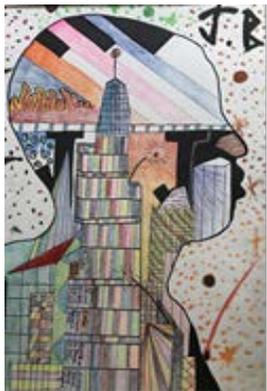
East Rochester UFSD recognizes a number of Urban-Suburban students

From visual arts to social justice, Urban-Suburban students attending class in East Rochester are making their mark and creating change.

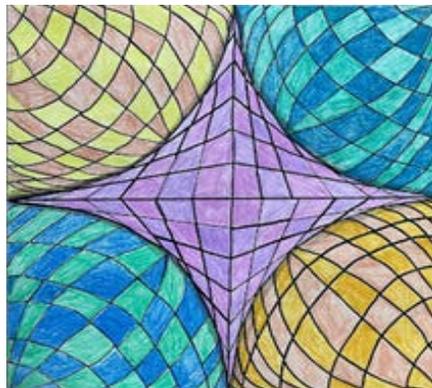
Three students were selected as Art Award winners, which is part of an initiative the district set up years ago to recognize students and promote the Visual Arts program. Urban-Suburban students **Jaiyden Jones**, **Zebrell Grant-Jackson**, and **Nia Robinson** were part of the group selected; their artwork will be featured in the ERUFSD's school calendar!

Part of the Class of 2021, **Janai McCullough** was selected as the district's Outstanding Senior, which recognizes area high school students across Monroe County. She is credited with laying the groundwork for the change that is needed both in school and in society through her advocacy efforts.

Janai joined the district in eighth grade, going on to be a founding member of the ER Diversity Ambassadors and representing students on the district's code of conduct committee.



Jaiyden Jones



Zebrell Grant-Jackson



Nia Robinson



Janai McCullough

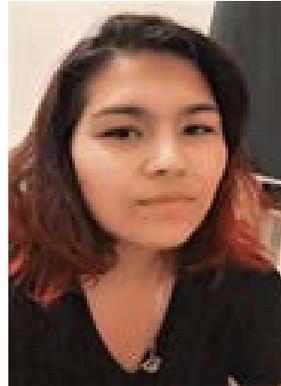
84VIKINGS4GOOD Award

The first ever 84VIKINGS4GOOD Award was given to two Pittsford Mendon High School Urban-Suburban students.

The award, established by the class of 1984, was presented to **Keylanise Rivera-Ortiz** and **Janai' Marshall**.

It is dedicated to recognizing MHS seniors in the Urban-Suburban program who demonstrate civic, social, and leadership engagement or academic achievement.

"We are very proud of our Pittsford education and the foundation that it gave us to be the alumni that we are today. It is our hope that this award will help create a just and sustained society by leveling the playing field for these students," said Susan Hanscel Goodridge, one of the award stewards.



Keylanise Rivera-Ortiz



Janai' Marshall

Acacia Adams—Valedictorian, Wheatland-Chili Class of 2021

As the Valedictorian of the Class of 2021, Acacia Adams has proven herself to be a high achiever. With a grade point average of 98, there were few barriers that even slowed her down—even a barrier like a 5:00 a.m. wake-up call.

As a student in the Urban-Suburban Program, for the last six years, Acacia woke up at 5:00 a.m. to catch the bus to Wheatland-Chili Middle/High School. She's the first to admit that that was an adjustment.

"At first, it was hard... to get on the bus to come here, but after a while? They really accepted me here. They did such a good job. I adjusted easily. Whenever I needed help, I could just reach out, or they reached out to me to make sure I was doing okay."

She says that in addition to her teachers and classmates, it was her family that motivated her. They always stayed on top of her to keep her going. Pushing her to reach new levels of success.

In the end, it paid off.

Acacia is the first Wheatland-Chili student in the Urban-Suburban Program to earn the role of Valedictorian. Her favorite class was biology, followed closely by chemistry. Her favorite teacher was, unsurprisingly, science teacher Mrs. Iovoli.

What's next?

Acacia plans to continue studying biology at Nazareth College in pursuit of becoming a doctor. Her reasoning is clear and focused:

"Black people are underrepresented when it comes to the medical system, only 5% of doctors are black and 2% are women, so I always wanted to be that representation for Black girls because I never had that."

Once she becomes a doctor, she plans to remain in the Rochester region to care for underserved populations.

As for Wheatland-Chili? It will always hold a special place in her heart.

"I'm going to miss it. They've been my family since 7th grade, I'm going to miss them a lot."



District Updates

Brighton

Brighton CSD administration updates

Brighton Central School District has named two interim administrators. **Maurin Jeffries** will be the interim French Road Elementary School principal and **Sherley Flores** will serve as the interim Council Rock Primary School assistant principal.

“We are excited to have these two outstanding leaders ready and eager to take on these roles in the District,” BCSO District Superintendent Dr. McGowan said.

Mrs. Jeffries was a first and second grade teacher at Council Rock before pursuing an administration role. Ms. Flores was the elementary school principal at Eugenio Maria de Hostos Charter School and director of bilingual education in the Rochester City School District.

In addition, **Dr. Allison Rioux** has been named the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. She is also familiar with the BCSO, serving as the French Road Elementary School principal since 2017.

Dr. McGowan remarked, “Dr. Rioux stays focused on children while doing everything she can to make every day fun, exciting, and full of warmth for every child and staff member.”

Dr. Rioux takes on the new role following the retirement of Dr. Debby Baker.



Maurin Jeffries



Sherley Flores



Dr. Allison Rioux

Brockport

Welcome Back Brunch

On Tuesday, September 28, 2021, Brockport High School Urban Suburban students are invited to a welcome back brunch in the LGI at 10:15 a.m. during the advisement period. This is a great time to reconnect, share goals for the year and welcome the new BHS Assistant Principal, **Mr. Orlando Benzan**, who was also recently named as the district’s Equity and Inclusion Specialist.

Hilton

There will be two new faces in the Hilton Central School District.

Mrs. Carol Stehm will welcome students at Northwood Elementary School as the interim principal. While her career has taken her across the county in various roles, her new position is a return to Hilton for her; she had worked in the district as the coordinator of Gifted Education at Northwood from 1993-1997. Most recently, she served as the associate superintendent of instruction in the Gates Chili Central School District.



Carol Stehm

In the district office, visitors will find **Ned Dale** as the new Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources. He previously worked as the superintendent of the Elba Central School District, and has experience as a principal, school counselor, and mental health technician.



Ned Dale

Penfield

New leaders are in place within the Penfield Central School District.

Mrs. Tasha Potter is in the newly created position of Assistant Superintendent for Equity and Access. She comes to the district with an incredible career spanning across local schools, mostly in roles dedicated to creating more inclusive environments.

Dr. Leslie Maloney is the new Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. She served as principal of Penfield High School for the past seven years, and previously as Director of STEM, Director of Mathematics Content, and chair of the mathematics department.

Dr. Stephen Kenny is the new Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources. He has past experience as an administrator, most recently serving as the principal of Cobbles Elementary School for five years.

Mrs. Kellie McNair is the new Principal at Cobbles Elementary.

Mrs. LeAnna Watt is the new Principal at Penfield High School.



Mrs. Tasha Potter



Dr. Leslie Maloney



Dr. Stephen Kenny



Mrs. Kellie McNair



Mrs. LeAnna Watt

Pittsford

New leaders in Pittsford



Leah Kedley
has been appointed as principal of Jefferson Road Elementary School.



Sarah Jacob
has been appointed as principal of Barker Road Middle School.



Shana Cutaia
has been appointed as Director of Student Services for the district.

Rush-Henrietta

New Assistant Principal in Rush-Henrietta

Mrs. Qianna Reaves-Campbell is the new Assistant Principal at Roth Jr. High. Before entering into an administrative role, she worked as a Kindergarten teacher in the district.

Notably, she is a graduate of the Urban-Suburban program!



Mrs. Qianna Reaves-Campbell

Webster

Webster CSD administration updates

Brian Neenan will continue as the interim superintendent of schools. He has served in his dual role as Webster CSD's deputy superintendent since 2015 and assistant superintendent for instruction since 2013.

Krista Quick, special education administrator for the district's One Webster Learning Center (OWL, grades K-5) and former assistant principal for Webster Schroeder High School, has returned to Webster Schroeder High School as assistant principal (alpha L-Re).

Two of Webster CSD's elementary schools have also welcomed new assistant principals. **Anthony Kunecki** is the new assistant principal for Plank Road North Elementary School. **Kate Hesla**, who has served as interim assistant principal for Schlegel Road for the past year, was also appointed assistant principal over the summer.

Congratulations to all of WCSD's leadership team.



Brian Neenan



Krista Quick



Anthony Kunecki



Kate Hesla

West Irondequoit

West Irondequoit CSD administration updates

The West Irondequoit Central School District recently added two new members to its administrative team and has shifted a few others into key supporting roles.

Dr. Christine Brown Richards was appointed the new principal at Rogers Middle School and expects to begin in that role on Sept. 13. The Rochester native is currently an Assistant Principal for Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES. Prior to that, she worked in the Rochester School District for 17 years and has an extensive background in counseling. She earned a Doctorate from St. John Fisher, Master's from the University of Rochester and Bachelor's from Central State and owns certifications in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Family Engagement.

Dr. Orlando Marrero was appointed the new K-12 Director of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics). He has been an Assistant Principal at Greece Odyssey since 2018 and before that taught physics, science and chemistry at East High, University Preparatory Charter School for Young Men and Edison Tech. He grew up in Puerto Rico, where he earned his undergraduate degree, and owns a Master's and doctorate from the University of Rochester.

Ms. Kim Cristal is the K-12 Director of Humanities, a new position. She previously served as the district's K-12 Social Studies Curriculum Supervisor and was Interim K-6 Director of Instruction earlier in 2021. A Brandeis University graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in history, she earned a Master's degree in American history from the University of Rochester.

Ms. Barb Harford and **Ms. Casey Nelan** are new assistant principals at Irondequoit HS, joining third-year principal Alecia Zipp-McLaughlin and eighth-year assistant principal, Amy Vandergrift. Harford has been the district's K-12 Mathematics Curriculum Supervisor in since 2016. Nelan, a former English teacher who has been worked in West Irondequoit for 20 years, served as interim assistant principal at IHS last school year.

Mrs. Jennifer Brooker, the district's K-12 Science Curriculum Supervisor for seven years, is now an assistant principal at Dake Junior High School in support of second-year principal, Maryanne Heiman, and second-year assistant, Nicholas DiMartino. She has served in West Irondequoit CSD for 22 years.

Mrs. Cecilia Young is the new Director of the district's Teaching Learning Center at the Evans & McGraw building. She has taught Regents Chemistry (grades 10-12) for four years at Irondequoit HS. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from St. John Fisher and Masters from SUNY Brockport.



Visit the Urban-Suburban Program website at:

www.monroe.edu/US

A program of

