



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Interim Commissioner of Education
President of the University of the State of New York
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May 21, 2020

Dr. Shelley Jallow
1 Market Street
Apartment 618
Camden, New Jersey
08102

Dear Dr. Jallow:

Pursuant to Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2020, I hereby appoint you as a Monitor to the Rochester City School District (District) effective May 26, 2020. Chapter 56 allows for the appointment of one monitor to the District and contains a specific focus on academic, fiscal and budgetary planning and oversight.

Your efforts to oversee district operations and propose actions for improvement to the District will ensure that students have access to appropriate programs and services and that the district is on a path to fiscal and programmatic stability. Your work will be supported by the State Education Department (SED) staff.

Your responsibilities will include:

- Monitoring District operations in the areas of curriculum and instruction, budgeting and planning;
- Providing oversight, guidance and technical assistance related to educational and fiscal policies, practices, programs and decisions of the District, its Board of Education, and Superintendent;
- Scheduling three public hearings to be held within 60 days of your appointment which shall allow public comment from the District's resident, students, employees, parents, board members, and administration. Such public hearings may be held remotely due to the State of emergency declared by the Governor for the COVID-19 crisis;
- Developing an academic improvement plan and financial plan in conjunction with the Board and the Superintendent;
- Annually reviewing the District's proposed budget to ensure that it is balanced and consistent with the District's academic improvement plan and financial plan;
- Providing semi-annual reports to the Commissioner, Regents, the Governor, the Temporary President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the Assembly on the academic, fiscal, and operational status of the District

- Working with the District's shared decision-making committee in developing the academic improvement plan, financial plan, District goals, implementation of district priorities and budgetary recommendations
- Assisting in resolving any disputes and conflicts, including those between the Superintendent and the Board and among members of the Board; and
- Providing regular feedback, progress reports, and updates to the District, SED, and to the Board of Regents upon request.

We all are fortunate to have you on our team, and I look forward to working together to support all students in the in the Rochester City School District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shannon L. Tahoe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shannon L. Tahoe
Interim Commissioner

CC: Lesli Myers-Small
Van Henri White
John L. D'Agati
Kim Wilkins