

### 2019 PHASE I: Letter of Intent

Created: 04/03/2019 • Last updated: 04/05/2019

Basic Contact and Application Information

New Applicant groups and Existing Education Corporations interested in submitting an application to establish Regents-authorized charter schools are asked to complete this brief information sheet. The Department will use this information to plan and coordinate peer review panels with appropriate expertise to evaluate all application materials.

Please indicate whether a New Operator Applicant Group (which does not operate a Regents-authorized charter school or does not operate any schools currently) or an Existing Education Corporation (which operates one or more Regents-authorized charter schools) is submitting this Round 1 Letter of Intent.

Existing Ed Corp (operating one or more Regents-authorized charter schools)

### Name of Existing Education Corporation

Name of Existing Education Corporation	Number of Charter Schools Existing Ed Corp Currently Operates
Science Academies of New York Charter Schools	3

### **Proposed Charter School Name(s)**

(Please write out the full name of the proposed new charter school(s), and include the words "charter" and "school" in the naming).

Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School  Citizenship and Science Academy of Buffalo Charter  K-6  525  525	Name of Proposed School(s)	Grades Served Over Charter Term (K-5, .6-8, 9-12, etc.)	Max # of Students Served Over Charter Term
Academy of Buffalo Charter K-6 525	Academy of Rochester	K-6	525
School	·	K-6	525

# Proposed or Current Board Chair and Public Contact information, including mailing address, phone number, and email address.

(The entire chart may not be visible on your screen. Use the "tab" key to move from column to column. The first column will remain static as you do so).

	First and Last Name	Best Phone Number (###-###)	Email Address
Proposed/Current Board Chair	Dr. Fehmi Damkaci		
Public/Media Contact Person	Dr. Tolga Hayali		

### **List of Key Design Elements**

<u>List</u> the key design elements which are those features of the school that are innovative or unique to the school's mission and goals, are core to the school's overall design, and critical or integral to its success. The design elements may include a specific content area focus; unique student populations to be served; specific educational programs or pedagogical approaches; unique calendar, schedule, or configurations of students and staff; and/or innovative organizational structures and systems. Approved schools will be accountable for implementation of the key design elements included in their charter.

1	College Preparation
2	Focus on STEM and Environmental Education
3	Glocal Education
4	Student-Centered School Structure
5	Parental Involvement and Home Visits
6	and Performance-Based Accountability
7	(No response)

If available, please provide the URL to the website established for the proposed school or existing education corporation. www.csarochester.org

Proposed Management and/or Partner Organization(s), such as a charter or educational management company or a university, academic program partner, or whole school change partner.

(Refer to the application kit for definitions and guidance as only "substantial" partnerships should be listed here).

Proposed Management Company	N/A
Partner Organization 1	N/A
Partner Organization 2	N/A

### **Proposed Board Chair Signature**

(Internet Explorer may not support this feature. Open the portal using Google Chrome, Firefox, or Safari).

**Date** 2019/04/05

Thank you for completing this form.

### Letter of Intent to Establish

### Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School

Submitted to the Charter School Office at the NYSED on April 5, 2019

### **I. Applicant Group Information**

I.a. Applicant Group: Detailed information on applicant group members is provided as Table 1.

I.b. Public Contact: Dr. Hayali (315) 671-5470; hayali@sany.org.

I.c. Application History: N/A

### **II. Proposed Charter School Information**

**II.a. Proposed School Name:** Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School.

**II.b. Proposed School Mission Statement:** The school will provide support, challenges and opportunities for its students, and it will instill the necessary skills and knowledge in math, science, and technology to empower students, through high intellectual standards, to prepare them for college, career, and citizenship. The school seeks to graduate students who can think critically and creatively, who are committed to a lifetime of learning and civic involvement, and who are conscious of local, global, and environmental issues.

II.c. Proposed School Location: Rochester City School District (RCSD).

**II.d. Target Population/Community Served:** RCSD served 26,057 students in school year 2017-18. RCSD has been classified as "Focus District" by NYSED under ESEA accountability designation. There were 10 schools in RCSD classified as struggling schools. RCSD's student body includes 15% MLL/ELL students, 22% students with disabilities, and 91% FRPL students. RCSD served 903 MLL/ELL students in grades K-2 in 2017-18 school year. 9.1% of the city population is immigrant, according to 2014 census. RCSD has 59% graduation rate for 2014 four-year August cohort.

**II.e.** Planned grades and enrollment, using the required chart below to indicate grades, ages, and enrollment: School will start with grades K-2 in 2020-21 as shown in table below. CSARochester will serve K-12 grades by adding one grade every year over a ten-year period. It will serve 75 students at each grade level, with a total number of 925 students at full capacity.

Projected Enrollment Table Over the Charter Term								
Grades	Ages	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025		
K	5	75	75	75	75	75		
1 <sup>st</sup>	6	48	75	75	75	75		
2 <sup>nd</sup>	7	48	48	75	75	75		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	8		48	75	75	75		
4 <sup>th</sup>	9			75	75	75		
5 <sup>th</sup>	10				75	75		
6 <sup>th</sup>	11					75		
Totals		171	246	375	450	525		



**II.f. Proposed management and/or partner organization(s):** CSARochester will not be affiliated with any charter management organization. However, the school will be formed under SANY Charter Schools Education Corporation and will be part of its network. As a result of being a member of SANY network, CSARochester will benefit from economies of scale and shared benefits such as payroll services, accounting, data collecting and analysis, and PDs.

**II.g. School Performance:** CSARochester will replicate SANY charter schools. Currently there are three charter schools operating under SANY: Syracuse Academy of Science (SAS) Charter School, Utica Academy of Science (UAS) Charter School, and Syracuse Academy of Science and Citizenship (SASC) Charter School. The latest academic data was for 2017-18 when SASC served grades K-2, SAS served grades K-12, and UAS served grades 6-12.

SAS received its third five-year charter renewal in 2017, and UAS received its first five-year charter renewal in 2018. Both SAS and UAS have been recognized as "Good Standing" schools under ESEA accountability designation all the time. In comparison with the Syracuse and Utica City School Districts, SANY students surpass their district peers by between 26 and 51 percentage points in ELA and mathematics in all grades, and some grade levels exceeded state performance on the spring 2018 state tests.

SAS and UAS outperformed both Syracuse and Utica City School Districts and NY State on high school graduation rate of 2014 four-year August cohort. SAS has a 98% rate while SCSD has 58% and New York State has 83%. UAS has 93% while UCSD has 59% and NY State has 93%.

The Clearinghouse report shows that 93% of SAS students enrolled in a college the fall immediately after high school in 2017, while national average for low-income schools is 56%. 100% of SAS students who enrolled in a four-year college the first year after high school returned for a second year (freshman to sophomore persistence), while national average is 79%. UAS had its first graduation two years ago. The Clearinghouse report shows that 85% of UAS students enrolled in a college the fall immediately after high school in 2017.

Enhancing the Educational Options in Rochester: The RCSD is classified as a "Focus District" by NYSED for 2017-18 school year, indicating that a high percentage of underachieving students reside within the district. RCSD believes that its small school atmosphere, coupled with extensive after-school activities (as part of its enrichment programs), will provide the attention that an underachieving student and at-risk population, including MLL/ELLs and students with disabilities (SWDs), need to succeed. Of the 26,057 students in the district, around 15 percent are MLL/ELLs. Data retrieved on 3/27/2019 from data.nysed.gov indicate that 91% of students in RCSD receive a free or reduced lunch, much higher than average in New York State (58%) in 2017–18. In the 2017–18 school year, the percentage of SWDs enrolled is 21%, according to NYSED reports. Therefore, CSARochester's academic program will emphasize methods that enhance learning opportunities and achievement for MLL/ELL students and SWDs.

According to the RCSD's Report Card provided by NYSED, in 2019 the percentage of students meeting or exceeding the state standard for grades 3-8 was 11% in ELA and 11% in math, while the figures were 45% in ELA and 45% in math for the state. The graduation rate of RCSD in August 2018 was 59% while New York state graduation rate was 83%. Since there is a gap between RCSD's overall performance compared to state-level performance, the proposed school, CSARochester, can help to close the gap at every level. With a maximum student



population of 975 students at full capacity on at least two campuses, CSARochester will be able to offer the personal attention and individual insight that is difficult to achieve in a large school district. MLL/ELL students will have the benefit of more one-on-one support from certified MLL/ELL teachers. MLL/ELL students will be also exposed to U.S. culture through monthly field trips and after-school events as part of the school's citizenship component.

The STEM-focused curriculum and additional math and science course requirements for graduation will help in achieving a higher college acceptance rate at CSARochester than RCSD. CSARochester's unique characteristics, which may complement RCSD, will include summer school, science programs in college settings, tutoring and extensive after-school programs, small settings, and greater graduation requirements. CSARochester's other unique features as listed as its key design elements include global and local education through community service and international field trips.

SANY Model and Proposed Differences: CSARochester will replicate the strengths of Science Academies of New York (SANY) charter schools with the same mission and key design elements that have proven to be effective in their operations. SANY currently operates three college-preparatory public charter schools in central New York area (one in Utica and two in Syracuse). In addition, CSARochester will provide an enrollment preference to MLL/ELL population, an extensive after-school MLL/ELL program, and increased hours of community service requirements extended to all grade levels. Currently only SASC Charter School offers MLL/ELL enrollment preference. However, the rest of the school model will be same for all SANY Charter Schools, including the school's curriculum and its six key design elements: College Preparation, Focus on STEM and Environmental Education, Glocal Education, Student-Centered School Structure, Parental Involvement and Home Visits, and Performance-Based Accountability.

II.h. Strategic Vision and Growth Plan: SANY Board of Trustees held a strategic meeting to discuss the growth plans for SANY schools in May 2018. In that meeting, the Board decided to expand its SANY school model to new communities in the Central New York region to create equity and educate more students. In light of this goal, SANY decided to apply for two schools (one in Rochester and one in Buffalo) in the next three years. If the proposed charters are granted, after starting those charters, SANY Board will re-evaluate its capacity to apply for new charter schools. If SANY Board concludes that SANY schools have capacity to expand further without an adverse effect on its current schools' success, the Board will consider applying for new charter schools, including some in rural areas, based on the need assessment and guidance of NYSED Charter School office.

### **III. Enrollment and Retention Strategies**

**III.a.** Describe the school's strategies to attract and recruit its students: CSARochester will utilize the following activities to recruit the specified groups of students:

### MLL/ELL (as specifically identified in the school's mission):

- Provide weighted enrollment preference for MLL/ELLs
- Reach out to the significant refugee population through local resettlement organizations
- Widely publicize the lottery dates through email, website, social media, and direct mail
- Provide extensive MLL/ELL services in school design to expedite their proficiency level



- Make school brochures and application forms available in multiple languages
- Employ staff from refugee communities for direct connection with refugee population
- Use Google translator for the school's website and online application form
- Hold open houses to present school design/services, including MLL/ELL
- Emphasize MLL/ELL services in the flyers and informational meetings

### Students with disabilities:

- Hold open houses to present school design/services, including SPED programs
- Emphasize special-education services in flyers and digital marketing tools
- Develop relationships with local agencies that serve students with disabilities
- Reach out to preschools to attract students who may already have an IEP
- Provide extensive special-education services, academic and social/emotional support
- Tighten up the RTI process for early grades to identify SWDs
- Widely publicize the lottery dates through email, website, social media, and direct mail

### **Economically disadvantaged students:**

- Hold open houses for students and their parents to present school design/services
- Target mailings for those with income less than \$50,000 and school-age children
- Develop relationships with local nonprofits to provide college scholarship opportunities
- Reach out to Head Start preschools to attract low-income families
- Distribute student applications at local community and religious centers
- Advertise on media spots, including low-profile and free news outlets
- Provide extensive academic and social/emotional support to EDs
- Widely publicize the lottery dates through email, website, social media, and direct mail

**III.b. Describe the school's strategies to <u>retain</u> its students:** CSARochester will utilize the following activities to retain the specified groups of students:

### MLL/ELL (as specifically identified in the school's mission):

- CSARochester will hire highly qualified ESOL-certified ENL teachers
- Offer professional development to teachers to support a strong MLL/ELL program
- Provide after-school and weekend programs to provide additional support for MLL/ELLs
- Teachers will have daily meetings to provide social/emotional support to MLL/ELLs
- Teachers will conduct home visits to connect school and student home life
- Regularly review feedback of MLL/ELL parents to adjust MLL/ELL program as needed
- Implement culturally responsive lesson plans across all content areas

### Students with disabilities:

- Continually monitor academic data to ensure sustainable academic growth
- Provide after-school and weekend programs to provide additional support for SWDs
- Teachers will have daily meetings to provide social/emotional support to SWDs



- Make sure regular classroom teachers are updated about the special requirements of students with disabilities so students with disabilities feel comfortable and welcome
- Teachers will conduct home visits to connect school and student home life
- Regularly review feedback of SWD parents and make adjustments to the SWD program

### **Economically disadvantaged (ED) students:**

- Provide after-school and weekend programs to provide additional support for EDs
- Teachers will have daily meetings to provide social/emotional support to EDs
- Teachers will conduct home visits to connect school and student home life
- Regularly review feedback from parents to adjust programs for ED students
- Guest speakers will be invited from their community to increase upward mobility
- Elementary school students will be taken on monthly field trips to expose them to learning opportunities often too cost-prohibitive for low-income students
- Provide safe, secure learning opportunities in a small school setting, with strong code of conduct and nationally recognized anti-bullying and character-education programs
- Establish and communicate a college-bound culture at SANY schools
- Apply for Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program to serve breakfast, snack, and lunch daily at no cost, without collecting household-income applications

III.c. Describe the existing school's/schools' success in meeting enrollment and retention targets, and/or actions taken towards meeting targets. Among SANY schools, only Syracuse Academy of Science and Citizenship (SASC) gives enrollment preference to English Language Learners. In its first year, although SASC did not achieve its MLL/ELL target, the school has implemented a systematic process and outreach strategies to come close to meeting its MLL/ELL enrollment target in its second year. After employing all the strategies listed in section III.a., as of April 1, 2019, SASC increased its MLL/ELL population from 8% to 15%. Other SANY schools, Syracuse Academy of Science (SAS) and Utica Academy of Science (UAS), also made strategic improvements to reach their MLL/ELL targets. SAS and UAS submitted a request to NYSED CSO to update their enrollment policies to give enrollment preference for MLL/ELL for the 2019-20 school year. UAS started with 18.5% MLL/ELL population in its first academic year (2013-14), while UCSD had 16% MLL/ELL. UAS made 32 MLL/ELL students proficient after taking NYSESLAT exam in the last five years, which negatively affected its MLL/ELL population. SAS also made 50 MLL/ELL students proficient after taking NYSESLAT exam in the last five years. All SANY schools show good faith efforts to recruit MLL/ELLs with positive results.

SWD population at UAS is within 10% of its enrollment target. Unlike SAS and SASC, UAS has been enrolling most of its students at grade 6. Therefore, it has more of a chance to enroll students with IEPs from the USD school district. However, SAS and SASC are enrolling most of their students from kindergarten. Both schools are using all the strategies listed in section III.a., but there is a slim chance that these schools will be able to enroll large numbers of SWD students from the area school districts. SANY schools implemented a systematic process for evaluating students' academic growth and tightening up the RTI process to identify possible SWD candidates and refer them to their public school district for evaluation. As of April 2019,



SAS elementary school had 41 RTI referral rate, 27 of which were recommended for evaluation, and SASC elementary had 35 RTI referral rate, 18 of which were recommended for evaluation.

Economically disadvantaged student populations at SASC and UAS are within 10% of each school's enrollment target number. SAS is employing all the strategies listed in section III.a. to attract ED students. Since most of the immigrant population is eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, all the strategies the school uses to increase MLL/ELL population will also help to increase the ED student populations in our schools. SANY schools have been exceeding--or getting very close to--meeting their retention targets over the past years. SANY schools continue to implement the subgroup retention strategies discussed under section III.b. to make sure that the schools meet their retention targets.

### **IV. Public Outreach and Community Support**

IV.a. Describe the public outreach conducted to date to solicit community input regarding the proposed school using the attached Table 2. The applicant group has participated in thoughtful and engaging discussions with community leaders, such as college presidents, business owners, educational non-profit organization leaders, and prospective parents. CSARochester organizers have used many instruments and media to reach the Rochester public, including a) meetings with several community leaders; b) a webpage (<a href="http://www.csarochester.org">http://www.csarochester.org</a>); c) press release to multiple local newspapers and TV stations; d) face-to-face and online public surveys; e) visits to religious facilities; f) outreach through social media; and g) public information sessions. An executive summary was given to businesses throughout Rochester in an effort to notify residents and garner their support. We will continue to hold public meetings and all other outreach activities after submitting this application. The list is provided in Table 2.

IV.b. Describe your initial assessment of parent interest in and/or demand for your proposed charter school, which will allow the school to reach its anticipated enrollment. Include in your response a description or analysis of any data you have collected. SANY Charter Schools have been encouraged by Rochester community leaders to replicate their models for four years. According to the community engagement, outreach efforts and the input that has been received from various stakeholders (community leaders, professors, teachers, college presidents, parents, and city officials), there is a great need for a school that will serve quality education to the Rochester urban youth. Stakeholders have been in alliance with the proposed key elements and expressed great interest in our replication model. Some of the leaders came and visited the schools in Syracuse to see the proposed charter school in action, as stated, "It is not a pie-in-the-sky but a school that successfully serves a similar population." On Facebook, the school's information reached out to 18,979 people, and 286 of them went to our website for further information. As of today, more than 94% of about 220 respondents through surveys showed an interest in the proposed CSARochester and would consider enrolling their children if it is chartered. The following comments made during meetings and on surveys reflect the areas of focus and needs that parents and community members identified, in the following priority order: a) field trips; b) community service; c) extended after-school and weekend academic programs; d) college visits, college readiness, dual enrollment, and summer research programs; e) emphasis on diversity and global/international awareness; f) environmental consciousness; g) positive, safe, and conducive learning environment.





# **Table 1: Applicant Group Information**

Created: 04/03/2019 • Last updated: 04/04/2019

Must include a minimum of 5 members proposed as Trustees

### **Applicant Group Information**

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	Name/Phone/Em ail Address	Current Employment	Relevant Experience/Skills and Role on Applicant Group	Proposed Role in School (e.g., trustee, employee, none)	Proposed Position on Board (Officer, Trustee, Constituent Rep)
1	Dr. Fehmi Damkaci,	Full Professor and Chair of Department of Chemistry, SUNY Oswego	K-12 charter school implementation and governance; high and middle school and college level teaching and leadership. Role:Leadership, educational programs, financial operations, overall design, and application.	Trustee	President
2	Jawwaad Rasheed I.D.,	Oneida County Family Court Magistrate	K-12 charter school governance and implementation, non-profit youth organizations and community leader, legal council and attorney. Role: Legal matters and college prep programs a	Trustee	Trustee
3	Dr. Coskun Cetinkaya,	Full Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering	K-12 charter school implementation and governance; STEM Education; educational leadership. Role:	Trustee	Treasurer

		SUNY Polytechnic Institute	Financial matters, STEM Education and College Prep Programs and college relations.		
4	Dr. Murat Baysal,	Assistant Professor and Chair of Department of Mechanical Engineering Technology, Morrisville State College	K-12 charter school implementation and governance; STEM education. Role: STEM Education and College Prep Programs and relations	Trustee	Vice President/Secret ary
5	Channel Turnquest	Licensed Real Estate Salesperson	K-12 charter school governance, non-profit youth organizations and community leader, realestate. Role: Community outreach and real- estate	Trustee	Trustee
6	Linda Spencer.	Retired Charter School Administrator	K-12 administrator and teacher, charter school management. Role: Curriculum, staff development, school climate.	Trustee	Trustee
7	Lindsav Crav,	Senior Director of Outdoor Program, Girl Scouts of Western NY	K-12 teacher and college educator, Rochester based educational non-profit leadership. Role: Community engagement and outreach	Trustee	Trustee
	Marilyn Dominick,		K-12 administrator and teacher.		

8		Retired Superintendent	Role: Curriculum, staff development, leadership development	Consultant	None
9	Dr. Tolga Havali,	SANY Charter Schools Superintendent	K-12 administrator and teacher, charter school management. Role: Leadership, Curriculum, Finance, community engagement and outreach	Superintendent	None
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### **Application History**

Identify whether any member of the current applicant group has ever applied to this or another charter entity to open this proposed school or another charter school, either in New York State or outside of New York State. Indicate the date on which the application(s) was/were submitted and to which charter entity; briefly describe the outcome of the charter entity's decision; and provide a concise description of significant modifications made in this application (if applicable).

Dr. Fehmi Damkaci: a) Board President for Pioneer Charter School of Science applied in 2006, to Massachusets Department of Education Charter School Office and approved; b) Board President for Utica Academy of Science Charter School applied in 2012 to NYSED Charter School Office and approved; c) Board president for Syracuse Academy of Science and Citizenship Charter School applied in 2016 to NYSED Charter School Office and approved.

Jawwaad Rasheed: Board Trustee for Syracuse Academy of Science and Citizenship Charter School applied in 2016 to NYSED Charter School Office and approved.

Chanel Turnquest: Board Trustee for Syracuse Academy of Science and Citizenship Charter School applied in 2016 to NYSED Charter School Office and approved.

Dr. Coskun Cetinkaya: a) Board President for Harmony Science Academy Houston Chater School applied in 1999 to Texas Education Agency and approved; b) Board President for Harmony Science Academy Austin applied in 1999 to Texas Education Agency and approved; c) Board President for Frontier School of Science Charter School, Missouri, Kansas applied in 2008 to University of Missouri-Kansas City Charter School Division and approved.

Dr. Murat Baysal: Board Trustee for Syracuse Academy of Science and Citizenship Charter School applied in 2016 to NYSED Charter School Office and approved.

Marilyn Domenick: Board Trustee for Syracuse Academy of Science and Citizenship Charter School applied in 2016 to NYSED Charter School Office and approved.

Tolga Hayali: Founding Member or Syracuse Academy of Science and Citizenship Charter School applied in 2016 to NYSED Charter School Office and approved.

Date(s) of Outreach (mm/dd/yy)	Target Stakeholder Group	Description of the Outreach	Location of Outreach	Input Obtained	Action Taken on Input	Number of Attendees
04/04/2019	Ajamu Kitwana, the VP and Executive Director of ESL Charitable Foundation. Ajamu is a graduate of the well-regarded Betty Shabazz International Charter School in Chicago. He also is a board chair for ROC the Future	Phone conversation, introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School		Supportive of quality education for all children. Developing transparent relationship.	Possible transparent partnership through ROC the Future and Children's Agenda	2
03/26/2019	Jennifer Leonard, Simeon Banister, and Chris Dandino, respectively, the President/CEO, VP of Community Programs, and Director of Greater Rochester After- School Alliance of Rochester Area Community Foundation. The Community Foundation is also convener of ROC the Future and provides	Face-to-face Meeting conversation, introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School	500 East Avenue Rochester (Rochester Communit y Foundatio n)	Learned more about the After School Alliances and looking forward visiting some of the schools already implementing strong after school program.  Need for high quality schools	Possible developing a partnership with the Greater Rochester After-School Alliance of Rochester Area Community Foundation.	5

	support staff for the organization					
03/28/2019	Malik Evans, a former president of Rochester Board of Education and current city councilman and Program Manager at ESL Federal Credit Union.	Face-to-face Meeting conversation, introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School	Rochester City Hall	Need for high quality schools to serve inner city Rochester area youth		3
03/28/2019	Baye Muhammad Commissioner of Neighborhood and Business Development and former SASCS parent (3 of his children graduated from SASCS)	Face-to-face Meeting conversation, introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School	Rochester City Hall	Strongly encouraged SANY Charter School to replicate in the Rochester City area	He will help with the building sites if needed and he gave his full support as a reference for the new Charter school proposal in Rochester	2
03/20/2019	Joseph Robach, member of the NY Senate, representing the 56th District	Face-to-face Meeting conversation with his office staff, introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School	Albany state Legislator s Offices	It was the budget time and we left the proposed school materials. Need for quality education within Rochester area was shared	Continue to develop relationship and seek possible opportunities to apply for funding	4
03/20/2019	Assemblywoman Jamie Romeo and Justin Wilcox Monroe County	Face-to-face Meeting conversation with her office staff and Justin Wilcox, introducing the Citizenship	Albany state Legislator s Offices	In contact with her staff and looking for a local visit appointment		4

	Legislator – District 14	and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School				
04/01/2019	Robert Duffy, he President and CEO of the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce and co- chair of the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council. Former mayor of Rochester, as well as first lieutenant governor	Phone Conversation with Bob introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School	Phone Conversati on	Indicated the need for quality schools but preferred to stay neutral.  Suggested a possible Presentation at the Education platform of the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce	Presentation at the Education platform of the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce	2
03/28/2019	Michael Boller, biology professor, director of the sustainability program, and coordinator for the Center for Sustainability at St. John Fisher College.	Face-to-face Meeting conversation, introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School	Coffee Shop in Rochester (Stacy nites Coffee Shop)	Developing environmental programs where students may come and get exposed to St. John Fisher College. Provided support letter	Developing possible environmental science and awareness programs between St. John Fisher and CSARochester	2
3/28/2019	Glenn Cerosaletti, the Assistant Dean of Students and Director of the Rochester Center for Community Leadership at the	Phone Conversation introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School		There is a need in Rochester area for quality schools. No Support Letter currently.		2

	University of Rochester.					
03/26/2019	Kit Mayberry the VP for Strategic Planning & Special Initiatives at Rochester Institute of Technology.	Face-to-face Meeting conversation, introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School	RIT	Dr. Mayberry shared one of the best practices they developed with Prep Charter Schools and might be a possibility to extend it. Support Letter was provided	Possible partnership in exposing children to RIT college courses	3
03/26/2019	Jackie Campbell Alliance Director Children's Agenda	Face-to-face Meeting conversation, introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School	Children's Agenda Office Downtow n Rochester	The need in Rochester area for quality education		3
04/04/2019	James Hall, Dean of University Studies Division/Executive Director of the School of Individualized Study at RIT	Face-to-face Meeting conversation, introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School	RIT	Supportive of quality education and provided wealth of knowledge that will lead to great successful partnerships and opportunities for the Rochester urban youth	Preparing meetings for possible R.I.T educators to develop programs and partnerships as well as connecting with community organization, Leaders and professors DR. James Hall suggested.	4
04/04/2019	Dave Munson, the relatively new president of Rochester Institute of Technology.	Face-to-face Meeting conversation, introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School with SANY Alumni who attends R.I.T computer engineering	RIT	Supportive of Public Education and looking forward for future developments		4

04/04/2019	Wanda Perez, the founding principal of Academy of Health Sciences Charter School, which is set to open this fall	Face-to-face Meeting conversation, introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School	Academy of health Science	Introduction Breakthrough Leadership in Rochester	Set up a day and time for meeting	2
03/19/2019	Robert Colby – former Monroe County Legislator, Farmer and 2500 acres	Mr. Robert Colby who owns his farming company and served previously as a Monroe County Legislator	His office at Colby street, Spencerpo rt	There is a great need in Rochester area and he wanted include as a club or after school program – agriculture, farming and fieldtrips to his farms. Gave a support letter.	Possible partnership with his farm through fieldtrips, hands-on-minds on learning	2
03/19/2019	Paul Clark and Elaine Spaull Center for Youth in Rochester	Face-to-face Meeting conversation, introducing the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School	The center of youth service	Provided support letter and developing partnership with Syracuse and If Rochester will be approved will partner and work with them	Developing partnership program with Center for youth not just in Rochester possibly in Syracuse as well.	3
04/28/2019	Public outreach / community meeting	Explaining the CSARochester Charter School to the community after the press release	Rochester Science Museum	Need for high quality schools, STEAM focus, collaboration with Community organizations. Opportunities in terms of employment at CSARochester Charter School	Shared information of possible opportunities not only in regards to partnership but also possible employment opportunities	5
03/11/2019	Lindsay Cray	Senior Director of Outdoor Program at Girls Scout at western New York	Her House	Need for quality schools that connect with the community	Become one of the founding member as well as future Board member	3

03/18/2019	Holli Budd	Representatives	Farash	Need for high quality	Spoke with the individuals and	3
	Executive Director,	from the Farash	Foundatio	schools and they are	organizations mentioned throughout	
	and Kristen Barclay	Foundation in	n, 255	supporting such schools	the meeting	
	respectively, the,	Rochester, NY	East	to serve the inner city		
	Senior Program	,	Avenue	youth in Rochester area		
	Officer of the Farash		Rochester,	Helped by providing a		
	Foundation in		New York	wealth of information		
	Rochester		14604	Provided Support letter		
03/07/2019	Joel T. Helfrich, PhD	Face-to-face Meeting	Equal	Need for high quality	Connected and met with many	3
03/07/2019	Board Chair,	conversation, introducing the	Grounds	schools and they are	Leaders and community	J
	Rochester River	Citizenship and Science	Coffee	supporting such schools	organizations in Rochester area via	
	Foundation	Academy of Rochester Charter	House,	to serve the inner city	his great support as well as working	
	& proposed	School	South Ave.	youth in Rochester area	on possible locations within the	
	Rochester River			Helped by providing a	city	
	School			wealth of information		
				Provided Support letter		
04/05/2019	James Taylor CEO of	introducing the Citizenship	Through	Need for high quality		3
	Taylor Construction	and Science Academy of	email	schools and possible		
		Rochester Charter School		working relationship		
				with local businesses		
04/05/2019	Melissa ODasz	Current Teacher in a Rochester	phone	Support for the		2
		area Charter School and		Proposed		
		former SANY employee		CSARochester Charter		
				school		
04/05/2019	Rochester	Survey – online and hard copy	Communit	About 220 surveys		220
	Community		У	showed interest in		
			meetings	proposed Charter		
			and social	schools to one-on-one		
			media	attention, fieldtrips,		
			(Facebook	community service,		
			,	extended after school		
				and weekend programs,		

			Instagram,	college visits and	
			Twitter)	college dual	
				enrollment, emphasis	
				on diversity	
03/22/2019	Press release to local	Rochester Business Journal			
	newspapers and tv	and Syracuse.com posted			
	stations in Rochester	article in regards to the			
	area	proposed CSARochester			
		Charter School			



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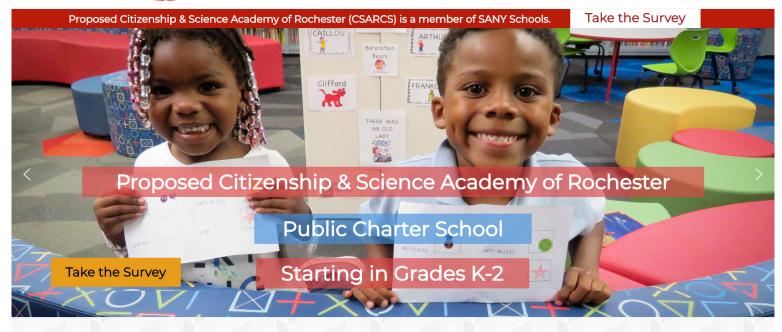
SANY Schools Propos

Proposed School

**About Charter Schools** 

Survey

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### **Information Session**

## THURSDAY

28
March



### LOCATION

Rochester Museum & Science Center

**RMSC** 

5:00 - 7:30 P.M.

### **Data Reports**







### **Key Elements to Success at SANY**



### 

Aligned in with the school's mission to graduate college-ready and civic-minded students is an emphasis on offering high-quality instruction and curriculumincluding programs during and after school, as well as in the summer—that have been developed to provide every student the opportunity to attend college. More



### Student Centered School

#### Structure

SANY schools offer a small, safe, nurturing environment to students. SANY schools create a family atmosphere in which all staff members know each other and their students, which provides a safe and controlled environment.



### Focused on STEM and Environment

In all K-12 levels, SANY promotes real-world problem solving & exploration in science and mathematics, with interactive engagement & collaborative problemsolving opportunities, field trips to environmentally friendly locations & science museums, and regular use of technology: computer laboratories, Smartboards, IPADs, and Chromebooks. More



Student success and performance is affected not only by teachers but also by parents and environment. Therefore, parental involvement is a significant part of our school's strategic goals. More



### Glocal Education

SANY schools have a celebratory atmosphere and promote positive attitudes through quarterly recognition and rewards for academic efforts and citizenship, evidenced through certificates, gift certificates, and invitations to an annual Dean's List Dinner for students and their families. More

### Performance based accountability

SANY schools must achieve academic and organizational excellence through outstanding instructional quality, as part of their key design elements, to remain a viable educational alternative in the community. More

### **SANY District Office SANY Schools** ★ 1409 West Genesee St. Syracuse, NY 13204 ★ Syracuse Academy of Science Charter School **315-671-5470** Syracuse Academy of Science and Citizenship Charter School ★ Utica Academy of Science Charter School info@sany.org **♥** Google Map It

### **Education Improvement Survey**

DEAR PARTICIPANT: Thank you for taking this brief survey. Your answers are very important to us in helping to shape a new citizenship, math, and science focused college preparatory school (grades K-12) in Rochester, NY.



1. Do you think the level of education provided by the schools in your area needs improvement?
2. Would you like your child's school to have extended hours at a small setting?  ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Would you like your child's school to focus more on college preparation, particularly with a mat and science focused curriculum?  Ves   No
4. Do you think there is need for more emphasis on diversity and global/international awareness is schools?  ☐ Yes ☐ No
5. Would you consider sending your child/children to the proposed Charter School?  Yes   No
6. Tell us about what is needed in your child's district educational program.  ☐ More after school programs ☐ College visits ☐ Other:
7. How many children do you have entering Grades K-2 in September 2020?  One □ Two □ Three □ Other:
8. General Comment Regarding Need and Structure of the New School:  More hands on experience
First and Last Name:



Caitlin MacSeamus
-------------------

### For Immediate Release: Proposed Charter School Information Session

1 message

Caitlin MacSeamus

Fri, Mar 22, 2019 at 1:43 PM

To: tmacaluso@rochester-citynews.com

Good Afternoon Mr. Macaluso,

I am writing to you on behalf of SANY Superintendent, Dr. Tolga Hayli, in regards to the proposed Citizenship & Science Academy of Rochester Charter School, and the first information session to be held on March 28.

### Proposed: Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School

Science Academies of New York Charter Schools (serving children in Syracuse and Utica) announced today that an application will be submitted to New York State for a new charter school in the City of Rochester which will be called Citizenship & Science Academy of Rochester Charter School (CASRCS).

The CASR Charter School, which would open for the 2020-21 school year serving 168 students in grades k-2 with an emphasis on serving English Language Learners in a college-bound, STEM setting.

Public information sessions will be held at the Rochester Museum & Science Center, located at 657 East Ave, Rochester, NY 14607 on the following date and time; the public is encouraged to attend.

### Information Session at 5:00 p.m. on March 28, 2019

To learn more about the proposed Citizenship and Science Academy in Rochester Charter School please visit www.casrochester.org.

### **Additional Information**

In 10 years, CASR Charter School would become a k-12 school with the following features: College Prep, focus on STEM and environmental education, home visits, student-centered school structure (tutoring and afterschool activities, extended school day and year, small school environment), glocal education (teaching to think globally and acting locally by character education, mentorship program, community service, international trips and activities, and various citizenship programs), and performance-based accountability.

Over the past several years the Syracuse and Utica Academy of Science Charter Schools have had a cohort graduation rate of more than 90% with more than 95% of those graduates receiving College Acceptances from several Universities and Colleges. According to the National Clearinghouse Data, more than 70% of the Alumni who went to college successfully finished their freshman year and moved on as a sophomore.

• According to NYSED 2016-2017 data, Rochester has the lowest graduation rate of any of the New York State urban districts, at 46%. The graduation rate for English Language Learners (ELL) was 20% in 2017. Approximately 75 languages are represented among families in the district. There is a need to provide alternative public education to parents of this historically low-performing student group. CSARCS will give priority to these students to provide them with a college-preparatory educational experience while meeting their unique cultural and social needs.

SASCS has been recognized as one of the best public high schools in the nation two years in a row by U.S. News & World Report and has consistently maintained a waiting list in excess of 1,400 students.

### About Science Academies of New York (SANY) Charter Schools

There are three Charter School serving under the SANY umbrella, Syracuse and Utica Academy of Science Charter School (SASCS), and Syracuse Academy of Science and Citizenship Charter School which all

are nonprofit, tuition-free, public, k-12, college preparatory charter school in Central New York. The schools prepare students for college, career and citizenship through a STEM-based curriculum. SANY seeks to graduate students who can think critically and creatively; who a re committed to a lifetime of learning and civic involvement; and who are conscious of local, global and environmental issues.

-

### **Caitlin MacSeamus**

Graphic Designer
Science Academies of New York - SANY at www.sany.org

### **District Office:**

1409 West Genesee St. Syracuse, NY 13204 P: 315-671-5470 ext 7108 | F: 315-671-5475

### **Our Schools:**

Syracuse Academy of Science at www.sascs.org Syracuse Academy of Science and Citizenship at www.sasccs.org Utica Academy of Science at www.uascs.org





SANY\_RochesterCharterSchool\_MediaRelease.docx 157K



Are you interested in your child learning in a small nurturing classroom environment?

We are proposing a free public charter school certified by the New York State Board of Regents with an emphasis on college readiness and volunteerism.



Alongside our rigorous STEM-based curriculum, students will be given the opportunity to learn and grow into involved, caring citizens with a keen sense of social awareness and community responsibility.

The Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School, will begin by serving Grades K-2 in September 2020. Does our school sound like the right fit for your student?

If so, complete our survey online at csarochester.org to express your interest in our school or scan the QR code on this letter to let you know you want your child to join our community of scholars today!



### THURSDAY

March

### **INFORMATION SESSION**

Want to see our success for yourself? Come to our next information session. Meeting will be held at the Rochester Museum & Science Center from 5:00-7:30 p.m.

WANT TO LEARN MORE? CSAROCHESTER.ORG









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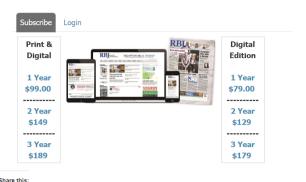
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# Syracuse organization proposes charter school in Rochester .

★ Home / Industry / Education /

A Syracuse charter school organization will be in town Thursday to drum up support for expansion to Rochester. Science Academies of New York, or SANY, will host an information session March 28 at the Rochester Museum & Science Center for parents and others interested in learning more about the charter school. "We wanted to share—since we have ...

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BRIDGETOWER MEDIA



CENTRAL NY NEWS

### Syracuse charter school operator may expand in Rochester

Posted Mar 28, 2019



Scott Schild | sschild@syracuse.

In this file photo, Syracuse Academy of Science students attend their graduation ceremony at the Landmark Theater, Scott Schild | sschild@syracuse.com Scott Schild | sschild@syracuse.













### By James T. Mulder | jmulder@syracuse.com

SYRACUSE, NY - A Syracuse charter school operator wants to expand into Rochester.

Science Academies of New York, which operates the Syracuse Academy of Science and the Syracuse Academy of Science and Citizenship, will seek state permission to open a charter school in Rochester in 2020, initially serving 168 students in grades kindergarten through second

The proposed Citizenship & Science Academy of Rochester Charter School would eventually become a K-12 school over 10 years, according to Tolga Hayali, superintendent of Science Academies of New York. The nonprofit also operates a charter school in Utica.

Hayali said his organization wants to replicate in Rochester what it's doing in Syracuse.

The proposed Rochester school will focus on serving English language learners in a college-bound setting focused on science, technology, engineering and math.

Charter schools are free, independent public schools funded by school districts and the state that operate under a contract known as a "charter." They are exempt from some of the regulations governing typical public schools. The state passed a law in 1998 allowing charter schools as a way to improve learning and offer parents and students more choices. Charter schools in New York are authorized by either the Board of Regents or SUNY.

Syracuse has four charter schools and two others have been proposed

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The Syracuse Academy of Science Charter School was founded in 2003 by Syracuse University faculty. It launched the Utica school in 2013 and opened the Syracuse Academy of Science and Citizenship in 2017.



Syracuse may get 2 more charter schools as district sweats over costs

Syracuse will have six charter schools if state approves two proposed independent high schools.

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CENTRAL NY NEWS

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Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School @csarochester

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Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charte

March 6 at 10:59 AM · 🚱

Would you like to see a new STEM-focused college-preparatory charter school in Rochester? If so, please fill out our survey for the proposed Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School to demonstrate your support

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### Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School

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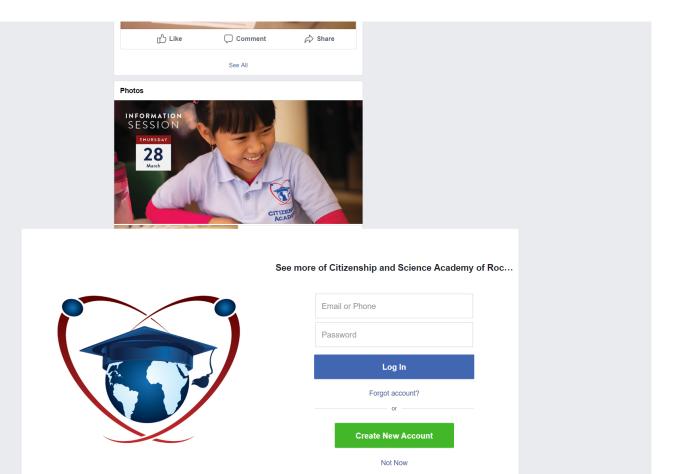
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Do you want to learn more about our successful model for yourself? Join us for our first information session. The meeting will be held Thursday, March 28, at the Rochester Museum & Science Center from 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you there!







csa\_rochester Follow

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### CSA Rochester

The Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester is a proposed public charter school.

#CSARAtoms

🃤 #CSAR

www.csarochester.org/index.php/survey

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#### **CSA Rochester**

Proposed Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School

Rochester, NY

⊗ csarochester.org

☐ Joined March 2019



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CSA Rochester @csarochester · Mar 6 Would you like to see a new STEM-focused college-preparatory charter school in Rochester? If so, please fill out our survey for the proposed Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School to demonstrate your support

csarochester.org/index.php/surv...

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 $\textbf{CSA Rochester} \ @csarochester \cdot Mar \ 22$ 

CSA Rochester @csarochester · Mar 22

Do you want to learn more about our successful model for yourself? Join us for our first information session. The meeting will be held Thursday, March 28, at the Rochester Museum & Science Center from 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you there!



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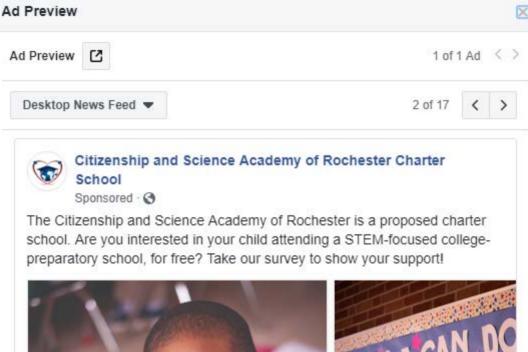
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# $R \cdot I \cdot T$

#### Rochester Institute of Technology

Vice President for Strategic Planning and Special Initiatives George Eastman Building 157 Lomb Memorial Drive Rochester, New York 14623-5603

3 April 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I write in support of the proposed Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Public Charter School (CSA Rochester) in Rochester, NY. As a long-time resident of the city of Rochester and an officer of the Rochester Institute of Technology, I am fully aware of the need for a school like CSA. In the several years that RIT has been working with charter schools, we have learned just how critical educational choice is to Rochester families.

Because CSA Rochester will replicate the very successful Science Academy of NY Public Charter Schools in Syracuse and Utica, I am confident that this new school will hit the ground running. Their slow growth approach to developing the school is exactly right and will culminate in a K-12 school that will include the following:

- College prep perspective
- STEM and Environmental education
- Home visits
- Tutoring and after-school activities
- Extended day

I particularly like their concept of *glocal* education (think globally, act locally), which stresses character education, mentorship, volunteering, and community service. Additionally, they are one of the few charter schools of which I am aware that offer international experiences to their students.

The test and college results of the Syracuse and Utica SANY schools are impressive, as is their overall teaching philosophy. Teachers will be granted a fair amount of flexibility in their class content, while adhering to those principles and techniques that have proven successful in the other SANY schools.

In short, I have no reservations about the addition of the CSA Rochester to the Rochester educational environment and applaud its founders and supporters for their foresight and commitment.

Very truly yours,

Katherine J. Mayberry, Ph.D.

Vice President for Strategic Planning

Rochester Institute of Technology

cc: Anna Hall

Northeast Charter Schools Network

Katheime & Mughen



April 3, 2019

#### Saint John Fisher College Sustainability Program

#### **Letter of Support**

The St. John Fisher College Sustainability Program supports the proposed Citizen & Science Academy of Rochester. We see the proposed charter school as one that would bring much needed sustainability concepts to the center of attention at the K-12 school. We define sustainability as working toward all people having the ability to thrive within a healthy, peaceful, and prosperous world. The STEM focus will provide crucial skills and knowledge. The academy's goal of creating caring citizens, social awareness, and community responsibility is perfectly aligned with our program mission. Together, the school will contribute to a competent and productive citizenry that will be better prepared to face our future challenges.

The school's focus on STEM education is one that would support the needs of the Sustainability Program. STEM fields are integral to the development and implementation of a sustainable future and an important foundation for students in our program. Likewise, the STEM focus is something that can be supported at the College. Our laboratory facilities are used by a number of school groups and we have generated field experiences for K-12 groups at local parks and on campus. I can envision programs that would expose the Academy's students to our student and faculty research across our scope of departments.

The citizenship focus is also central to our mission. The Academy's emphasis on community responsibility aligns with the environmental stewardship, environmental justice, and community support pillars of our efforts. A sustainable society is one that has engaged and responsible citizens; the proposed Academy would help create that. Our program, and other programs on campus engaged in community service, will be able to support and engage the Academy through service learning projects, service opportunities, and collaborations with other community partners.

We look forward to working with the Academy to support students from the City of Rochester the opportunity to develop the crucial skills and knowledge to help make our sustainable future. I see potential for providing both support to the proposed Academy, in the form of service learning projects for my college students and opportunities for the K-12 students through partnerships and on our campus.

PHONE: 585-899-3732 EMAIL: MBOLLER@SJFC.EDU

This letter of support comes from both the Sustainability Program as well as me personally.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Boller, Ph.D.

ML Elle

Associate Professor, Biology
Director, Sustainability Program

Coordinator, Center for Sustainability

St. John Fisher College



April 3, 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the replication of a Citizenship and Science Academy (CSA Rochester) in Rochester, N.Y. As one of the largest private charitable foundations focused on education in the City of Rochester, the Farash Foundation is interested in the growth of high performing schools and believes that replication is one of the key strategies that will lead to an increase in quality seats. Specifically, the Foundation believes CSARochester will benefit to the children, families, and community for the following reasons:

- It is our understanding that CSARochester replication will draw on their expertise and learnings from the nationally recognized Science Academy of New York (SANY) Public Charter Schools in Syracuse and Utica, N.Y. As you know, the only network of high-performing charter schools currently in Rochester is Uncommon, and the Foundation believes bringing another high-performing school network is a key lever in improving school quality across the city.
- As one of the lowest performing urban districts in the country, it is critical for our students and families to know that high quality school options exist. The lack of quality choice, particularly for our ELL students, is acute. It is our understanding that CSARochester will give priority to these students to provide them with a college-preparatory educational experience while meeting their unique cultural and social needs.
- Of particular interest to the Foundation is the long-term plan for CSARochester to become a K-12 school. There is a need for K-12 pipeline schools, and specifically those with the following features: college prep, focus on STEM and environmental education, home visits, student-centered school structure (tutoring and after-school activities, extended school day, small school environment), *glocal* education (thinking globally and acting locally), and a belief in and adherence to performance-based accountability.

The Farash Foundation supports the approval of the Citizenship and Science Academy Charter School in Rochester to serve students in our community and believe the school's mission is aligned with the types of high-quality school options our children need.

Sincerely,

Isobel Goldman

Director of Grants and Programs

Farash Foundation

255 East Avenue, Suite 400

Rochester, N.Y. 14617



March 27, 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the approval of the proposed Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Public Charter School (CSARochester) in Rochester, NY. I am a resident of The Greater Rochester Area and I am confident that CSARochester will be an incredible asset to the Rochester Community. CSARochester will be of great benefit to the children, families, and local community for the following reasons:

- CSARochester Public Charter School is a replication of the already successful and nationally recognized Science
  Academy of New York (SANY) Public Charter Schools in Syracuse and Utica, NY serving three charter schools in
  six buildings of almost 1,800 urban area children.
- According to NYSED 2016-2017 data, the City of Rochester's student minority population is 89%, including students identifying as Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, Native American, or other. Rochester has the lowest graduation rate of any of the New York State urban districts at 46%. The graduation rate for English Language Learners (ELL) was 20% in 2017. Approximately 75 languages are represented among families in the district. There is a need for alternative public educational choices for parents of these historically low-performing student group. CSARochester will give priority to these students to provide them with a college-preparatory educational experience while meeting their unique cultural and social needs.
- After 10 years, CSARochester will become a K-12 school with the following features: college prep, focus on STEM and environmental education, home visits, student-centered school structure (tutoring and after-school activities, extended school day, small school environment), glocal education (thinking globally and acting locally through character education, mentorship programs, volunteering and community service, national / international trips and activities, and various citizenship programs), and performance-based accountability. In Syracuse and Utica, the Science Academies of New York (SANY www.sany.org) have more than 1,400 students on its waiting list.
- The School of Citizenship and Science in Rochester will initially be open to grades K-2, enabling early
  intervention for language needs, therefore providing the necessary building blocks to prevent gaps in learning
  stemming from language proficiency concerns. The school will complete its K-12 plan when 2020's second
  graders become high school seniors in 2029.
- SANY enrolls students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, students with disabilities, and ELL students to provide a diverse and a positive learning environment. SANY schools promote Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning for children. The staff of SANY was involved in sharing their practices in a recently published book by Columbia University Teachers College—School of Promise for Multilingual Students.

I support the approval of the Citizenship and Science Academy Charter School in Rochester to serve students in our community. I value the school's mission and would be extremely happy to see this as a school of choice in our community.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Cray Senior Director Outdoor Program Rochester Service Center

Buffalo Service Center, Headquarters 3332 Walden Avenue, Suite 106 Depew, New York 14043 T (716) 837-6400

Batavia Service Center 5 Jackson Street Batavia, New York 14020 T (585) 344-7050 F (585) 344-0765

F (716) 706-1359

Jamestown Service Center

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Rochester Service Center 1000 Elmwood Avenue, Suite 200

Rochester, NY 14620 T (585) 292-5160 F (585) 292-1086

All Offices

Toll-free 1 (888) 837-6410 gswny.org





T0: Dr. Tolga Hayali, SANY Superintendent

From: Joseph J. Marinelli, Ph.D., Director, Finger Lakes STEM Hub

RE: Support of Citizen and Science Academy of Rochester Public Charter School

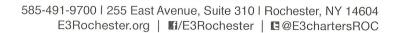
Date: 4/3/19

The Finger Lakes STEM Hub supports the application of CSARochester. This school will be a great asset to our efforts in Rochester to promote quality STEM education and career exploration activities for youth. The Finger Lakes STEM Hub, working with all our partners and 125 network members, will serve as a catalyst to collaborate and assist the school in these efforts.

The Hub is a network of K-12 and college educators, youth development community organizations and STEM businesses whose mission is to bring diverse partners together. We are affiliated with SUNY's Empire State STEM Learning Network. CSARochester, as a network member, will be able to participate in monthly networking Roundtables, participate in and benefit from the Hub's recognition of quality STEM programs in our 8 county region, participate in professional development for its staff sponsored by the Hub, attend its regional fall forums on STEM topics, use its mobile friendly website and google group to access clearinghouse information and resources, and be able to participate in grants received by the Hub.

SANY and our Hub will demonstrate a commitment to connecting youth with the world of STEM. Examples of what already occurs here include visits by students and teachers to STEM industries and makerspaces, participation in local and regional science and engineering fairs, hands on exhibits at the Rochester Museum and Science Center, and inviting STEM professionals (eg. Rochester Engineering Society) into schools to inspire students to consider STEM careers.

We support approval CSARochester and stand ready to assist.





April 3, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the charter application for Citizenship & Science Academy of Rochester Charter School.

As someone who has been working to improve educational opportunities for children in the City of Rochester, I believe that well-run charter schools offer a direct way to improve the educational landscape here in parallel with efforts being made to improve the struggling Rochester City School District. Therefore, I am an enthusiastic supporter of opening additional charter schools here, so long as they have a proven academic and operational school model and good leadership.

I have only recently been made aware of the proposed school, but have met with Tolga Hayali and discussed his plans. I will be visiting one of his schools in Syracuse next week, but in the meantime have examined the website for the Syracuse schools and researched their results. It appears that these schools perform well and provide a proven model that can be replicated in Rochester. It appears they have a strong leadership team and, with Syracuse only an hour away, replication and management of the school should be straightforward.

E3 Rochester administers the common enrollment system for Rochester's charter schools. Applications are up significantly this year over last, with large wait lists likely at the K-2 grade levels, indicating strong demand for more good charter schools. The Citizenship & Science Academy of Rochester Charter School looks like a welcome addition. I support its application.

Sincerely,

Bryan D. Hickman

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Executive Director, E3 Rochester Inc.

& - Hickoran

Chairman, Vertus Charter School

April 2, 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

I support approval for the proposed Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Public Charter School (CSARochester) in Rochester, NY. As founding Director of the internationally-affiliated science and engineering fair serving Rochester, Monroe County and eight other Finger Lakes counties, I believe strongly that CSARochester will be an outstanding asset to the Greater Rochester Area, given my personal commitment to this community. Ying Tri Region Science and Engineering Fair, the nonprofit I direct, has been an affiliate of the Rochester Engineering Society, and is a Silver Partner of the Finger Lakes STEM Hub. I represent Terra Science and Education in relation to its sponsorship of the Rochester Museum and Science Center.

As an educator myself and a nonprofit consultant deeply engaged in the Rochester area, I am confident that the school's children and their families will benefit greatly for the following reasons:

- CSARochester will replicate for Rochester the already successful and nationally recognized Science Academies of New York (SANY www.sany.org) Public Charter Schools in Syracuse and Utica, NY. Its three charter schools in six buildings now serve almost 1800 urban area children.
- NYSED 2016-2017 data documents that the population of the City of Rochester includes 89% non-white people; those students identify as Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, Native American, or other. Rochester has the lowest graduation rate - 46% - of any of the New York State urban districts. My work consistently focuses on meeting the needs of these students; CSARochester will be a powerful partner for that effort.
- For English Language Learners (ELL), the city's graduation rate in 2017 was 20%. Approximately 75 languages are represented among families in the district. By providing the option of alternative public education to parents of this historically low-performing student group, this situation can be addressed. CSARochester will give priority to these students to provide them with a college-preparatory educational experience while meeting their unique cultural and social needs.
- Over the course of ten years, CSARochester will become a K-12 school with the following features: college preparation, focus on

STEM and environmental education, home visits, student-centered school structure (tutoring and after-school activities, extended school day, small school environment), global education (thinking globally and acting locally through character education, mentorship programs, volunteering and community service, national / international trips and activities, and various citizenship programs), and performance-based accountability. It is a measure of the Syracuse and Utica schools' success that SANY has over 1,400 students on its waiting list.

- CSARochester will initially accept grades K-2, enabling early intervention for language needs. This provides the necessary building blocks to prevent gaps in learning due to language proficiency concerns. The school will complete its K-12 plan when 2020's second graders become high school seniors in 2029.
- In addition to enrollment focused on ELL students, CSARcohester will serve
  students from economically disadvantaged families and students with disabilities.
  Through its diverse and a positive conducive learning environment, SANY schools
  will promote Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning for their children.
  SANY staff people recently shared their practices in <u>School of Promise for</u>
  <u>Multilingual Students</u>, a text published by Columbia University Teachers College.

I support the approval of the Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Public Charter School (CSARochester) to serve students in our community. I value the school's mission and would be extremely happy to see this as a school of choice in the Greater Rochester area.

Respectfully,

Mary Eileen Wood, M.S.

M. E. Wood and Associates

MaryEleen Wood



#### To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the approval of the proposed Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Public Charter School (CSARochester) in Rochester, NY. I am a resident of Rochester, and I am confident that CSARochester will be an incredible asset to the Rochester and be of great benefit to the children, families, and local community for the following reasons:

- CSARochester Public Charter School is a replication of the already successful and nationally recognized Science Academy of New York (SANY) Public Charter Schools in Syracuse and Utica, NY serving three charter schools in six buildings of almost 1800 urban area children.
- According to NYSED 2016-2017 data, the City of Rochester's minority population is 89%, with students identifying as Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, Native American, or other. Rochester has the lowest graduation rate of any of the New York State urban districts, at 46%. The graduation rate for English Language Learners (ELL) was 20% in 2017. Approximately 75 languages are represented among families in the district. There is a need to provide alternative public education to parents of this historically low-performing student group. CSACS will give priority to these students to provide them with a college-preparatory educational experience while meeting their unique cultural and social needs.
- After 10 years, SCAS-B will become a K-12 school with the following features: college prep, focus on STEM and environmental education, home visits, student-centered school structure (tutoring and after-school activities, extended school day, small school environment), local education (thinking globally and acting locally through character education, mentorship programs, volunteering and community service, national / international trips and activities, and various citizenship programs), and performance-based accountability. In Syracuse and Utica, the Science Academies of New York (SANY <a href="https://www.sany.org">www.sany.org</a>) have more than 1,400 students on its waiting list.
- The School of Citizenship and Science in Rochester will initially be open to grades K-2, enabling early intervention for language needs, therefore providing the necessary building blocks to prevent gaps in learning stemming from language proficiency concerns. The school will complete its K-12 plan when 2020's second graders become high school seniors in 2029.

## The builders.

In addition to enrolling all students especially from economically disadvantaged, students
with disabilities, as well as ELL students to provide a diverse and a positive conducive
learning environment, SANY schools, are promoting Culturally Responsive Teaching
and Learning to their children. The staff of SANY was involved in sharing their practices
in a recently published book by Columbia University Teachers <u>School of Promise for</u>
<u>Multilingual Students</u>.

I support the approval of the Citizenship and Science Academy Charter School in Rochester to serve students in our community. I value the school's mission and would be extremely happy to see this as a school of choice in our community.

Sincerely,	//	
James D. Taylor (CEO) Name (print full name)	Signature D. Jan	04/05/2019 Date





3/26/19

#### To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the approval of the proposed Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Public Charter School (CSARochester) in Rochester, NY. I am a resident of The Greater Rochester Area, and I am confident that CSARochester will be an incredible asset to the Rochester Community and be of great benefit to the children, families, and local community for the following reasons:

- \* CSARochester Public Charter School is a replication of the already successful and nationally recognized Science Academy of New York (SANY) Public Charter Schools in Syracuse and Utica, NY serving three charter schools in six buildings of almost 1800 urban area children.
- \* According to NYSED 2016-2017 data, the City of Rochester's student minority population is 89%, with students identifying as Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, Native American, or other. Rochester has the lowest graduation rate of any of the New York State urban districts, at 46%. The graduation rate for English Language Learners (ELL) was 20% in 2017. Approximately 75 languages are represented among families in the district. There is a need to provide alternative public education to parents of this historically low-performing student group. CSACS will give priority to these students to provide them with a college-preparatory educational experience while meeting their unique cultural and social needs.
- \* After 10 years, SCAS-B will become a K-12 school with the following features: college prep, focus on STEM and environmental education, home visits, student-centered school structure (tutoring and after-school activities, extended school day, small school environment), glocal education (thinking globally and acting locally through character education, mentorship programs, volunteering and community service, national / international trips and activities, and various citizenship programs), and performance-based accountability. In Syracuse and Utica, the Science Academies of New York (SANY www.sany.org) have more than 1,400 students on its waiting list.
- \* The School of Citizenship and Science in Rochester will initially be open to grades K-2, enabling early intervention for language needs, therefore providing the necessary building blocks to prevent gaps in learning stemming from language proficiency concerns. The school will complete its K-12 plan when 2020's second graders become high school seniors in 2029.
- \* SANY enrolls students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, students with disabilities, and ELL students to provide a diverse and a positive learning environment. SANY schools promote Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning to children. The staff of SANY was involved in sharing their practices in a recently published book by Columbia University Teachers College- School of Promise for Multilingual Students.



I support the approval of the Citizenship and Science Academy Charter School in Rochester to serve students in our community. I value the school's mission and would be extremely happy to see this as a school of choice in our community.

Sincerely,

Elaine Spaull	Elaine	Spaull	3/27	/19
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Name (print full name)	Signature	Date

### Colby Homestead Farms, Inc.

#### Established in 1802

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the approval of the proposed Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Public Charter School (CSA Rochester) in Rochester, NY. I am a resident of Monroe County, and I am confident that CSA Rochester will be a great benefit to the children, families, and local community for the following reasons:

As a local Agricultural Business owner and past Monroe County Legislator, I know of the ever increasing use of technology in the field of agriculture and in the conventional and organic production of food. There are numerous opportunities in the job market for high tech and rewarding careers in the agricultural industry. Having a school that is focused on STEM and environmental education provides the foundation for students considering careers in the field of agriculture at all levels.

I am also pledging my support to this school for the purpose of educational visits to my farm so that Elementary students can gain an understanding and appreciation of agriculture in New York State and so that Middle and High School students can see the relevance and application of courses taken at CSA Rochester, like Computer Science, Biology, Environmental Science, and others.

I support the approval of the Citizenship and Science Academy Charter School in Rochester to serve students in our community. I value the school's mission and would be extremely happy to see this as school of choice in our community.

Sincerely.

Robert Colby

March 18, 2019