

Rochester Area School District Jane W. Boyalino, Ed.D.

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Superintendent of Schools 540 Reno Street, Rochester, PA 15074

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July 6, 2021

Dear Rochester Families,

We hope that this communication finds you and your family enjoying a happy and healthy summer. On June 30, 2021, Governor Wolf signed Act 66 of 2021 (Act 66) into law. As a result of this Act, families are able to request the following for their children regarding the 2021-2022 school year to make up for any lost educational opportunities due to the COVID-19 pandemic, even if a student met the requirements to be promoted to the next grade level:

- An additional school year for students who aged out (21 years old) of special education in the 2020-2021 school year.
- The ability for K-12 students to repeat their 2020-2021 school year.

This Act mandates that parents/guardians and any students, at or over the age of 18, express their desire to repeat a grade level for the 2021-2022 school year to their designated school no later than July 15, 2021.

As required by Act 66, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) developed a standard form for which parents/guardians need to use to notify the school district of their child's plan to remain in the school and/or current grade level for the 2021-2022 school year. The form can be found on the District's website.

Completed forms should be emailed to the following individuals:

Jan Smalus

Elementary School: Amanda Cwynar, Principal cwynara@rasd.org

Middle School & High School: Michael Damon, Principal damonm@rasd.org

For students with an IEP who have aged out (21 years old):

Nick Long, Director of Special Education longn@rasd.org

Please note, students 18 or older who plan to repeat a grade level during the 2021-2022 school year must complete and submit their own form. For a student with a disability who turned 21 during the time periods listed above, both the parent/guardian and the student must complete the form. Although the form was developed by PDE, it must be submitted to the RASD Administrator listed above and not to PDE. <u>Guidance and answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) on Act 66 of 2021 is available on PDE's website.</u> Should you have any further questions regarding this Act, please contact your child's building principal.

Sincerely,

Jane W. Bovalino, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools