

A serene winter scene featuring a calm body of water in the foreground, reflecting the sky and a dense line of snow-laden trees on the opposite shore. A small yellow house with a white roof is nestled among the trees on the left, its reflection clearly visible in the water. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

Town of Rochester

Annual Report *2022*



Town of Rochester

Annual Town Report 2022

The 2022 Annual Report Dedication



William David Watling Jr.

As someone who has lived almost their entire life in Rochester, Dave embodies what Rochester and its community is all about. His pride in the town comes second only to his pride in his son and his family who also live in town. Dave can always be found around town helping out wherever a hand is needed. From umpiring little league games, serving as a park commissioner, to helping someone in need, he defines selflessness.

Following in the footsteps of his father, Dave has been the Rochester Herring Inspector and Vice President of Alewives Anonymous since 1993. His father, Bill Watling, founded Alewives Anonymous in 1984 with the mission of encouraging, promoting and supporting efforts to preserve and increase the number of herring in the Mattapoisett and Sippican Rivers. Beyond clearing the riverways for the fish, Dave is also responsible for installing and maintaining the counters that record the herring as they reach the breeding grounds, managing the water in the ponds at levels that are most beneficial for the fish as well as a host of many other responsibilities. He goes about these duties quietly and without any fanfare. No matter the weather or circumstances, if it needs to be done, he will personally make sure it gets done. In recognition for all of his hard work and dedication, Dave was named the Standard Times Rochester Man of the Year in 2003.

Dave also enjoys assisting in ways that may not be noticed by many, but certainly can be appreciated. He is a member of the Rochester Memorial Day Boat Race committee, helping set up and take down staging for the race and assisting with the awards ceremony. In his early years, he competed in the boat race many times, winning it 6 years. Now, he enjoys watching his son and daughter-in-law compete in the race.

Veterans Graves Supervisor is another of his titles, but you wouldn't know it unless you caught him in the act of going around town each year and placing American flags on the graves of fallen veterans. Being a veteran of the Vietnam War, Dave takes great pride in this honor and makes sure each veteran's resting place is adorned with a flag each year.

When he is not working on town affairs, he can be found at the beach with his wife and two grandchildren.

Dave is the epitome of what Rochester and its residents embody. Hard working, dedicated individuals who are always there for others, looking out for the greater good and taking care of one's town.

Town of Rochester Plymouth County

The Town of Rochester was founded in 1679 and incorporated on June 4, 1686. At that time the areas now known as Marion, Mattapoisett and West Wareham were all part of Rochester. These towns were subsequently separated from Rochester and by 1857 Rochester stood alone, having had the foresight to reserve rights on the seashores of the other towns.

Rochester is located in southeastern Massachusetts, bordered by Lakeville and Middleboro on the north, Wareham and Marion on the east, Mattapoisett on the south and Acushnet and Freetown on the west. Rochester is about 19 miles northeast of New Bedford; 50 miles south of Boston; 49 miles east of Providence, Rhode Island; and 227 miles from New York City.

Year incorporated as a town: 1686

Total area square miles: 39

Land area square miles: 36.39

Miles of accepted roads: 67.88

(Does not include State Highway Routes 28, 195, 495)

Population: 5,698 (according to the Federal Census)

Legislators:

U.S. Senator	Elizabeth Warren
U.S. Senator	Edward Markey
U.S. Congressman	William Keating
State Senator	Michael Rodrigues
State Representative	William M. Straus

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates:

Snipatuit Pond, Marion, Assawompsett Pond, New Bedford North

Regional Planning Agency:

Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District

Metropolitan Statistical Area: New Bedford

BOARD AND COMMITTEE SCHEDULES

Select Board

Office Hours Monday- 8:30 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday - Thursday 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Friday- 8:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
Meetings First and Third Monday at 6:00 P.M.

Tax Collector

Monday Evenings 5:00 P.M - 7:00 P.M.

Town Treasurer

Monday - Thursday 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
Friday 8:30 A.M – 1 P.M.

Town Clerk

Monday - Friday 9:00 A.M. – Noon
Monday evenings 4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Assessor's Office – Board of Assessors

Monday- 8:30 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday - Thursday 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Friday- 8:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
Meetings Every Monday Evening at 5:00 P.M.

Board of Health – 37 Marion Road

Meetings First and Third Wednesday of Each Month as Needed at 4:00 P.M.

Building Commissioner – 37 Marion Road

Monday- 8:30 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday - Thursday 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Friday- 8:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Conservation Commission – 37 Marion Road

Monday- 8:30 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday - Thursday 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Friday- 8:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
Meets First and Third Tuesday of Each Month at 7:00 P.M.

Council on Aging – 67 Dexter Lane

Monday - Friday 8:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. Meets the First Wednesday of Each Month at 9:00 A.M.

Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School Committee

Meets Third Wednesday Every Other Month at 7:30 P.M. at

Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School

Old Rochester Regional District School Committee

Meets the Second Wednesday of Each Month 6:30 P.M. at

Old Rochester Regional High School

Rochester Memorial School Committee

Meets the First Thursday of Each Month, 6:30 P.M. at the Town Hall

Park Commission

Meets as Needed

Personnel Board

Meets as Needed

Planning Board

Meets the Second and Fourth Tuesday of Each Month 7:00 P.M.

Soil Conservation Board

Meets the Third Wednesday of Each Month as Needed at 7:00 P.M.

Historic District Commission

Meets the Second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

Historical Commission

Meets the First Monday of Each Month 7:00 P.M.

Water Commission

Meets the Second Wednesday of each month

Joseph H. Plumb Memorial Library Board of Trustees

Meets the Second Thursday of Each Month at 6:30 P.M.

at the Plumb Library

Library hours: Monday 1:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday & Wednesday 10:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Thursday 1:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Friday 10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Saturday 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Veteran's District Office (Mattapoisett Town Hall)

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

DIRECTORY OF ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

MODERATOR

David Arancio

TERM EXPIRES

2024

SELECT BOARD

Greenwood Hartley III

2023

Paul Ciaburri

2024

Bradford N. Morse

2025

TOWN CLERK

Paul Dawson

2023

TAX COLLECTOR

Beatrice Renauld

2023

HIGHWAY SURVEYOR

Jeffrey Eldridge

2025

TREE WARDEN

Jeffrey Eldridge

2024

CONSTABLES

David L. Hughes

2025

Marc Slabodnick

2025

HERRING INSPECTOR

William D. Watling, Jr.

2023

BOARD OF HEALTH

W. David Souza

2023

Sarah Tisdale Eby

2024

Glenn Lawrence

2025

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Jana Cavanaugh

2024

Diana Knapp

2025

Suzanne Szyndlar

2023

PLANNING BOARD

Christopher Silveira

2023

Michael C. Murphy

2023

Marc Rousseau Jr.

2024

Lee Carr

2024

Arnold Johnson

2025

Bendrix Bailey

2025

John DeMaggio

2025

PLUMB LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Rhonda Reints	2023
Kathryn Besch	2023
Shauna Makuch	2024
Kelly Medeiros	2024
Kimberly Burt	2025
Michael King	2025

CEMETERY COMMISSION

David Shaw	2023
Molly Ross	2024
Lori Souza	2025

PARK COMMISSION

David Sylvia	2023
Kenneth Ross	2024
David Hughes	2025

WATER COMMISSION

Frederick Underhill	2023
David Hughes	2024
Richard Charon	2025

ROCHESTER MEMORIAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Anne Fernandes	2023
Katherine Duggan	2023
Robin Rounseville	2024
Jason Chisholm	2024
Sharon Hartley	2025

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Joseph Pires	2023
Matthew Monteiro	2024

DIRECTORY OF APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Glenn Cannon 2025

TOWN COUNSEL

Blair S. Bailey 2023

TOWN PLANNER

Nancy Durfee 2025

ACCOUNTANT

Suzanne Szyndlar 2023

Kathleen McHenry, Assistant 2025

TOWN TREASURER

Kory Lydon 2025

POLICE CHIEF

Robert Small 2024

FIRE CHIEF

Scott Weigel 2025

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Kristen Cardoso
2025

FINANCE COMMITTEE

James Austin 2023

Kristian Stoltenberg 2024

Anthony Ruocco 2024

Peter Armanetti 2025

David Arancio 2025

BUILDING COMMISSIONER

James Buckles, retired 2022

Carl Bizarro, resigned 2025

Paul Boucher 2025

PLUMBING INSPECTOR

Lawrence Ferreira 2023

Stephen McGraw, Assistant 2023

GAS INSPECTOR

Stephen McGraw 2023

Lawrence Ferreira, Assistant 2023

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Jack Savastano 2023

OLD COLONY VOCATIONAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Sharon Cruz 2023

Shirley Bourque 2024

David L. Hughes 2025

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Kevin Thompson, Associate Member 2023

William Clapp 2023

Matthew Bache 2024

Carl MacDermott 2024

Bill Milka 2024

Bendrix Bailey 2024

Michael Gifford 2025

Christopher Gerrior 2025

Merilee Kelly, Conservation Agent

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Jeffrey Costa, Associate 2023

Michelle Upton, Associate 2023

Davis L. Sullivan 2023

Thomas Flynn 2024

David Arancio 2025

Richard Cutler 2026

Donald Spirlet 2027

SOIL BOARD

Albert Weigel, Associate Member 2023

David True, Board of Health Representative 2023

John Dvorski, Conservation Commission Representative 2023

Gary Florindo, Planning Board Representative 2023

Richard J. Charon, At-Large Member 2025

COUNCIL ON AGING

Andrew Revell 2023

Michael Cambra 2023

Marjorie O' Brien 2023

Marjorie Barrows 2024

Patricia E. Ryan 2024

Susan Norton 2024

Pauline Munroe 2025

Mary Bessey 2025

WIRING INSPECTOR

Kevin Rittenhouse 2023

George Randall, Assistant 2023

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Susan LaFleur	2023
Connie Eshbach	2024
George Owen	2025
Timothy Bates	2025

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Ginette Castro, Associate Member	2023
Sara Johnston	2023
Theodore Brillon	2024
Susan Flemming	2024
Matthew Monteiro	2025
Stephanie Carr	2025

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Daniel Hartley	2023
Steven Harding	2023
Bradford Correia	2024
Travis Lalli	2024
William Chamberlain	2025
Ominique Garner	2025

PERSONNEL BOARD

Adam Murphy	2025
Peter Bourgault	2025
Kristine Nash	2025

CULTURAL COUNCIL

Randall Elgin	2023
Katherine Duggan	2023
Jordan Pouliot-Latham	2024
Michael Kovacevich	2024
Kimberly Amato	2025

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS

Anne Estabrook	2023
Rebekah Tomlinson, Assistant	2023

ANIMAL INSPECTOR

Anne Estabrook	2023
Rebekah Tomlinson	2023

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DIRECTOR

Scott Weigel	Indefinite
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FOREST WARDEN

Scott Weigel	2023
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DEPUTY FOREST WARDEN

Ward A. Benner	2023
Albert Weigel	2023

GREEN WAYS COMMITTEE

Susan B. Teal
Douglas W. Ellis
Bunny Mogilnicki
Laurene A. Gerrior
James Holden
Amy Johnson
Stephen Pena

OPEN SPACE ACTION COMMITTEE – INDEFINITE TERMS

Laurell J. Farinon	John Teal
Ginette Castro	Rosemary Smith
Michael Oleksak	Halima Tiffany
Susan Teal	

ROCHESTER HOUSING PARTNERSHIP – INDEFINITE TERMS

Roland Grenier, Sr.	Jean Rose
Amy Johnson	Arnold Johnson (Planning Bd. Rep.)

SUPERINTENDENT OF INSECT PEST CONTROL

Jeffrey Eldridge	2023
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VETERANS SERVICES DIRECTOR

Christopher Gerrior	2023
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VETERAN GRAVES SUPERVISOR

David Watling	2023
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JOINT TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Jeffrey Eldridge	2023
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MATTAPOISETT RIVER VALLEY WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sandra Keese	2023
Merilee Kelly	2024
Richard Charon	2025

TRI-TOWN RIVER COMMISSION

David Watling	2023
Bradford Morse, Selectmen’s Representative	2023

**PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION COMMITTEE –
INDEFINITE TERMS**

Paul Ciaburri
Jeffrey G. Eldridge
Scott Weigel
Robert Small

MATTAPOISETT RIVER VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Jeffrey G. Eldridge	2024
Merilee Kelly	2024
Richard Charon	2024

ROCHESTER REPRESENTATIVE TO MARION WATER COMMITTEE

Frederick W. Underhill

HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATOR

Dale Barrows	2023
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SEMASS CERTIFIED WEIGHERS

Karyn Franks	2023
Emmanuel Santiago Gonzalez	2023
Joanne Brunette	2023
Joseph Barney	2023
Cindi Duggan	2023
Jason Monast	2023
Jason Denwood	2023

TRI-TOWN RIVER COMMISSION

David Watling	2023
Bradford Morse, Selectmen’s Representative	2023

**PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION COMMITTEE –
INDEFINITE TERMS**

Paul Ciaburri
Jeffrey G. Eldridge
Scott Weigel
Paul H. Magee

MATTAPOISETT RIVER VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Jeffrey G. Eldridge	2025
Laurell J. Farinon	2025
Richard Charon	2025

ROCHESTER REPRESENTATIVE TO MARION WATER COMMITTEE

Frederick W. Underhill

HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATOR

Dale Barrows, Board of Health	2023
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SEMASS CERTIFIED WEIGHERS

Karyn Franks	2023
Emmanuel Santiago Gonzalez	2023
Jose Marroquin	2023
Deborah Irving	2023
Cindi Duggan	2023
Jason Monast	2023

Report of the **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

2022 was a busy year for Rochester, especially involving significant staff changes in leadership roles. Our long time Building Commissioner and our Library Director retired. Our Town Administrator retired from that position and was appointed to the newly created position of Finance Director/Town Accountant. In February the Select Board interviewed candidates for Town Administrator. Glenn Cannon was selected and became our new Administrator in March. The Board appointed a new Building Commissioner and a new Library Director. Both resigned before the year ended, the hiring processes repeated and, fortunately, new candidates emerged and were appointed.

Several longtime members of boards and committees completed their service in 2022. Fortunately for the first time in many years, when we advertised the open positions, more volunteers expressed interest than we had positions to fill. Many new and younger taxpayers are getting involved in their town and this should indicate a healthy trend for our community.

Our Police Department added the positions of Lieutenant and one additional Patrol Officer. The ever-expanding need for new training and new professional responsibilities of our entire department were significant components in supporting these additions.

The Municipal Electrical Aggregation Plan; intended to offer every resident and business a less expensive energy source, continued its slow movement through the state review and approval process. It finally was approved by the Department of Public Utilities in the late fall. In December, assisted by our consultant, Good Energy, Inc., we teamed with five other area towns in a bidding and selection process. We signed a contract to purchase electricity at a rate 16% less than current Eversource rates. Full implementation will take place in early 2023.

The 2022 Annual Town Meeting was well attended. Taxpayers supported all of the requests of the Finance Committee and Select Board. That same week the Annual Election was held. In the closest election ever conducted, Select Board Member Morse (after a recount) won re-election by 1 vote.

The contract for emergency dispatch services completed its 5-year term in June. After consulting with both the Fire and Police Chiefs, the Select Board unanimously voted to renew our contract with the Regional Old Colony Communication Center (ROCCC) for an additional 2 years.

The Board “reactivated” the Personnel Board, appointing three new members and asking them to begin by reviewing all positions under their purview and reassessing the current pay scales for those positions. We anticipate a report with recommendations in 2023.

The Select Board, along with all of our public safety department managers, have been talking about improving our fire and police stations for decades. This year we decided it was time for action. We have three buildings that we consider fire “stations”. Our primary fire barn, located at the intersection of Pine Street and Hartley Road, has been converted, added to, modified and adjusted multiple times. Rochester has outgrown this former one room schoolhouse. Our police station is almost 20 years old and has had deficiencies since its initial construction. We need a fire station and police station that meet modern standards and codes.

We decided it was time for a full evaluation of all our current facilities. We gathered information and created a Request for Proposals, seeking interested consultants to first perform an evaluation of all our public safety buildings, then do a Needs Analysis, and finally submit a report defining we need to do to upgrade our facilities to today's standards. At our 2022 Annual Town Meeting we set aside funds for this project and, with additional financial assistance through our state legislators, we were well prepared and adequately funded for the first phase of this significant challenge; hiring a consultant. We conducted an evaluation process and selected Galante Architecture Studio to manage this project. To oversee and guide that firm, we created a 9-member committee with the charge to bring a recommendation for next steps to the town. Their report will be available in 2023.

Our Town Hall and the historic area in Rochester Center was designed and built hundreds of years ago, in the days of horse and buggy. Constitution Way, the roadway in front of Town Hall, is actually no more than a cart path and the front steps of Town Hall are inches from that "road". This has been a point of discussion at many public safety committee meetings and this year we took action. After numerous meetings involving all stake holders, a plan was approved to restrict vehicle traffic from passing in front of the Town Hall and rerouting vehicles from Route 105 (Rounseville Road) to a new entrance that carries traffic to the rear of Town Hall and into an expanded parking area with access to all the other historic buildings in the Center. Money was set-aside for this project and its completion is expected in 2023.

Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical Regional High School is located off North Avenue in Rochester. The District School is over 25 years old and is in need of upgrades and expansion. The Regional School Committee and Administration began the process of obtaining funding from both the state and district towns for a feasibility study, the first phase of a construction project. Further discussion, planning and action will occur in 2023 and 2024. Our leadership team, including School Committee members, Select Board, Finance Director, Finance Committee and Town Administrator are involved and will report additional information as the process moves along.

COVID continued to play an important and yet diminishing role in all activities in Rochester. As the pandemic and its impact slowly receded, we continued our conscientious commitment to protecting the health and safety of both staff and townspeople. The most obvious "new normal" is the availability hybrid meetings for almost all Boards and Committees.

The Select Board wishes to extend our appreciation to all the selfless first responders, our elected and appointed officials, town employees, volunteers, and citizens who continue to make Rochester a wonderful place to live, work, raise our children and retire.

Respectfully Submitted.
Greenwood Hartley, III, Chairman
Paul Ciaburri, Vice Chair
Brad Morse, Clerk
Glenn Cannon, Town Administrator
Amanda Baptiste, Administrative Assistant

Report of the
BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023) valuation of Real and Personal Property was again completed in-house by office staff and the Board of Assessors. The Assessing Department completed our yearly data collection on properties having building permits, new construction, real estate sales and also a random selection of properties as part of our regular inspection program.

Our department is responsible for the fair and equitable valuation of more than one billion dollars of real estate and personal property.

Fiscal Year 2023 was a recertification year (performed by the Department of Revenue every 5 years). The office converted the mass appraisal software utilized.

The Department of Revenue (DOR) reviewed our analysis and modifications and approved the values, the appraisal methodology and the calculations supporting the tax rate. Our single tax rate of \$11.87 per thousand dollars of valuation was certified by the DOR on January 30, 2023.

The recapitulation of the Town’s assessments and levies includes the following information:

<u>Class of Property</u>	<u>Valuation by Class</u>	<u>Percent of Total Levy</u>	<u>Levy by Class</u>
Residential	\$1,146,047,116	86.30	\$13,603,579.27
Commercial	42,436,082	3.20	503,716.29
Industrial	74,033,682	5.57	878,779.81
Personal	65,445,200	4.93	776,834.52.
TOTALS	\$1,327,962,080	100.00	\$15,762,909.89

The summary of fund sources and taxation for FY 2022:

Funds from estimated receipts and other sources	\$9,563,958.00
Funds to be raised by tax levy	<u>\$15,762,909.89</u>
TOTAL FUNDS SOURCES	\$25,326,867.89

The office now utilizes the PK mass-appraisal software system, a valuation system that assists the Board in its assessment practices and data quality. On-line public internet access to the database and assessors’ maps continues on the Town’s website. The assessment administration and procedures manual is updated as needed. Sold properties and new construction inspections were conducted. Commercial and industrial properties, automobile excise and personal property accounts were also reviewed. Assessment and DOR

certification is completed in-house by the Board of Assessors and the Principal with assistance from Paul S. Kapinos & Associates, LLC.

The Board expresses its appreciation for the dedicated service provided to the townspeople and the assessors by Administrative Assistant Margaret Gonneville, We also wish to thank our Principal Assessor, Karen Trudeau, for her exemplary knowledge of assessment practices and her tireless work on the conversion of software systems. After 20 year of service as Assessing Clerk, Assessment Administrator and elected member of the Board, Debra Lalli retired. The Board wishes to extend its sincere thanks and gratitude for her knowledge and dedication. She will be missed.

In October, we welcomed Jennifer Allain as an Administrative Assistant.

The Board continues to work with other Town boards and departments on assessment related topics. They also continue to participate in the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers and the Plymouth County Assessors' Association as well as to attend educational courses, in-services, conferences, etc. sponsored by these organizations.

Respectfully submitted,

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Diana Knapp, Chairperson

Jana Cavanaugh

Suzanne Szyndlar

Report of the **TOWN ACCOUNTANT**

The Town Accountant's office is committed to maintaining the key financial records of the Town of Rochester. These records verify that the town's monies are collected and disbursed in accordance with the municipality's financial policies and the Massachusetts General Laws.

The financial statements submitted for fiscal year 2022 are:

- ◆ General Fund Balance Sheet
- ◆ Special Revenue Funds Balance Sheet
- ◆ Capital Projects, Agency Funds, Trust Funds and General LT Obligations Balance Sheet
- ◆ Combined Balance Sheet – All Fund Types
- ◆ General Fund Expenditures
- ◆ General Fund Revenues

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Szyndlar, CGA
Town Accountant

Kathleen McHenry
Assistant Town Accountant

**TOWN OF ROCHESTER
GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022**

ASSETS:

Petty Cash	900.00
General Cash	4,003,289.19
Receivables:	
Personal Property	
Levy of 2015	267.61
Levy of 2016	553.41
Levy of 2017	924.67
Levy of 2018	916.56
Levy of 2019	1,304.54
Levy of 2020	1,776.67
Levy of 2021	693.90
Levy of 2022	1,065.08
Real Estate	
Levy of 2022	23,593.98
Allowance for Abatements and Exemptions	(178,823.77)
Tax Liens (Titles)	120,154.91
Motor Vehicle Excise	
Levy of 2015	1,774.79
Levy of 2016	4,281.84
Levy of 2017	3,419.57
Levy of 2018	2,195.05
Levy of 2019	3,399.50
Levy of 2020	4,689.16
Levy of 2021	11,120.99
Levy of 2022	76,721.95
Departmental	
Veterans Benefits	31,283.00
Ambulance Services	421,641.30
Tax Possessions (Foreclosures)	37,199.76

TOTAL ASSETS	\$4,574,343.66
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LIABILITIES:

Accrued Payrolls Payable	497,507.31
Deferred Revenue:	
Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes	(147,727.35)
Tax Liens (Titles)	120,154.91
Tax Possessions (Foreclosures)	37,199.76
Motor Vehicle Excise	107,602.85
Departmental - Veterans Benefits	31,283.00
Departmental - Ambulance Services	421,641.30
Prepaid Taxes	5,435.00

TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$1,073,096.78
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FUND EQUITY:

Fund Balance Reserved for:	
Prior Year Encumbrances	376,877.65
Subsequent Year's Expenditures	500,000.00
Carryovers - Continuing Appropriations	620,167.90
Future Excludable Debt	7,039.34
Undesignated Fund Balance	1,997,161.99
Appropriation Deficits	0.00
Unprovided for Abatements & Exemptions	0.00

TOTAL FUND EQUITY	\$3,501,246.88
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TOWN OF ROCHESTER
SPECIAL REVENUE BALANCE SHEET
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022

	SCHOOL LUNCH	HIGHWAY CHAPTER 90	TOWN SPEC REV	SCHOOL SPEC REV	RECEIPTS RESERVED	REVOLVING	TOTAL
ASSETS:							
Cash	(17,690.05)		585,877.88	142,477.32	75,312.72	231,632.87	1,017,610.74
Receivable - Highway Chapter 90		959,653.04					959,653.04
Title V Betterments Receivable						14,681.37	14,681.37
TOTAL ASSETS	(\$17,690.05)	\$959,653.04	\$585,877.88	\$142,477.32	\$75,312.72	\$246,314.24	\$1,991,945.15
LIABILITIES:							
Deferred Revenue		959,653.04				14,681.37	974,334.41
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$0.00	\$959,653.04	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,681.37	\$974,334.41
FUND EQUITY:							
Fund Balance Reserved for:							
Subsequent Year's Expenditures					16,000.00		16,000.00
Appropriation					59,312.72		59,312.72
Fund Balance Designated for:							
Federal Grants			290,164.53	(146,639.93)			143,524.60
State Grants			63,415.47	250,523.49			313,938.96
Other Purposes	(17,690.05)		232,297.88	38,563.76		231,632.87	484,804.46
TOTAL FUND EQUITY	(\$17,690.05)	\$0.00	\$585,877.88	\$142,447.32	\$75,312.72	\$231,632.87	\$1,017,580.74
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY	(\$17,690.05)	\$959,653.04	\$585,877.88	\$142,447.32	\$75,312.72	\$246,314.24	\$1,991,915.15

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
CAPITAL PROJECTS, AGENCY FUNDS, TRUST FUNDS AND GLTOAG
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022

	CAPITAL PROJECTS	TRUST FUNDS	AGENCY FUNDS	GENERAL LT OBLIGATIONS
ASSETS:				
Cash	\$25,018.77	\$3,806,217.73	\$31,545.58	
Amounts to be provided for:				\$6,390,000.00
Payment of Bonds				\$341,587.00
Compensated Absences				
TOTAL ASSETS	\$25,018.77	\$3,806,217.73	\$31,545.58	\$6,731,587.00
LIABILITIES:				
Bond Anticipation Note				
Payroll Withholdings	\$518,400.00			\$341,587.00
Compensated Absences				
Bonds Payable (Inside):				
Hiller Land Acquisition \$1.75 mil - Exempt				\$170,000.00
Town Hall Renovation \$250K				\$133,000.00
Library Renovation \$25K				\$11,000.00
Police Station Roof \$40K				\$22,000.00
COA Roof \$40K				\$22,000.00
Fire Station Renovation \$25K				\$11,000.00
Highway Mower \$100K				\$10,000.00
Fuel System \$125K				\$66,000.00
Highway 1 Ton Truck with Plow \$55K				\$5,000.00
Highway 1 Ton Dump Truck \$60K				\$6,000.00
Fire Radio System \$17K				\$1,000.00
Fire Chief Vehicle \$40K				\$4,000.00
Fire Engine Upgrade \$120K				\$12,000.00
Ambulance \$225K				\$22,000.00
Bonds Payable (Outside):				
RMS Renovation \$2.188 mil - Exempt				\$1,170,000.00
RMS Addition/Renovation \$9.5 mil - Exempt				\$4,587,000.00
School Feasibility \$153,519 - Exempt				\$73,000.00
Water Equipment \$100K				\$55,000.00
Tailings			\$6,154.52	
Planning Board Escrows			\$35,594.10	
Police Details			(\$23,862.56)	
Police Gun Licenses			(\$1,268.75)	
Collector's Fees			\$6,020.00	
Student Activity Fund			\$6,176.70	
Payroll Withholdings			\$2,731.57	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$518,400.00	\$0.00	\$31,545.58	\$6,721,587.00

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUND TYPES
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022

	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE	CAPITAL PROJECTS	AGENCY & TRUST	GENERAL LT OBLIGATIONS	TOTAL MEMO ONLY
<u>ASSETS:</u>						
Cash	\$4,004,189.19	\$1,017,580.74	\$25,018.77	\$3,837,763.31		\$8,884,552.01
Receivables:						
Real Estate Taxes	\$23,593.98					\$23,593.98
Personal Property Taxes	\$7,502.44					\$7,502.44
Allowance for Abatements	(\$178,823.77)					(\$178,823.77)
Motor Vehicle Excise	\$107,602.85					\$107,602.85
Tax Liens	\$120,154.91					\$120,154.91
Departmental Receivables	\$452,924.30					\$452,924.30
Tax Possessions (Foreclosures)	\$37,199.76					\$37,199.76
Other Receivables		\$974,334.41				\$974,334.41
Amts to be provided for Retire of L-T Debt					\$6,390,000.00	\$6,390,000.00
Amts to be provided for Compensated Absences					\$341,587.00	\$341,587.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$4,574,343.66	\$1,991,915.15	\$25,018.77	\$3,837,763.31	\$6,731,587.00	\$17,160,627.89
<u>LIABILITIES:</u>						
Bond Anticipation Note				\$2,731.57		\$2,731.57
Payroll Withholdings						\$497,507.31
Accrued Salaries Payable	\$497,507.31					\$28,814.01
Other Liabilities				\$28,814.01		\$1,544,488.88
Deferred Revenue	\$570,154.47	\$974,334.41				\$5,435.00
Prepaid Taxes	\$5,435.00					\$341,587.00
Accrued Compensated Absences					\$341,587.00	\$518,400.00
Bond Anticipation Notes			\$518,400.00			\$6,390,000.00
Bonds Payable					\$6,390,000.00	\$9,328,963.77
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$1,073,096.78	\$974,334.41	\$518,400.00	\$31,545.58	\$6,731,587.00	
<u>FUND EQUITY:</u>						
Fund Balances:						
Reserved						\$5,034,529.43
Designated	\$1,504,084.89	\$217,608.04	(\$493,381.23)	\$3,806,217.73		\$799,972.70
Unreserved		\$799,972.70				\$0.00
Undesignated	\$1,997,161.99					\$1,997,161.99
TOTAL FUND EQUITY	\$3,501,246.88	\$1,017,580.74	(\$493,381.23)	\$3,806,217.73	\$0.00	\$7,831,664.12
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY	\$4,574,343.66	\$1,991,915.15	\$25,018.77	\$3,837,763.31	\$6,731,587.00	\$17,160,627.89

Town of Rochester
Schedule of Expenditures

Account	Original Budget	C/O & Encumb 6/30/21 (+)	Supplemental Budget Articles	Transfers	C/O & Encumb 6/30/22 (-)	Final Budget	YTD Total expenditures	Unencumbered Unexpended
General Government								
<i>Operating budget</i>								
Town Meeting	744.00					744.00	338.34	405.66
Moderator	300.00				300.00	-	-	-
Selectmen	15,062.00					15,062.00	15,059.88	2.12
Finance Committee	300.00					300.00	-	300.00
Reserve Fund	70,000.00			(70,000.00)		-	-	-
Capital Planning Committee	300.00					300.00	-	300.00
Accounting	131,622.00	256.49			60.00	131,818.49	131,325.65	492.84
Info. Systems	106,500.00	168.75				106,668.75	106,668.02	0.73
Assessors	214,047.00	1,136.00	3,000.00	4,188.41		222,371.41	215,481.89	6,889.52
Treasurer	126,582.00	24.00		11,985.76		138,591.76	135,590.37	3,001.39
Collector	43,966.00			83.47		44,049.47	44,049.47	-
Legal Counsel	102,320.00					102,320.00	90,419.16	11,900.84
Personnel Board	200.00					200.00	-	200.00
Town Clerk	45,000.00	531.13				45,531.13	43,150.81	2,380.32
Elections	8,559.00					8,559.00	7,128.65	1,430.35
Registrar	10,432.00			656.15		11,088.15	7,107.99	3,980.16
Conservation Commission	102,818.00	25.26			29.19	102,814.07	98,643.28	4,170.79
Planning Board	98,932.00				9.00	98,923.00	86,581.62	12,341.38
Appeals Board	300.00					300.00	80.00	220.00
Soil Board	100.00					100.00	-	100.00
Public Building & Property Maint.	407,393.00	37,396.70		39,368.00	19,993.91	464,163.79	463,921.55	242.24
Town Hall Annex	46,400.00	14,425.00	-	-	-	60,825.00	60,824.88	0.12
Total General Government	1,531,877.00	53,963.33	3,000.00	(13,718.21)	20,392.10	1,554,730.02	1,506,371.56	48,358.46

Schedule of Expenditures Cont.

Public Safety									
Police	1,429,602.00	3,127.72	30,966.92	1,621.74	1,462,074.90	1,449,449.20	12,625.70		
Fire	347,107.00	913.97	529.00		348,549.97	343,645.77	4,904.20		
Emergency Medical Technicians	537,557.00	651.34	549.88	1,363.11	537,395.11	536,877.12	517.99		
Building Inspection	144,168.00	434.39	499.79		145,102.18	143,274.53	1,827.65		
Gas Inspection	8,400.00				8,400.00	7,870.00	530.00		
Plumbing Inspections	7,000.00				7,000.00	5,176.69	1,823.31		
Electrical Inspections	15,915.00		1,354.00		17,269.00	16,851.88	417.12		
Gasoline Account	65,400.00		19,328.36		84,728.36	84,328.36	400.00		
Emergency Management	1,465.00				1,465.00	1,457.27	7.73		
Animal Control	12,275.00				12,275.00	7,351.77	4,923.23		
Forestry	26,193.00	11,075.00		2,215.00	35,053.00	33,797.00	1,256.00		
Constable	400.00				400.00	-	400.00		
Communication Center	175,000.00	-	-	-	175,000.00	175,000.00	-		
Total Public Safety	2,770,482.00	16,202.42	53,227.95	5,199.85	2,834,712.52	2,805,079.59	29,632.93		

Education									
Rochester Memorial School	6,477,008.00	483,521.00		698,617.68	6,261,911.32	6,250,839.40	11,071.92		
ORR 7-12 Transportation	-				-	-	-		
Bristol County Agricultural Assessment	321,267.00				321,267.00	294,302.93	26,964.07		
Old Rochester Regional Assessment	4,987,977.00				4,987,977.00	4,977,803.00	10,174.00		
Old Colony Reg. Voc. Tech. Assessment	1,234,433.00	-	-	-	1,234,433.00	1,234,433.00	-		
Total Education	13,020,685.00	483,521.00	-	698,617.68	12,805,588.32	12,757,378.33	48,209.99		

**TOWN OF ROCHESTER
GENERAL FUND REVENUES
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022**

TAXES:

Real Estate	14,340,470	
Personal Property	764,672	
Motor Vehicle Excise	1,179,877	
Penalties and Interest	<u>26,981</u>	\$16,312,000

IN LIEU OF TAXES:

SEMASS/Covanta	4,132,916	
City of New Bedford	<u>117,487</u>	\$4,250,403

OTHER CHARGES FOR SERVICES:

Zero Waste	22,198	
Ambulance	<u>274,441</u>	\$296,639

OTHER DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE:

Assessors	1,134	
Treasurer	590	
Tax Collector	0	
Conservation Commission	663	
Planning Board	3,030	
Zoning Board of Appeals	1,901	
Police	5,882	
Fire	370	
Board of Health	16,846	
Tax Title Costs	204	
Municipal Liens	13,000	
Town Clerk	3,512	
Textile Recycling Receipts	57	
Solicitor Fingerprint Fee	<u>140</u>	\$47,330

LICENSES:

Liquor License	3,225	
Police Department	4,925	
Board of Health	5,355	
Cable TV Franchise Fee	<u>816</u>	\$14,321

Report of the

TOWN TREASURER (As of June 30th, 2022)

Beginning Cash Balance as of June 30, 2021	\$ 7,159,661.40
Cash Receipts 7/1/2021-6/30/2022	27,607,296.01
Warrants Paid 7/1/2021-6/30/2022	(25,883,305.40)
Total Ending Cash balance on hand 6/30/2022	\$ 8,883,652.01
Petty Cash/Accountant	900.00
Total Cash Proof to Accountant	\$ 8,884,552.01

General Funds	3,631,519.48
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Agency Account:

RMS Student Activity	23,262.08
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Escrow:

Appeals Board	0.00
Conservation	9,228.55
Board of Health	851.42
Planning Board	43,757.57

Surety:

Conservation	0.00
Planning Board	35,593.98

Special Revenue Fund Balances:

Cultural Council	324.87
Education Fund	613.69
Parks & Recreation	62,496.61
Scholarship Fund	186.96
Septic Repayment/Betterment	37,694.48

Stabilization:

General	583,070.00
Public Safety	211,939.04
School Assessment	259,744.14
SPED	52,136.53
Road Improvement	204,064.87
Capital Improvement	202,560.70

Conservation Commission	5,937.33
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<u>Trust Fund Balances:</u>	<u>Non-Expendable</u>	<u>Expendable</u>
School Funds:		
Dr. Caleb Briggs	4,000.00	9,710.52
Thomas Ellis	4,440.26	11,534.62
Brendan M. McGee Music Scholarship	0.00	327.33

<u>Trust Fund Balances continued:</u>	<u>Non-Expendable</u>	<u>Expendable</u>
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Library Funds:		
Judah Hathaway	1,500.00	5,055.07
Elizabeth G. Leonard	1,500.00	5,186.99
Elizabeth G. & Charles F. Leonard	1,500.00	1,585.80
Clarence W. Maxim	1,336.33	4,700.41
John S. Ryder	2,722.63	4,143.63

Sophronia G. Sherman	1,300.00	3,796.49
Annie R. Thorpe	1,500.00	4,633.56

Miscellaneous Trusts:

Law Enforcement Trust	0.00	4,167.92
Clarence W. Maxim - Red Cross	2,495.84	14,446.85
Clarence W. Maxim - School Athletics	2,495.84	2,385.64
Clarence W. Maxim - Boy Scouts	1,247.93	1,249.55
Marcus & Rebecca		
Officer Maxim Memorial Lot	0.00	7,170.65
Samuel Sprague - Worthy Poor Legacy	500.00	11,989.89

Cemetery Perpetual Care:

Ashley Cemetery	200.00	77.07
Center Cemetery	3,650.000	1,321.92
Hillside Cemetery	13,371.70	2,388.10
North Rochester Cemetery	18,970.00	16,289.20
Sherman Cemetery	16,900.00	8,702.39
Union Cemetery	7,495.37	2,641.21
Woodside Cemetery	1,311.94	487.36

Total Trusts	88,437.84	147,841.27
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OPEB Trust		145,028.25
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Total Cash		\$8,883,652.01
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Total Long Term Debt Principal Outstanding June 30, 2021 \$ 6,390,000.00

Schedule of Long Term Debt and Interest Outstanding:

Date of Issue	Purpose	Rate	Due Date	Interest	Principal
#1 04/15/2004	Land Acquisition-Cons	4.20	10/15/2022	4,037.50	
			04/15/2023	4,037.50	85,000.00
			10/15/2023	2,018.75	
			04/15/2024	2,018.75	85,000.00
Total Land Acquisition-Conservation				12,112.50	170,000.00

Date of Issue	Purpose	Rate	Due Date	Interest	Principal
<u>#2</u> 1/15/2011	School Project/Fire Trk	3.64	07/15/2022	91,443.75	
			01/15/2023	91,443.75	515,000.00
			07/15/2023	82,431.25	
			01/15/2024	82,431.25	535,000.00
			07/15/2024	72,400.00	

Date of Issue	Purpose	Rate	Due Date	Interest	Principal
			01/15/2025	72,400.00	555,000.00
			07/15/2025	61,300.00	
			01/15/2026	61,300.00	570,000.00
			07/15/2026	49,900.00	
			01/15/2027	49,900.00	590,000.00
			07/15/2027	38,100.00	
			01/15/2028	38,100.00	615,000.00
			07/15/2028	25,800.00	
			01/15/2029	25,800.00	635,000.00

	07/15/2029	13,100.00	
	<u>01/15/2030</u>	<u>13,100.00</u>	<u>655,000.00</u>
Total School Project/Fire Truck.		\$868,950.00	4,670,000.00

Date of Issue	Purpose	Rate	Due Date	Interest	Principal
<u>#3</u> 1/1/2013	Multi Purpose Twn/Sch	2.00	07/01/2022	17,525.00	
			01/01/2023	17,525.00	200,000.00
			07/01/2023	15,525.00	
			01/01/2024	15,525.00	135,000.00
			07/01/2024	14,175.00	
			01/01/2025	14,175.00	135,000.00
			07/01/2025	12,825.00	
			01/01/2026	12,825.00	135,000.00
			07/01/2026	11,475.00	
			01/01/2027	11,475.00	135,000.00
			07/01/2027	10,125.00	
			01/01/2028	10,125.00	135,000.00
			07/01/2028	8,437.50	
			01/01/2029	8,437.50	135,000.00
			07/01/2029	6,750.00	
			01/01/2030	6,750.00	135,000.00
			07/01/2030	5,062.50	
			01/01/2031	5,062.50	135,000.00
			07/01/2031	3,375.00	
			01/01/2032	3,375.00	135,000.00
			07/01/2032	1,687.50	
			<u>01/01/2033</u>	<u>1,687.50</u>	<u>135,000.00</u>
Total Multi Purpose Town/School				213,925.00	1,550,000.00

*Indicates true interest cost over loan life

Total All Long Term Debt Principal \$ 6,390,000.00

Total Short Term Debt Principal Outstanding June 30, 2021 \$ 592,200.00

Schedule of Short Term Debt and Interest Outstanding:

Date of Issue	Purpose	Rate	Due Date	Interest	Principal
#1 10/22/2021	BAN-Ambulance	0.39	10/21/2022	466.70	120,000.00
#2 07/02/2021	BAN-Fire Pumper	0.35	07/01/2022	1390.53	398,400.00
Total All Short Term Debt Principal					\$518,400.00

Respectfully Submitted,
Kory A. Lydon, Treasurer

2022 VITAL RECORD INFORMATION

DEATHS – 50

Helen A. Butts	January 9, 2022
Lisa Ann Robidoux	January 14, 2022
Lyn C. Bassett	January 19, 2022
Sharon M. Blanchard	January 11, 2022
Barbara A. Loranger	January 26, 2022
Jonathan P. Deprospro	March 15, 2022
Mary E. Pearsull	March 20, 2022
Claire Gaumont	March 29, 2022
Heriberto Betancourt	April 15, 2022
Helen Couto	April 20, 2022
Mary E. Roberts	May 1, 2022
Conrad O. Bernier	May 1, 2022
Michael W. DiCrocce	May 9, 2022
Kathleen I. Brennan	June 9, 2022
Janice Pavao	June 22, 2022
Paulette L. Arnold	July 3, 2022
Robert J. Demers	July 15, 2022
Gary Proffit	August 12, 2022
Louise H. Tolley	August 10, 2022
Cheryl C. Maloney	August 19, 2022
Marie Elise Fatula	August 27, 2022
Susan Delia Bindas	September 7, 2022
Lorne Douglas Estabrook	September 11, 2022
Allan Snell Hartley	September 15, 2022
Lois C. Straffin	September 22, 2022
James M. Reed	September 24, 2022
Sheila M. Botelho	September 24, 2022
Andrea D. Meunier	September 30, 2022
Glenn M. Oliveira	October 16, 2022
Robert V. St. Aubin	October 15, 2022

Mark R. Davis	October 10, 2022
Leslie LaPlante	October 26, 2022
Joseph Ulianelli, Jr.	November 3, 2022
Ryan G. Plunkett	November 5, 2022
Edmund F. Arruda	November 9, 2022
Lori Jean Westgate	November 16, 2022
Kathleen L. Reardon	November 17, 2022
Bette I. Gouveia	November 23, 2022
Florence Lawrence	November 23, 2022
Michael R. D'Acci	December 1, 2022
Virginia Decker	December 5, 2022
Mildred Souza	December 2, 2022
Gerard L. Gaudette	December 10, 2022
Rebecca A. Silva	December 21, 2022
Lena Mortelliti	December 22, 2022
Theresa A. Gregoire	December 23, 2022
Antonio S. Duarte	December 23, 2022
Norman J. Lizotte	December 22, 2022
Gwendolyn A. Walker	December 27, 2022
Carol W. Lawrence	December 31, 2022

BIRTHS: 37

Males – 19 Females – 18

MARRIAGES: 22

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MAY 23, 2022

Town Moderator David Arancio, having declared the presence of a quorum, called the Annual Town Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Kris Stoltenberg, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided the Town Meeting with an update concerning the overall financial outlook of the Town.

Selectman Bradford Morse moved, and it was duly seconded, that the following be allowed to address the Annual Town Meeting:

Glenn Cannon, Town Administrator
Blair Bailey, Town Counsel
Andrew Daniel, Facility Director
Robert Small, Police Chief
Kevin Richards, Fire Lieutenant

Passed by Majority Voice Vote

ARTICLE 1: REPORTS OF TOWN COMMITTEES

Selectman Bradford Morse moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town accept the annual reports of all Town Officers and Committees.

Passed by Majority Voice Vote

ARTICLE 2: ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARIES

Kris Stoltenberg, Chairman of the Finance Committee, moved that the Town vote to fix the salaries of the elected officials of the Town for the Fiscal Year 2022 as provided in the recommended column of Article 2.

	Previous FY2022	Requested FY2023	Recommended FY2023
Moderator – Annual Town Meeting	100.00	100.00	100.00
Special Town Meeting	50.00	50.00	50.00
Select Board (3) each member	5,020.00	5,171.00	5,171.00
Board of Assessors (3) each member	6,825.00	7,030.00	7,030.00
Tax Collector	29,006.00	29,876.00	29,876.00
Town Clerk	40,800.00	42,024.00	42,024.00
Tree Warden	1,743.00	1,795.00	1,795.00
Constables (2)	13.50/hr.	15.00/hr.	15.00/hr.
Highway Surveyor	88,065.00	90,706.00	90,706.00
Board of Health Chairman	2,353.00	2,424.00	2,424.00
Board of Health (2) each member	1,965.00	2,024.00	2,024.00
Herring Inspector	499.00	514.00	514.00

Passed by Majority Voice Vote

ARTICLE 3: PERSONNEL BY-LAW AMENDMENT – CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION PLAN

Kris Stoltenberg, Chairman of the Finance Committee, moved the Town vote to amend Part IV, Classification and Compensation Plan for non-unionized municipal employees, effective July 1, 2022, and that the full text of Article 3, including the Classification and Compensation Plan attached thereto, be included in the official record.

Passed by Majority Voice Vote

CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION PLAN												
EFFECTIVE ON JULY 1, 2022 - with 3% COLA												
Position:	GRADE	STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7	STEP 8	MAX		
Non-Exempt												
None	10	25.67	26.44	27.25	28.05	28.89	29.78	30.64	31.58	32.52		
BOS & Bldg Adm Asst./Assessment Adm.	9	23.32	24.03	24.74	25.50	26.23	27.02	27.85	28.69	29.53		
Adm. Asst. - General / Outreach / Payroll	8	21.20	21.85	22.50	23.16	23.84	24.58	25.31	26.07	26.85		
Adm. Asst. - Police / Assessors Clerk	7	19.28	19.87	20.46	21.07	21.71	22.36	23.04	23.72	24.44		
Adm. Asst. to Department Head	6	17.50	18.03	18.57	19.12	19.70	20.29	20.91	21.52	22.18		
Adm. Asst. - BOH	5	15.94	16.42	16.91	17.43	17.92	18.47	19.03	19.61	20.20		
Program Assistant COA	4	14.48	14.91	15.37	15.82	16.29	16.78	17.29	17.81	18.34		
Van Driver	3	14.25	14.68	15.12	15.57	16.04	16.52	17.02	17.53	18.06		
COA Custodian	2	14.91	15.37	15.82	16.29	16.79	17.29	17.81	18.34	18.89		
Heavy Motor Equip	15	20.66	21.26	21.92	22.56	23.23	23.93	24.64	25.40	26.15		
Operator/Laborer	14	26.36	27.16	27.97	28.82	29.68	30.56	31.50	32.42	33.40		
Lead Heavy Motor Equip Op	13	28.30	29.17	30.02	30.94	31.85	32.82	33.80	34.81	35.87		
FY 2023												
CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION PLAN												

ARTICLE 4: PERSONNEL BYLAWS - LONGEVITY

Kris Stoltenberg, Chairman of the Finance Committee, moved the Town vote to amend Part VI – Rate Increases for non-unionized municipal employees, effective July 1, 2022 by deleting the current second paragraph and adding the following as the second paragraph:

“Regular, non-union, employees are entitled to receive longevity incentive pay at the completion of 5,10, 20, and 25 years of service as a benefited employee. Longevity incentive pay shall be paid out at the following rate increase schedule. The percentage increase reflects a percentage of the employee’s base pay for each longevity step increase.

5 years	2%
10 years	2%
20 years	1%
25 years	1%

Employees shall receive the pay increases reflected above beginning the next fiscal year after they reach the required length of service.”

Passed by Majority Voice Vote

ARTICLE 5: ROCHESTER FY 2023 OPERATING BUDGET

Kris Stoltenberg, Chairman of the Finance Committee, moved that. the Town vote to transfer:

- \$500,000 from Free Cash
- \$12,000 from Receipts reserved for appropriation - Dog Fund
- \$4,000 from Receipts reserved for appropriation - Sale of Cemetery Lots

to raise \$23,658,626 and appropriate \$24,174,626

for the purposes specified in the Finance Committee recommendations printed in the warrant, as amended by prior votes; and that the complete text of Article 5 be included in the official record.

Passed by Majority Voice Vote

ARTICLE 6: SPENDING LIMITS ON REVOLVING FUNDS

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to fix the spending limits for fiscal year 2023 beginning on July 1, 2022 for the revolving funds established in the town by-laws in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½ as provided in Article 6

Authorized Revolving Funds	FY 2023 Spending Limit
Library Materials	\$10,000
Waste and Recycling Program	\$50,000
Hazardous Waste Recovery	\$10,000
Rochester Country Fair	\$40,000
Local Cultural Council	\$6,000
COA Programs and Activities	\$10,000
Flu and Medical Clinics	\$25,000
Tax Title	\$2,500
Arbor Funds	\$50,000
Total FY 2023 Spending Limit	\$203,500

ARTICLE 7: NATURAL RESOURCE EXPENSES

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$300 for the Natural Resource Expenses.

FUND FY 2023 NATURAL RESOURCE EXPENSES

DEPARTMENT ITEM/PROJECT

Select Board	Planting of Shellfish (Marion)	\$300
TOTAL ASSESSMENT		\$300

Motion Passed by Voice Vote.

ARTICLE 8: OPEB FUNDING

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the total sum of \$15,000 to fund the Town's future obligations for the cost of Other Post-Employment Benefits identified by the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 75 Report.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote.

ARTICLE 9: GASB 75 AUDIT FUNDS

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the total sum of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000) for the purpose of funding the GASB 75 Audit for Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB).

Motion Passed by Voice Vote.

ARTICLE 10: PERSONNEL BYLAWS

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to amend of the Town Personnel Bylaws as follows:

PART I - Definitions

Insert the following last sentence at the end of the paragraph defining the “Personnel Board”:

“In absence of a Personnel Board, the Select Board shall act in lieu of a Personnel Board and may appoint a mediator or independent third party to address issues involving personnel actions by the Select Board.”

Motion Passed by Unanimous Voice Vote.

ARTICLE 11: RECIND PROVISIONS OF SECTION 40 OF CHAPTER 653

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to rescind the provisions of Section 40 of Chapter 653 of the Acts of 1989 regarding assessment date changes previously adopted under Article 27 of the May 21, 1990 Annual Town Meeting.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

ARTICLE 12: BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) to the Board of Assessors for the purpose of funding Massachusetts Department of Revenue mandates as they relate to revaluation/recertification processes.

Motion Passed by Majority Voice Vote

ARTICLE 13: AMBULANCE

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$380,000; and to meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow the sum of Three Hundred and Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$380,000) for the costs of purchasing and equipping an ambulance and related equipment including the payment of costs incidental or related thereto.

Motion Passed – Moderator Declared 2/3 Vote

ARTICLE 14: ORCTV CAPITAL FUNDS

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-Eight Dollars (\$8,538) for the purpose of transferring funds to Old Rochester Community Television (ORCTV) for Capital per the current agreement with the Town.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

ARTICLE 15: PUBLIC SAFETY FEASIBILITY STUDY

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from the Public Safety Stabilization Fund the sum of up to One Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$110,000) to pay costs of a feasibility study for the Public Safety Departments.

Motion Passed – Moderator Declared 2/3 Vote

ARTICLE 16: MASTER PLAN – MATCHING GRANT FUNDS

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that move that that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for the matching funds requirement related to a Master Plan Grant.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

ARTICLE 17: GREEN COMMUNITIES – MATCHING GRANT FUNDS

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Twenty-Seven Thousand Three Hundred Forty Dollars (\$27,340) for the matching funds requirement related to the Green Communities Competitive Grant.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

ARTICLE 18: TOWN HALL PARKING LOT

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000) to pay costs of engineering and surveying for the renovation of the Town Hall parking lot located at 1 Constitution Way, Rochester, MA.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

ARTICLE 19: TRANSFER STATION SITE ASSIGNMENT

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000) to pay costs of a transfer station site assignment at the Highway Barn located at 200 Ryder Road, Rochester, MA.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

ARTICLE 20: CAPITAL PLAN FUNDING

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from the Capital Improvements Fund the total sum of One Hundred Ninety-Two Thousand Dollars (\$192,000) for the following capital expenditures:

- a) Fire – Eighty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$82,000) for a Fresh Air Breathing Compressor
- b) Highway – Twenty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$26,000) for a Grass Vacuum
- c) Police – Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$18,500) for Kevlar Vests
- d) Police – Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$4,500) for a Key System upgrade
- e)Rochester Memorial School – Fifty-One Thousand Dollars (\$51,000) for a Facilities Tractor
- f)Council On Aging – Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for Security Cameras

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

ARTICLE 21: ANIMAL CONTROL VEHICLE

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Forty-One Thousand Dollars (\$41,000) for the purchase of an Animal Control Vehicle and related costs.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

ARTICLE 22: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT DUMP SANDER TRUCK

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Forty-Nine Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$49,500) for the purchase of a Dump Sander Truck Body and related costs.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

ARTICLE 23: SOLAR BY-LAW

Select Board Member Greenwood Hartley moved, and it was duly seconded, to waive the reading of the motion and to proceed as printed in the warrant

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

Prior to making a motion under Article 23, Arnold Johnson, Chairman of the Planning Board, advised the Town Meeting that the Planning Board had voted to recommend adoption of the bylaw amendment.
Planning Board Chairman Arnold Johnson moved, and it was duly seconded, to amend the Rochester Zoning By-Laws, Section 22.50 Large Scale Photovoltaic Installations as

follows:

Insert new Section 22.50 1.10 (1)

(1) Screening

Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation shall be designed to minimize visibility, including preserving natural vegetation to the maximum extent possible, blending in equipment with the surroundings, adding vegetative buffers and/or fencing to provide an effective visual barrier, either by location; distance; plantings; existing vegetation; and/or fencing from adjacent roads and driveways, and from abutting dwellings. The installation shall be effectively screened year-round from all public and private ways and from the ground floor of any abutting residential dwelling. For the purpose of this By-law, “abutting” shall mean abutting properties where a front, side, or rear lot line of the Installation site adjoins (or is separated by a public way from) the dwelling. Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations shall not be approved unless the system design provides screening and buffers to protect scenic vistas and view sheds from residential uses, public streets and any waterways or water bodies.

- (a) Where existing vegetation in the setbacks is insufficient to achieve year-round screening, additional screening shall be provided including, but not limited to, planting of dense vegetative screening, fencing, berms, use of natural ground elevations, and/or land contouring, all depending on site specific conditions.
- (b) Tree cutting within the required setback area shall not be permitted if it would reduce to any degree the effectiveness of the year-round screening.
- (c) If additional plantings are required for screening, a planting plan shall be submitted showing the types, sizes, and locations of material to be used, using a diversity of plant species native to New England and shall be subject to the approval of the Planning Board. Use of invasive plants, as identified by the most recent version of the “Massachusetts Prohibited Plant List” maintained by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, is prohibited.
- (d) Plantings shall include a variety of native trees and shrubs of varying heights, staggered to effectively screen the installation from view during construction and operations.
- (e) A recommendation for the minimum depth of the vegetative screen is 50 feet, depending on required setbacks and at the discretion of the Planning Board.
- (f) Where possible, planting of vegetative screening shall be completed prior to connection of the installation.

The Planning Board, at its discretion, may alter or waive the requirements of this section; and to

Re-number current Sections 1.10 (1) to 1.10 (8) accordingly

Motion Passed by a Declared 2/3 Vote

ARTICLE 24: ARBOR FUND BY-LAW

Select Board Member Greenwood Hartley moved, and it was duly seconded, to waive the reading of the warrant regarding Article 24.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

Planning Board Chairman Arnold Johnson moved, and it was duly seconded, for Indefinite Postponement of Article 24.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

ARTICLE 25: PUBLIC SAFETY STABILIZATION FUND

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) to be added to the Public Safety Stabilization Fund.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

ARTICLE 26: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) to be added to the Capital Improvements Fund.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

ARTICLE 27: CITIZEN'S PETITION

Richard Cutler moved, and it was duly seconded, the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into an agreement for the transfer, assignment, or ninety-nine (99) year lease, for one dollar (\$1.00), of Town owned property to a non-profit, 501 (c) 3 organization for the purpose of constructing and maintaining Affordable Housing units limited to Rochester Seniors and Veterans qualified under State guidelines.

Specifically, the subject property is four (4) acres, plus or minus, on the south side of Perry's Lane (opposite side of the Lane from Mary's Pond). A condition of the transfer would require construction to begin within six years from the execution of an agreement between the Town and the non-profit organization or the agreement becomes null and void.

Following some discussion on Article 27, Michelle A. Balzarini moved, and it was duly seconded, to table Article 27.

Motion to table failed on a recorded vote of Yes 19 and No 76.

Following additional discussion, the main motion was voted upon.

Main motion failed on a recorded vote of Yes 14 and No 72.

ARTICLE 28: TOWN ELECTION

Finance Committee Chair Kris Stoltenberg moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Town vote to choose by ballot all necessary officers for the ensuing year, viz; one member of the Select Board for three years; one Highway Surveyor for three years; one member of the Board of Assessors for three years; one member of the Cemetery Commission for three years; one member of the Board of Health for three years; two Constables for three years; one member of the Park Commission for three years; two Library Trustees for three years; one member of the Rochester Memorial School Committee for three years; one member of the Rochester Memorial School Committee for two years (to fill a vacancy); one member of the Planning Board for five years; and one member of the Water Commission for three years; on Wednesday, the 25th day of May, 2022, at 8:00 o'clock in the morning in the Rochester Senior Center, 67 Dexter Lane, in said Rochester.

Motion Passed by Voice Vote

There being no further business to come before the Town Meeting, Town Moderator David Arancio declared the Annual Town Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Report of the **PLANNING BOARD**

The Planning Board met regularly on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. throughout the year, with the exception of November and December. Due to Covid-19, the members convened in-person and via Zoom at the Old Colony Vocational Regional Technical High School. The Rochester Planning Board reviewed the following matters with the assistance of the Town Planner Nancy Durfee and Board Administrator Dawn DeMaggio:

❖ Special Permits

1. Large Scale Photovoltaic Installation Special Permit Application and Special Permit for Groundwater Protection / Renewable Energy Development Partners, LLC / 109 Neck Road, designated at Map 40, Lot 3.
2. Large-Scale Photovoltaic Installation Special Permit and Special Permit Application for Groundwater Protection Extension Request / Braley Hill Solar, LLC / 0 Braley Hill Road, designated at Map 48, Lot 36.
3. Large Scale Photovoltaic Installation Special Permit and Site Plan Review Application within the Residential/Agricultural District, Groundwater Protection District and the Mattapoisett River Valley Watershed/Solect Energy Development/59 Hartley Road, designated at Map 37, Lot 36.

❖ Definitive Subdivisions

1. A Modification to Definite Subdivision and Flexible Development Plan/Edgewood Development/ Box Turtle Drive, designated at Map 30, Lot 25D.

❖ Scenic Highway

1. Buzzards Bay Coalition and Elliot Farms/ 0 Marion Road

❖ Approval Not Required

1. Matthew Fernandes / 570 New Bedford Road
2. John Hall / 453 Snipatuit Road
3. Robert A. Lawrence / 253 Hartley Road
4. Glenn Lawrence and Laurie Whitney-Lawrence / 0 Mendell Road
5. Bradford and Ruth Correia / Featherbed Lane
6. William Clapp / 31 Clapp Road

❖ Site Plan Review

1. Industrial Tower and Wireless / 0 High Street
2. Countryside Child Care/ 565 Rounseville Road
3. Arch at The Meadow/ 0 Mendell Road
4. Rockland Trust Co./ Rounseville Road/ Plumb Corner Parking Lot

❖ Cranberry Highway Smart Growth Overlay District

1. Steen Realty & Development / Extension/ 22 Cranberry Highway

❖ Surety Release

1. Countryside Child Care / 15 Cranberry Highway

CHAPTER 61 (AGRICULTURAL/HORTICULTURAL LAND) AND 61B
(RECREATIONAL LAND)

April 27, 2022 - Notice of Intent to Sell Chapter 61A Agricultural and Horticultural land from William Chamberlain, Manager of Decas Cranberry Co., LLC, for property off Mary's Pond Road, Map 12, Lot 7, to an abutted, for residential use: The Planning Board recommended the Board of Selectmen to not exercise the First Right of Refusal

May 24, 2022 - Chapter 61A Withdrawal Notification/Kevin J. Cassidy and Cassandra A. Cassidy/Snipatuit Road designated as Map 47, Lot 9: The Planning Board recommended the Board of Selectmen to not exercise the First Right of Refusal

June 27, 2022 - Notice of Intent to Convert Chapter 61B Recreational land from Judith Dupont, for property off Featherbed Lane designated as Map 46, Lot 24. The Planning Board recommended the Board of Selectmen to not exercise the First Right of Refusal

The Board has provided oversight of several projects including the Village at Plumb Corner, The Playground at Countryside Child Care, Connet Woods, Trailside and Old Middleboro Road.

Respectfully submitted by the Rochester Planning Board and staff,

Arnold Johnson, Chairman
John DeMaggio, Vice Chairman
Bendrix Bailey, Clerk
Michael Murphy, Associate Clerk
Lee Carr, Member
Christopher Silveira, Member
Marc Rousseau, Member

Dawn DeMaggio, Board Administrator
Lori Walsh, Recording Secretary
Nancy Durfee, Town Planner

Report of the

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals held a total of thirty-three meetings and received eighteen applications for public hearings in 2022 resulting in 5 Special Permits granted and 11 Variances granted. There were also 2 Special Permit and 2 Variance applications denied.

1170 Industrial Tower and Wireless, LLC for property located at 0 High Street, identified on Assessor's Map 19, Lot 5 who is seeking a Special Permit for the construction of a 190-foot monopole style telecommunications facility under Chapter 22.30 Personal Wireless Services Facilities of the Rochester Zoning By-Laws. **OPENED 1/13/22, CONTINUED ON 1/27/22 UNTIL 2/10/22, CONTINUED UNTIL 2/24/22, CONTINUED UNTIL 3/10/22 (Meeting cancelled, lack of quorum), 3/24/22, 4/28/22, 5/4/22 DENIED**

1171 Ben Bailey for property located at 0 Gerrish Road, identified on Assessor's Map 43A, Lot 29B, who is seeking a Variance to the frontage requirement of 225 feet to allow the lot to be designated as a single home residential lot under Chapter 20.40, Section D. Lot Dimensions. **GRANTED 1/27/22**

1172 Anthony and Mary-Patrice Ruocco for property located at 308 New Bedford Road, identified on Assessor's Map 2, Lot 13A who are seeking a Special Permit under Chapter 20.40, Section F.6. to use the premises as not only a residence, but to establish a Farm Winery (A&M Winery). They propose to specialize in providing specialty dessert wines for wine tastings on site, by appointment, and subsequently providing small batches for weddings and corporate functions conducted elsewhere. The wine is proposed to be prepared, fermented, and bottled on site. **OPENED 2/10/22, CONTINUED UNTIL 2/24/22, CONTINUED UNTIL 3/10/22, GRANTED 3/24/22**

1173 Linda & David Gauthier for property located at 88 Bowen's Lane, identified on Assessor's Map 31, Lot 8A, who are seeking a Variance to construct an addition to the easterly side of the existing single-family dwelling, closer than the 40' side yard setback requirement, under Chapter 20.40, Section D.1. of the Rochester Zoning By-Laws. **GRANTED 2/10/22**

1174 Travis Andrade for property located at 9 Coombs Road, identified on Assessor's Map 44A, Lot 37, who is seeking a Variance under Chapter 20.40, Section D.1., for approval of the construction of a garage and mudroom addition less than 40 feet from the side lot setback requirement. **GRANTED 2/24/22**

1175 Jeffrey & Amanda Costa for property located at 47 Cross Road, identified on Assessor's Map 16, Lot 13V, who are seeking a Variance under Chapter 20.40, Section E.2.(7) to construct a garage over 1,000 square feet, to be attached to the house with a covered breezeway. **NO QUORUM 3/10/22, GRANTED 3/17/22**

1176 Alisha Fitzpatrick for property located at 116 Walnut Plain Road, identified on Assessor's Map 11, Lot 6E, who is seeking a Special Permit under Chapter 20.40, Section

F.6. for a hobby kennel of 4 dogs or more, to include kennels in the basement, a grooming space, all for personal use only, and breeding dogs. **GRANTED 3/24/22**

1177 Greenwood & Sharon Hartley for property located at 149 Marion Road, identified on Assessor's Map 8, Lot 17C who is seeking a Special Permit for an addition for conversion to a multi-family dwelling, a Variance of the lot size requirement, and a Variance to allow an increase in the structure floor area to exceed 30%, under Chapter 20.40, Section F.9.a. of the Rochester Zoning By-Laws. **GRANTED 4/28/22**

1178 Lawrence J. & Edie L. Oliveira, Trs. for property located at 167 Cushman Road, identified on Assessor's Map 33, Lot 9B who are seeking two Variances for the construction of a 14' x 14' accessory building (1) to be located 22 feet from the side property line and (2) within the front yard area under Chapter 20.40, Section E.2.(5) of the Rochester Zoning By-Laws. **GRANTED 7/28/22**

1179 Alisha Fitzpatrick for property located at 116 Walnut Plain Road, identified on Assessor's Map 11, Lot 6E, who is seeking a Special Permit under Chapter 20.40, Section F.6. for a hobby kennel of 4 dogs or more, to include kennels in the basement, a grooming space, all for personal use only, and breeding dogs. **GRANTED 9/22/22**

1180 Patrick Flanagan for property located at 635 Mary's Pond Road, identified on Assessor's Map 16, Lot 18E, who is seeking two Variances for (1) the construction of a 24' x 40' addition to the existing dwelling, closer than 40' to the side lot setback, and (2) for the construction of an accessory structure of approximately 36' x 70', which is larger than the allowed 1,000 square feet, under Chapter 20.40, Section D.1. and Section E.2. of the Rochester Zoning By-Laws. **GRANTED 10/13/22**

1181 Eric Zak for property located at 0 Quaker Lane, identified on Assessor's Map 38, Lot 16, who is seeking a Variance for the creation of a single house lot which does not meet the minimum frontage requirement per Chapter 20.40, Section D.1. of Rochester Zoning By-Laws. **OPENED 10/13/22, CONTINUED to 10/27/22, then 12/8/22, then 01/26/23, then DENIED ON 03/09/23**

1182 Matt Dessert on behalf of Robert Murphy for property located at 19 County Road, identified on Assessor's Map 10, Lot 3A, whom is seeking a Variance to construct an 80- foot by 204-foot steel building with 10 separate bays for personal use, which is over the 1,000 square feet that is allowed per Chapter 20.40, Section E.2. of the Rochester Zoning By-Laws. **OPENED 10/13/22, CONTINUED to 10/27/22, then 12/8/22-DENIED 01/26/23**

1183 Marc Boulanger for property located at 556 New Bedford Road, identified on Assessor's Map 4, Lot 22, whom is seeking a Variance to construct an accessory structure in the front yard area under Chapter 20.40, Section E.2. of the Rochester Zoning By-Laws. **GRANTED 10/27/22**

1184 JPF Development, LLC for property located at 0 & 25 Cranberry Highway, identified on Assessor's Map 17, Lots 29, 29A, 30, 31A, 55, 56, whom is seeking a

Special Permit to allow the use of a self-storage facility in the Industrial Zone under Chapter 20.40, Section F.6. of the Rochester Zoning By-Laws. **OPENED 11/10/22, CONTINUED to 12/22/22-GRANTED 01/26/23**

1185 Matt Dessert on behalf of Robert Murphy for property located at 19 County Road, identified on Assessor’s Map 10, Lot 3A, whom is seeking a Special Permit to rent a few bays of a proposed 80-foot by 204-foot steel building with 10 separate bays, and to have a trucking establishment on the property with up to 3 employees under Chapter 20.40, Section F.6. of the Rochester Zoning By-Laws. **OPENED 12/8/22-DENIED on 01/26/23**

1186 Nelson Robles on behalf of Peter Mott for property located at 3 County Road, identified on Assessor’s Map 10, Lot 3E, whom is seeking a Variance for the construction of a 20’ x 16’ deck, closer than the required 40 feet to the side lot setback, under Chapter 20.40, Section D.1. of the Rochester Zoning By-Laws. **OPENED 12/8/22-GRANTED 12/8/22**

1187 Chris Barton for property located at 3 Bennet Road, identified on Assessor’s Map 44A, Lot 18, whom is seeking a Variance for the construction of an addition to an existing garage to be located closer than the 40-foot setback requirement to the side property line under Chapter 20.40, Section D.1. of the Rochester Zoning By-Laws. **GRANTED 01/12/23**

Respectfully submitted,

David Arancio, Chairman
Thomas Flynn, Vice Chairman
Richard Cutler, Member
Davis Sullivan, Member
Donald Spirlet, Member
Jeffrey Costa, Associate Member
Michelle Upton, Associate Member

Andreia Ribas, Administrative Assistant

Report of the **CONSERVATION COMMISSION AND** **TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE**

Annual Report

Members & Purpose

Rochester has a long history of preserving important ecological, agricultural, cultural and water supply related lands for future generations. The Town of Rochester established the Conservation Commission & Town Forest Committee (“Commission”) in 1963 under the Conservation Commission Act.

The Commission is responsible for protecting Rochester’s natural resources, managing the Town Forest and conservation lands, administering the Massachusetts and Town Wetland Protection statutes, and advising other municipal officials and boards on conservation and environmental matters.

The Rochester Conservation Commission office is located at the Town Hall Annex at 37 Marion Road; office hours are Monday 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The office can be reached by calling 508-763-5421 extension 206. The Commission holds public meetings on the first and third Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the library of the Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School. All hearings are advertised in The Wanderer at least five (5) calendar days before the meeting.

Commission Staff

The Environmental Planner/Conservation Agent and Board Administrator work under the direction of the Conservation Commission and provide support, coordination, and professional management of the Conservation Commission in carrying out its mission to protect Rochester’s natural resources. Commission staff assists landowners, developers, applicants, engineers and the general public to provide due diligence information and professional advice on the Wetlands Protection Act and Rochester Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Commission staff assists the Commission in planning, acquisition, administration and management of municipal conservation land and conservation restrictions.

2022 was a year of change for the Conservation Commission. The Select Board reappointed Christopher Gerrior as the Chairman in May. Kevin Thompson stepped down to become an Associate Member. Lena Bourque and Maggie Payne resigned from the board, we thank them for the time they served on the Commission. William Clapp and Michael Gifford were sworn in as new Members along with Carl MacDermott as an Associate Member.

The Board Administrator moved on to another position, making way for Dawn DeMaggio to assume the role.

The Commission met at Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School library with a hybrid Zoom component.

2022 Wetland Protection Act and Rochester Wetlands By-law Filings

The Rochester Conservation Commission held 18 meetings in the year 2022. The following is a summary of the applications received and formal actions by the Commission in 2022.

Permits/Actions

Building Department Interdepartmental Review	147
Board of Health Percolation Review	30
Notice of Intent Applications	7
RDA Applications	7
Extension of Order of Conditions	
Certificates of Compliance	6
Enforcement Orders	1
Chapter 61 Right of First Refusal	1

2022 Conservation Commission Actions/Accomplishments

- Applied for and received a \$70,000 mini-grant from Buzzards Bay National Estuary Project to help the Buzzards Bay Coalition purchase 13 acres of open space in Rochester, part of a total of 240 acres in Mattapoisett, Rochester and Acushnet. This purchase will protect wetlands and forests for habitat protection, flood damage reduction and public drinking water supplies for nearly 25,000 residents of Rochester, Mattapoisett, Fairhaven and Marion.
- Commission Members and Staff Conducted Field Site Visits on Weekends Throughout the Year to Review Proposed Projects and Monitor Construction Activity.
- Commission Members and Staff participated in a training program through the MACC (Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions) that ensures that conservation commissions make informed, smart, and legally sound decisions protecting wetlands and open space in implementing the MA Wetlands Protection Act and the Rochester Wetlands Bylaw.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher Gerrior, Chairman
Bendrix Bailey, Vice-Chairman
Matthew Bache
Bill Milka
Kevin Thompson, Associate Member
William Clapp
Michael Gifford
Carl MacDermott

Dawn Demaggio, Board Administrator
Lori Walsh, Recording Secretary
Merilee Kelly, Environmental Planner/Conservation Agent

Report of the **MATTAPOISETT RIVER VALLEY WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

History and Purpose of MRVWSPAC

The Mattapoisett River Valley Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee (MRVWSPAC) was established in 1980 by the Towns of Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, Marion, and Rochester. The organization grew out of a concern for the aquifer underlying the Mattapoisett River watershed, from which all four towns draw water supplies. Special legislation was enacted in 1983 (Chapter 407) formalizing the Committee.

The MRVWSPAC is made up of three (3) representatives from each Town for a total of 12 members. The MRVWSPAC holds public meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at 3:30 p.m. at the Fairhaven Board of Public Works Office in Fairhaven. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the MRVWSPAC has been meeting remotely using Zoom since April 2020 with the exception of the November 2022 meeting, which was held at Fairhaven Board of Public Works Office.

In October 2022, Anne Carreiro (Town of Fairhaven) was hired by the MRVWSPAC as the bookkeeper. She will also attend the MRVWSPAC monthly meetings.

In 2022, Nathaniel Munafo (Town of Marion) resigned from the MRVWSPAC. The MRVWSPAC thanks Mr. Munafo for his valuable contributions to the Committee.

Mattapoisett River Valley Aquifer

The Mattapoisett River and its aquifer provide fresh water for water supply, recreation, and agriculture to portions of the entirety of five communities in Bristol and Plymouth Counties in Massachusetts. In 2022, the aquifer supplied approximately 1.69 million gallons per day for Mattapoisett River Valley Water District residential and commercial water supply customers in the Towns of Mattapoisett, Fairhaven, Marion, and Rochester.

Summary of 2022 MRVWSPAC Accomplishments

• Monitored stream flow and water levels at numerous locations in the vicinity of the Mattapoisett River. Maintained a database of critical water level data.

- Funded Annual Mattapoisett River Hydrologic Monitoring Report.
- Purchased the following new monitoring well electronic equipment to replace malfunctioning devices, which reached the end of their useful life.
 - o Three (3) water level transducers (Levelloggers).
 - o Optical Reader (USB) for Levelloggers.
- Environmental review of projects in the Mattapoisett River Valley:
 - o Reviewed plans for the following projects within the watershed and sent comment letters to the Rochester Planning Board:
 1. Division of Land Plan for Approval – 453 Snipatuit Road, Rochester.
 2. ANR Application – 253 Hartley Road, Rochester.
 3. Solar Array Construction – 156 Acushnet Road, Mattapoisett.

4. Division of Land Plan for Approval – 572 Snipatuit Road, Rochester.

- In April 2022, the Buzzards Bay Coalition (BBC) proposed the purchase of approximately 240 acres of land currently owned by Red Brick Farms and Mahoney with the goal to acquire the land for drinking water supply protection for \$6 million within a 2-year timeframe (close by July 2024), plus \$25,000 in appraisal and legal fees. The BBC approached the MRVWSPAC with the intent to apply for a Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Grant in the amount of \$4.5 million (the grant funds 75% of the total cost). The BBC would provide \$1 million in private fundraising. For the remaining balance of \$525,000, the MRVWSPAC would fund \$150,000 and the partnering Towns would fund \$375,000. The MRVWSPAC voted to commit \$150,000 to the project, subject to award of the Massachusetts MVP Grant for the project. The grant was awarded for the project in August 2022 in the amount of \$4.5 million. The BBC continues to work on funding the balance of the land purchase cost through private funding, other grant applications, and Community Preservation Committee (CPC) applications with partnering Towns ahead of Spring 2023 Town Meetings.
- The MRVWSPAC voted to proceed with completion of an Agreed Upon Procedure (AUP) by Melanson. The AUP is a small-scale version of an audit, which identifies specific problems to be addressed. The MRVWSPAC plans to proceed with the AUP in 2023.

The MRVWSPAC wishes to recognize the members of its consulting team for their excellent work and contributions in 2022:

Tata & Howard *Engineering Consultant*

Blair Bailey, Esq. *MRVWSPAC Counsel*

David Watling *Mattapoissett River Valley field monitoring and data collection*

Meagan McCarthy *Data reduction and graphing*

Nettles Design *MRVWSPAC website management*

Respectfully submitted,

Fairhaven Committee Members

Vincent Furtado, Chairman

Jeffrey Furtado, Treasurer

Wendy Graves

Mattapoissett Committee Members

Daniel Chase

William Nicholson

Henri Renauld, Vice Chairman

Marion Committee Members

Meghan Davis, Clerk

Randy Parker

Rochester Committee Members

Rick Charon

Sandy Keese

Merilee Kelly

Report of the

MATTAPOISETT RIVER VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

The Mattapoisett River Valley Water District (District) was formed in 2004 to construct and operate the six million gallon per day (mgd) Mattapoisett River Valley Water Treatment Facility (MRVWTF). The District is comprised of the Towns of Fairhaven, Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester. The treatment facility, located in Mattapoisett, began operations in 2008.

The MRVWTF treats raw water from eight municipal water supply wells owned and operated by the District Towns. The sources include three Mattapoisett wells, one Marion well, and four Fairhaven wells, which are located in Mattapoisett and Rochester. Treatment at the facility includes oxidation with ozone followed by membrane ultrafiltration with Koch membrane filters for the removal of iron and manganese. The finished water is treated to adjust the pH for corrosion control.

The year 2022 represented the fifteenth year of operation of the MRVWTF. The plant processed 616 million gallons of water (finished water) during the 2022 calendar year. The FY23 operating budget for the plant is \$2,433,400, which represents a decrease of approximately 9.8% over FY22. The major expenses include power, labor, and chemicals to maintain and operate the MRVWTF, and equipment replacement identified in the Capital Improvement Plan. The District continues to benefit from the solar power Net Metering agreement with Greenbacker Renewable Energy Corporation (formerly ECA Solar, LLC). The District is able to offset electrical costs through this program. The District does not pay any capital or operating costs for the power generation at the facilities, which are located on commercial buildings in Walpole, MA. In June 2022, the District solicited and received bids for FY23 supply of chemicals and propane at the MRVWTF.

The MRVWTF operated well, however, various equipment required maintenance or replacement during the calendar year. The scroll compressors located in the lower level and compressor in the loft required various maintenance throughout the year. Operators replaced several actuator valves on the ultrafiltration stages throughout the year. Other equipment requiring maintenance included pH meters, chlorine pumps, dehumidifier, air conditioner, and ozone analyzers. Standard maintenance was conducted on the generator and variable frequency drives (VFD). A low lift pump VFD was replaced. In February, Fairhaven High Lift Pump No. 1 was replaced. Lighting throughout the plant was replaced with LED fixtures.

In July 2022, the District completed a preliminary design report for replacement of the ultrafiltration system, addition of ultraviolet disinfection system, and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System upgrades at the MRVWTF. The design phase for the water treatment plant upgrades project began in Fall 2022 and is expected to be complete in Spring 2023 followed by bidding and construction phases into 2024 contingent upon availability of equipment and materials.

Quarterly meetings, including representatives from Fairhaven, Marion, and Mattapoisett, continued in 2022 to discuss raw water pumping totals from the various water supply

sources and additional costs incurred by Fairhaven and Marion due to accepting more finished water from the MRVWTF than raw water pumped from its water supply sources that feed the MRVWTF. Discussions during these meetings also included possible ways to offset the additional costs incurred by Fairhaven and Marion.

In October 2022, Anne Carreiro (Town of Fairhaven) was hired by the District as the bookkeeper. She will also attend the District Commission monthly meetings.

In 2022, Nathaniel Munafo (Town of Marion) resigned from the District Commission. The District Commission thanks Mr. Munafo for his valuable contributions to the District.

<u>Town of Fairhaven</u>	<u>Town of Marion</u>	<u>Town of Rochester</u>	<u>Town of Mattapoisett</u>
Vincent Furtado, Chairman	Meghan Davis, Clerk	Rick Charon	Michael Lorenc
Jeffrey Furtado Wendy Graves, Treasurer Chairman	Randy Parker	Sandy Keese Merilee Kelly	William Nicholson Henri Renault, Vice

Report of the
BUILDING DEPARTMENT

2022 Report of the Building Department

The Building Department issued the following permits
from the period of

January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022:

Type	Number	Value	Fee
Accessory Structures	9	\$278,444.00	\$4,100.00
Additions	8	\$700,350.00	\$2,961.00
Additions for Conversion to Multi-Family Dwellings	0	0	0
Alterations	29	\$897,292.42	\$9,401.20
Change of Use & Alterations	0	0	0
Clubhouse for Development	0	0	0
Commercial Addition & Alteration	0	0	0
Decks / Porches	10	\$120,450.00	\$1,597.00
Demolition	5	\$339,600.00	\$2,107.00
Home Improvements	85	\$1,497,879.50	\$13,573.20
Foundations	2	\$54,000.00	\$690.00
Major Farm Structures	0	0	0
Mechanical	36	\$533,300.00	\$4,150.00
New Dwellings	33	8,452,162.00	\$45,622.64
Pellet & Wood Stoves/ Inserts/Liners/Chimneys/Fireplaces	12	\$55,215.35	\$925.00
Pools & Spas	18	\$500,700.00	\$2,355.00
Signs	1	\$1,085.00	0
Solar – Ground-Mounted	0		
Solar – Roof-Mounted	40	\$1,085,576.00	\$10,455.00
Temporary Tents	6	\$9,900.00	\$540.00
Temporary Trailers	0	0	0
Weatherization	39	244,472.78	\$3,113.00
Wireless Tower Alterations	2	\$115,000.00	\$855.00
Totals	335	\$14,885,425.00	\$102,445.04

The Building Department also issues all electrical, gas, and plumbing permits. The number of permits issued and fees collected were as follows:

Permit Type	Number	Fee Collected
Electrical	221	\$24,773.00
Gas	144	\$10,930.00
Plumbing	86	\$9,810.00
Totals	451	\$45,513.00

(The issuance of Oil Burner Permits was taken over by the Fire Dept. on 7/13/20)

The Building Department office hours are Monday 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m., Tuesday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The Building Commissioner attends meetings of the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board as needed, and attends monthly seminars for continuing education credits.

Respectfully submitted:

Paul Boucher, Building Commissioner
Lori Walsh, Administrative Assistant

Report of the
POLICE DEPARTMENT

This year was another busy one for our department. We have continued to improve our training and performance to meet the growing needs of our Town.

We received a grant to implement a body worn camera program. The addition of this new technology will greatly assist the department in improving training and prosecution of offenses. It will also help protect officers and improve public trust.

The following represents some of what our officers handled this year.

Full Time Personnel & Appointment Date

Chief Robert F. Small Jr.	1998
Lieutenant Donald D. Kemmett	1998
Sergeant Nathan A. Valente	2014
Sergeant Jason D. Denham	2014
Detective Brendan M. Emberg	2017
Officer Sean J. Crook	2001
Officer Robert P. Nordahl	2009
Officer Brian D. Delmonte	2021
Officer Austin R. Alves	2021
Officer Richard E. Heslin	2022
Officer Catherine M. Connolly	2022
Officer Emmanuel Matias	2022

Administrative

Clerk Patricia Knight
Admin. Assistant Suzanne Maksy

Part Time Personnel

Officer Scott Smith	2016
Officer Elijah Vicente-Roberts	2020
Officer Robert Orr	2020
Officer James Hightower	2021

Reserve Officers

Officer Stephan Reimer
Officer Lenard Mota
Officer Peter Sylvia

Police Matrons

Patricia Knight
Kelly Massey

Animal Control

Anne Estabrook

Firearms Permits Issued **224**

License to carry a firearm	222
Firearms Identification Card	2

Fees Collected **\$157,028.50**

Firearms licenses	\$ 20,000.00
Report/misc fees	\$ 4,876.53
Grants	\$115,000.00
Gifts/Donations	\$ 1,600.00
Detail fees	\$ 6,081.48
Court fees	\$ 7,030.49
Civil marijuana fees	\$ 2,440.00

2022 Arrests **218**

In-custody	92
Summons	116
Protective Custody	4

Criminal Offenses **577**

Robbery	0
Rape	2
Indecent A&B	3
Pornography	1
Weapons Violations	12
Domestic A&B	11
Assaults	19
Aggravated Battery	6
Intimidation of a Witness	12
Operating Under the Influence	24
Disorderly Conduct	10
Liquor law violations	13
Trespassing	13
Narcotics violations	31
Burglary/B&E	7
Theft from a building	7
M/V thefts	3
Theft from a M/V	1
Larceny	23
Shoplifting	4
Vandalism/Destruction	1
Counterfeiting/forgery	2
Larceny false pretense	3

I.D theft	7
All other offenses	33
Traffic/By-law offenses	234

M/V citations	441
M/V crashes	111
Crash w/ injury	21
Fatalities	1

Overdoses	9
O.D fatalities	2

As always, we have continued to receive tremendous support from the Town and it is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. F. Small Jr.", with a stylized, cursive script.

Robert F. Small Jr.
Chief of Police

Report of the **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

It is with great pride and honor that the officers and members of the Rochester Fire Department present this Calendar Year-2022 Annual Report. The information contained in this report serves as testament to the professionalism and dedication of our Firefighters and EMT'S. We are thankful for the tremendous support received from our residents, Town leaders, and the other departments we have worked alongside during the reporting period. Our value to the community is measured directly by the services we provide. We pride ourselves on delivering the highest quality services to those who live, work, and visit our community.

In 2022, The Rochester Fire Department responded to 758 calls for service. Of those, 302 were Fire Department responses while 456 were EMS responses.

In 2022, the Rochester Fire Department was awarded an \$15,500 grant from the Department of Fire Services. The DFS grant money was used to purchase Hydraulic rescue tools. The department has once again applied for the Assistant to Firefighter Grant. The department was successful and received \$168,308.90 to replace the departments non-compliant Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chief Scott Weigel

Report of the
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

In 2022, the Highway Department continued to work hard to provide the residents of Rochester with the best service possible by providing snow and ice removal, mowing, sweeping, tree maintenance, park maintenance, and maintaining and replacing damaged pavement of the Town's 72 miles of roadway.

We applied for and received 42,900.00 in FEMA reimbursement from the January 29th blizzard.

The Department spent most of the spring cleaning up tree debris from winter and wind storms. We spent the summer changing numerous catch basins and drainage pipes and traffic signs to meet new federal sign regulations.

I would like to express my appreciation to all town boards, departments, and employees for their continuous support and especially to the employees of the highway department for their hard work, commitment, and dedication to the Town of Rochester.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeffrey Eldridge
Highway Surveyor

Report of the **MARION/ROCHESTER HEALTH DIRECTOR**

Rochester Board of Health is pleased to submit its Town Report for 2022.

Members are William David Souza, Chairman, Members Sarah Eby, and Glenn Lawrence. Our Board generally meets monthly on the first Wednesday of the month. Office hours for the Board of Health are from 9:00 am until 12:00 PM Monday through Friday. We are in the Annex Building located at 37 Marion Road, Rochester, MA.

We have hired a new Board Administrator, Susan Kucinski. Lori Walsh, our previous Board Administrator has moved on over to fulltime for the Building Department. We would like to express our gratitude for the excellent job she has done, and wish her well in her new position.

As Health Director for the Board of Health, my duties include reviewing septic plans, Title 5 inspection reports, witness percolation tests, inspecting septic system construction, and issuing permits.

We have a sharps collection program, whereby residents who use our program receive free containers to safely collect them. Kindly bring your sharps to the Annex Building during office hours, and we will replace your container.

Connie Dolan is our Public Health Nurse. She is very busy following up on communicable diseases, wellness clinics at the COA and Annie Maxim House, attending conferences, re-validating agreements for Medicare reimbursement, and working in conjunction with the area public health nurses. She also attends the monthly Region 5C Coalition Meetings in Middleboro, MA.

Paul Moore, our beach inspector does the beach testing for a private beach on Snipatuit pond.

The Rochester Board of Health and area towns of Westport, Marion, Mattapoisett, and Freetown have entered into agreements to form a Public Health Excellence Grant Program. The Town of Westport serves as the Grant administrator.

The Public Health Excellence Grant Program is a statewide opportunity for towns to enter into inter-municipal shared agreements so that services that were done on a daily basis, such as inspections could be routinely done by trained inspectors.

The Town of Rochester is excited about joining this collaborative as a means of helping with some budgetary expenses such as trainings, equipment for the offices, and overall office equipment related expenses. In time, a trained inspector will be ready to help us do inspections. That will be very helpful in the summer time when the bulk of our inspections are done, and free up more time for me to complete office work.

The Town of Rochester is excited about joining this collaborative as a means of helping with some budgetary expenses such as trainings, equipment for the offices, and overall

office equipment related expenses. In time, once the Health Inspector is trained and ready to do inspections we will be able to tap into that resource and use them. That will be very helpful in the summer time when the bulk of our inspections are done, and free up more time for me to complete office work.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen A. Walega, MPH, CHO, RS

Inspections and Permits
2022

Percolation Tests	29
Well Permits	13
Title v Inspections	54
Septic Permits	36
Beach Samples	13
Septic Inspections	72
Building Permit Reviews	41

Report of the **COUNCIL ON AGING**

The year 2022 was tremendous for the Council on Aging. We set monthly attendance records in March, August, September, October, November and December. In December, we actually set an all-time record for monthly visitors. We now have about 250 regular visitors each month and a supporting cast of 80 volunteers. Along with our fantastic COA staff, these volunteers help us to put together all of the many great lunches, dinners and events that we do throughout the year. From corned beef & cabbage lunches in March, to picnics and seafood dinners in the summer months, to closing out the year with Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving, holiday and New Year's events in November and December, it's always a great day at the COA. (We also had a fabulous new event/art show this past August that was very enjoyable and well-attended.)

Our morning breakfast program which is from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Monday through Friday is going better than ever. Fridays are our busiest days where we sometimes seat over 60 patrons for breakfast. Our Monday through Friday lunch program is also going well, our busiest days tend to be Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays when we offer bingo after lunch. We continued to expand our activity and exercise offerings this past year and most importantly, we have expanded our transportation program. In 2022, we added 2 fully accessible minivans to our fleet. If you are a Rochester resident 60 or older, have a medical appointment and need transportation, we will get you to where you need to go. We even bring our residents to appointments in Boston when needed. These 2 new minivans joined our 8-passenger shuttle bus that we received in summer 2021. That means we've added 3 new vehicles within the last year and a half! We believe that our seniors deserve the best and we work hard each and every day to deliver that to them. Not every COA offers this level of service, some restrict how far they will travel but we go above and beyond for our seniors here in the Town of Rochester.

The buildout of our new equipment garage concluded in 2022 and we've been able to clear a lot of clutter from our building and improve our appearance both inside and outside including power washing our building and walkways and re-lining our parking lot. We continue to discuss plans for expansion as well and we express our gratitude for all of the town's support. We truly are a great place for socializing, entertainment and active living for adults 60 and older.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rochester Council on Aging Board of Directors

Report of the
CEMETERY COMMISSION

The cemeteries that are under the control of the Cemetery Commissioners are:

Ashley Cemetery located on North Avenue
Hillside Cemetery located off High Street
North Rochester Cemetery located on North Avenue
Sherman Cemetery located on Pine Street
Union Cemetery located on Walnut Plain Road
Woodside Cemetery located on County Road
Old Parish Cemetery located on Braley Hill Road

As part of our continuing efforts to provide perpetual care, brush was removed and trees trimmed at all cemeteries. The Highway Department was extremely helpful in chipping and removing the debris that had been cleared. The Commission will continue these efforts as weather allows

The Cemetery fees are as follows:

Single grave site	\$ 150.00
Perpetual Care (single)	\$ 200.00
Total fee to open and to close a single grave	\$ 550.00
Fee to inter cremations	\$ 125.00
Fee to install a monument footing	\$ 250.00
Fee to install foot stone	\$ 150.00
Fee to set a military monument	\$ 0

Respectfully Submitted,
Lori Souza
David Shaw
Molly Ross

Report of the

ROCHESTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Rochester Historic District Commission has the duty of safeguarding the character of Rochester's town center.

Historic District Commissions do not prevent changes from occurring but encourage new construction that is compatible with the surrounding architecture and the nature of the town center.

A building permit cannot be issued until the Commission grants a certificate for any exterior work. Applications for certificates are available at the Building Department, and we work with the applicants to simplify the process.

An historic district creates a continuing sense of the past by maintaining the integrity of setting, feeling, and association with Rochester's long and rich history.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Monteiro - Chair/Clerk
Theodore Brillon
Susan Fleming
Ginette Castro - Alternate

Stephanie Carr
Sara Johnston

Report of the **HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

The Rochester Historical Commission continued in-person meetings through out the 2022 Fiscal Year with gatherings held on the first Monday of each month at 6:00pm at the Council on Aging conference room. New members, George Owen and Stan Moszczenski were sworn-in for service over the summer.

As was typical of any given year, we had forwarded to the appropriate town offices all letters received from the Massachusetts Historical Commission concerning a variety of development projects in the town's archaeologically sensitive areas.

An historical piece of artwork of the Leonard home on East Over farm was acquired and currently on an indefinite loan to the Council on Aging. It is on display for all Rochester residents to view in the main lobby area.

The historical building plaque initiative is still underway with one plaque sold to a private homeowner and another donated to the Grange Hall. The plaque at the Grange Hall has been mounted on the front of the building and is on permanent display.

Resumption of the school trip to the RMS 3rd grade took place in 2022 with coloring books being distributed and interactive discussions on local historical issues and topics.

Perhaps the largest and most exciting item that the RHC has been working on is the dedication of a Revolutionary War Memorial on the existing boulder on the town green adjacent to the Town Hall. Sincere gratitude is extended to Jeffrey Eldridge of the Rochester Highway Department and Peter Gross of Taken for Granite for making this dedication possible. A ceremony will take place in the Spring of 2023 and is open for all area residents to attend

As always, the Rochester Historical Commission continues to strive to live up to its mission of preserving and protecting the historic and prehistoric resources of Rochester for future generations.

Report of the
JOSEPH H. PLUMB MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Board of Library Trustees and Library Director

Library Statistics

	2022	2021
Items borrowed from the Library	36,882	25,774
E-content downloads	7,248	7,543
Total items (print and digital) in library's collection	81,929	82,727
Patrons registered	191	118
Children's programs	176	93
Attendance	3,956	1,494
Adult/Teen Programs	48	37
Attendance	260	202

Trustees

Name	Position	End of term
Kelley Medeiros	Chair	2024
Rhonda Reints	Vice-Chair	2023
Shauna Makuch	Secretary	2024
Kathy Besch	Treasurer	2023
Michael King		2025
Kimberly Burt		2025

Staff

Name	Title	Date of Hire
Kristen Cardoso	Library Director	September 2022
Jennifer Woodward	Library Director	July 2022-August 2022
Gail Roberts	Library Director	November 2006 – July 2022
Jen Frasier	Library Assistant for Circulation & Technical Services	June 1998
Lisa Fuller	Library Assistant for Youth Services	April 2008
Bridget Farias	Page	July 2020

Programs

- ◆ Adult programs: For the first two months of the year, all adult programs were offered in hybrid format both in-person and on Zoom. Starting in March, programs were offered fully in-person. The Knitting Group met weekly, while both the Plumb Library Book Group and the Council on Aging (COA) Book Group met monthly. The COA Book Group went on hiatus following the retirement of Library Director Gail Roberts. A seed swap with the Rochester Gardening Club was held outside in April.
- ◆ Youth programs: Lisa Fuller ran monthly Book Buds book groups for Teens, Tweens, and Younger Children. The Library partnered with the Rochester Land Trust to offer four Trail Tales on local trails funded by a grant from the Rochester Cultural Council. We had a fun Halloween event featuring lawn games, face painting, and a Halloween green screen photo opportunity. Throughout the year, multiple walk-in activities were available for youth including the weekly Scrambled Word, Take-Home craft kits, scavenger hunts, and a snowball guessing contest in December.
- ◆ Summer program: The 2022 Summer Library Program theme was “Read Beyond the Beaten Path”. Programs included Mr. Vinny’s Bubble Show with special guest Blades, the Boston Bruins mascot; Storytime with Elsie and Blanka; author visit with Alec Carvin; Mad Science events; workshops with Girl Scout Troop 62150 and Troop 31; Sonshine Yoga; Rochester Tails n’ Trails 4-H Club Animal Show and Tell; Tuesdays with Teachers; Animal World Experience; Backyard Band Jam; Pond Creatures with Dr. Mindy; STREAM Project with Ms. Allison; Mr. Vinny’s Puppet Show; and Bees, Bats, Birds, and Bugs by the Marion Natural History Museum. The MA Statewide Summer Library Program is funded by the Massachusetts Library System, the Boston Bruins, and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. Locally, the program is funded by the Friends of Plumb Library, the Rochester Lions Club, the Rochester Firefighters Association, the Rochester Cultural Council, Friends Marketplace at Plumb Corner, Brook Realty, Sperry Tents, and many community donors and volunteers.
- ◆ Gail Roberts, Library Director since 2006, retired on June 30, 2022. A party was held in her honor on June 23, 2022.
- ◆ A welcome party was held for new Library Director Kristen Cardoso on October 8, 2022.

Services

- ◆ Throughout the year, we have distributed free COVID test kits delivered to us regularly by the Town Nurse and the Rochester Board of Health. In December, the Town Nurse held a free flu shot clinic at the library for adults and children.
- ◆ In the winter, we also served as a distribution point for the 2022-2023 Telephone Directory (known as The Blue Book) for Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester.
- ◆ During the summer, we added a hot and cold water dispenser for public use.
- ◆ Notary services are available by appointment.
- ◆ With the completion of the basement project, we are now able to offer the space to local nonprofits for use as a meeting space by reservation.
- ◆ We continue to offer a variety of online services including Libby, Hoopla, Tumblebooks, Freegal, Creativebug, Universal Class, World Book Online, NoveList, and more.
- ◆ A telescope, snowshoes, MOBY kits, and Wi-Fi hotspots are all available to check out as part of our Library of Things collection.

- ◆ We also offer free and discounted passes to museums and zoos.
- ◆ We'd like to thank the Library Staff for their hard work, patience, and innovation during this year of transition.

Building Improvements

Facilities Manager Andrew Daniel oversees all buildings and grounds projects. The Basement Project was completed and approved by the Building Inspector for use in June. The parking lot lines were repainted and cracks filled in October. We would like to thank Andrew and his crew for his work on the library and the Highway Department for their care of the grounds. Hathaway's Lawn and Gardens maintain the gardens around the gazebo, in the outside reading/picnic area, the garden in the front of the library, and the one at the Main Entrance. Their work is sponsored by gift donations.

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Plumb Library is a non-profit organization made up of local citizens who are avid library supporters. They sponsor library events, fund library programs, and raise money for improved library services through book sales and membership drives. The Friends Board consists of: Janet Laine, Bev Passantino, Shauna Makuch, Halima Tiffany, and Victoria Wheeler.

For fundraisers, the Friends ran two book sales, one in April and one in October. They also did a clothing drive in May, a successful homemade cheesecake drawing in November, and a "Pick-a-Prize" fundraiser in December. After several years of being unable to hold it, the Friends also reinstated the popular in-person Holiday Fair in December featuring a silent auction, bake sale table, live music by the Junior Friends/Teen Team flutists, a children's craft table, book signing by local author Michelle Cusolito, and a table featuring the Rochester Historical Society. Additionally, they brought in Rochester author Michelle Cusolito to read from her newest book for kids, with books available for purchase and signing in November.

The Junior Friends continues to do good work. They have helped the Rochester Congregational Church with their shoebox mission project, and created centerpieces for the COA's Veteran's Day luncheon. They held one of their popular bake sales in the spring, coinciding with the Friends book sale.

The Trustees and staff are deeply indebted to these groups for their continued hard work and dedication, and thank them for helping to improve library services. We also would like to thank everyone who has donated time, money, materials, and supplies to the library in the past year. Your generosity makes a real difference in the quality of our service to you.

We invite the citizens of Rochester to take advantage of the many services, programs, and resources the library has to offer. We hope to see you in the coming year along with our regular library users. As always, we welcome your comments, questions, and suggestions. The Plumb Library's webpage is <http://www.plumblibrary.com> and we are on Facebook.

Respectfully submitted:

Kristen Cardoso, Library Director; Kelley Medeiros, Trustee Chair; Rhonda Reints, Vice-Chair; Shauna Makuch, Secretary; Kathy Besch, Treasurer; Kimberly Burt, Michael King.

Report of the
CULTURAL COUNCIL

ABOUT THE COUNCIL

The Rochester Cultural Council (RCC) provides public funding for the arts, humanities, and sciences through the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC). Each year more than 5,000 cultural programs state-wide are funded with grant money provided by the MCC. These programs include school field trips, after-school programs, concerts, festivals, dance, music, theater, lectures, and more. Projects take place in community centers, schools, libraries, parks, elder care facilities and wherever else communities come together. All Massachusetts based non-profit organizations are encouraged to apply for MCC grants.

The MCC utilizes a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils (LCCs). The RCC is one of these 329 LCCs. Funding annually made available by the MCC is managed by the RCC. The RCC is composed of municipally appointed volunteers, who are responsible for deciding how to award money granted to them by the MCC, and ensure follow through of projects that are funded.

The 2022 Rochester Cultural Council consisted of 5 volunteers appointed by the Rochester Board of Selectmen. Each board member serves up to 6 years of consecutive service. The 2022 board members were:

Member	End of Term
Katherine Duggan, Chairperson	06/24/23
Randall Elgin, Treasurer	04/24/23
Kimberly Amato, Secretary	06/13/25
Jordan Pouliot Latham, Member	04/30/24
Erika Rys, Member	08/21/24

These members met several times during the year to complete required obligations, as well as to develop new and improved methods for providing cultural experiences to the community.

COVID-19 IMPACTS ON THE ROCHESTER CULTURAL COUNCIL

While 2022 showed a considerable ‘return to normal’, nothing is really quite normal. Surging variants sometimes shut down performances or simply drove audiences away. Larger performing groups have learned to offer online options, but these times remain difficult for the arts. A few of our grantees struggled to execute their projects due to fluctuating pandemic restrictions - particularly concert performances like theater and music, for which the gathering of an audience is an important part of the experience. It is not so easy for our local artists to provide online or other alternatives, though they have adapted to venues that are less likely to be impacted by Covid. Still, one wonders how this new reality will affect the arts in the future.

As we have described in annual reports from previous years, many RCC programs planned for the calendar year 2020 were postponed into 2021. Most programs were

completed in 2021; many artists made use of online and outdoor venues to complete their projects, but the most affected projects were live musical performances. Happily, 2022 brought the return (mostly) of live audiences and the 2020 Mayflower Camerata & Chamber Orchestra (postponed to October 2022) and 2021 Beethoven @ 250 and Two Area Performances of his Fifth Symphony (postponed to November 2022) were finally completed! Going forward, we are hopeful that disruptions to the degree seen during the Covid pandemic will not recur.

GRANTMAKING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022

The major function of the Council is to solicit and financially support cultural events for the residents of Rochester. The first step of that process is the establishment of Rochester-specific local priorities, which are designed to respond to the needs of our town, and are complementary to the state mandated criteria as outlined on the website: <https://massculturalcouncil.org>. For 2022, the RCC funding priorities were:

1. Projects that are free to participants or available at a reduced rate.
2. Projects or events that will directly benefit Rochester residents by being held in the town. Other events must be hosted in surrounding towns which are easily accessible to Rochester residents.
3. Program eligibility: Applicants may apply for grants for programs that take place in the 2022 calendar year, Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2022.

Between September 1 and November 1 of 2021, The Council received 27 proposals for events to take place between January 1 and December 31 of 2022. Applications were submitted via the MCC website at: <https://massculturalcouncil.org>.

On January 12, 2022 the Council conducted an open meeting to evaluate these proposals. Ultimately, the RCC awarded \$5,200 to 12 Grantees, which the Council felt best met all MCC and RCC eligibility requirements. The projects were as follows:

1. Mr. Vinny the Bubble Guy
2. Hip Hop Dance Chair Exercise for Seniors!
3. Signs, Maps and Celebrations (Rochester Historical society)
4. Tri-County Music Association
5. Education Committee of the Mattapoisett Lands Trust
6. Passport to History 2022
7. Onset Bay Association, Chalk-Full-O-Fun Street Painting Festival
8. Discover Buzzards Bay: Rochester, Buzzards Bay Coalition
9. Rochester Land Trust, Trail Tales
10. Money Wise Kids, Rochester Memorial School PTO
11. Soule Music Series, Middleboro
12. Lunabotics Junior Contest, Rochester Memorial School PTO

Denied applicants were informed first (via email), as they are eligible for a 15 calendar day reconsideration period. Once the reconsideration period expired, approval letters were emailed.

The Council utilizes the Direct Payment Method offered by the MCC for the benefit of our grantees, which allows our grantees to receive their award money up front, typically in February, and requires each grantee to provide a Final Report upon completion of their project.

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

In addition to the grant review process, the council performed the following activities to enhance familiarity with the RCC and encourage as many Rochester residents as we can to explore RCC funded programs.

- The council expanded outreach by contacting the Rochester Country Fair (RCF) - back after three years of EEE, Covid and fear of Covid cancellations - and created a booth to showcase the RCC at the fair. Scheduling difficulties (RCF postponing the fair until October) and then terrible weather resulted in the RCF being mostly washed out. However, the RCC booth now exists, and was used to promote the RCC at Plumb Corner on the beautiful Saturday of Columbus Day Weekend (October 8, 2022). With the booth in hand we expect to be able to do further promotional activities.
- We have increased our presence on social media, sharing local events of potential interest and highlighting the work of our grantees.
- In the spring, the RCC announced our 2022 grantees in press releases to local publications the Wanderer and Sippican Weekly News.
- In August, we produced and distributed press releases to promote the RCC as a funding opportunity that were also published in the Wanderer and Sippican Weekly News.
- Into the winter, we performed an audit of our digital documents and reorganized our records to improve navigation. We also conducted outreach to other Rochester town councils to compare best practices for record keeping and meeting administration.
- We welcomed a few special guests to RCC meetings in 2022, including new Rochester Town Administrator Glenn Cannon and Hanako Brais, the Mass Cultural Council Program Officer assigned to RCC.

The Rochester Cultural Council is dedicated to providing Rochester residents with as many diversified cultural programs as possible; to that end, we welcome suggestions and appreciate public discussions which will increase community awareness of the grant program. We also hope to further increase community engagement and outreach about the events we sponsor. We welcome any resident of Rochester to join the council and help us bring as much culture as possible to Rochester.; you can reach us at rochesterculturalcouncil@gmail.com.

Respectfully Submitted,

Randall Elgin	Kate Duggan	Kim Amato
Erika Rys	Jordan Pouliot	

Report of the OLD ROCHESTER COMMUNITY TELEVISION

During 2022 Old Rochester Community Television concentrated our into returning to our pre-covid schedules and routines. The staff of ORCTV found ourselves adapting and adjusting to the new needs of our viewers in an effort to continue our service to the community.

This past year found ORCTV covering approximately 110 town government meetings in Rochester including each meeting of the Board of Selectmen, the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Conservation Commission, The ORR District and Joint School Committees and The Rochester School Committee, as well as special forums and events of interest to the residents of Rochester. ORCTV also covered the 2022 Annual Town Meeting. ORCTV worked closely with the various Town of Rochester Boards, training them in the use of the Owl streaming system which was used extensively to both stream and record meetings. This system allowed meetings to be attended either remotely via the internet or in person giving residents more options to participate in town government.

ORCTV continued to partner with Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School on the school's video production classes and club. This partnership is now in its sixth year. The station has continued to work with the school's Co-op jobs program bringing student interns from Old Colony into the station's workplace giving the student workplace where the students gain valuable, hands on experience in the field of video production. This is one of the few technology based options offered to the students. The station also filmed a number of events at the Rochester Memorial School including plays, concerts and the 6th grade Graduation Ceremony. During the 2021/22 school year the staff of Old Rochester Community Television worked with over 400 students and staff throughout the ORR school district training them in video production through classroom settings as well as workshop demonstrations. ORCTV staff have also been working on a weekly basis over the past five years, one on one, with special needs students at Old Rochester Regional high School, teaching the students video production and editing techniques.

The ORCTV/ORRHS video production program is now in its seventh year. The student produced news magazine 'Bulldog Weekly' highlights student life and activities at the high school featuring weekly segments from Principal Mike Devoll and Athletic Director Bill Tilden during its 30 minute episodes. The show continues to be entirely written, filmed and edited by ORRHS video production students. ORCTV also worked closely with the ORR Athletic Department filming regular season and playoff games throughout the school year. In addition to working with the ORRHS athletic department the staff and students also recorded and livestreamed many other ORRHS school events such as plays, lectures, concerts, the annual promenade and several pep rallies. Both the ORR and Old Colony Commencement ceremonies were broadcast live as were those of the local elementary schools and the Junior High School. The students and staff also worked with the ORR school district to bring local viewers a number of school concerts, award ceremonies, holiday events, school assemblies and school committee meetings throughout the year from each of the District's schools.

Throughout 2022 Old Rochester Community Television continued our work with local civic groups and government agencies. ORCTV carried the weekly sermons of the First Congregational Church of Rochester, which we have done since 2006. ORCTV provided coverage of events for The Rochester Historical Society, the Rochester Council on Aging, the Plumb Library, The Tri-County Symphonic Band, holiday festivities as well as Town Hall sponsored events and ceremonies. ORCTV member producers who reside in Rochester created a variety of shows including regular contributions from Linda Medeiros with her program ‘What’s Linda Cooking?’, Kendall Smiley with her program the collective chat “The Collective Chat” and Jeannine Hunt’s “The Jeannine Hunt Experience”.

Our staff has also been working over the past several years with the Rochester based animal shelter It’s All About the Animals creating features to help them find permanent homes for the pets that they look after.

Through our social media and our online Vimeo video on demand platforms our member produced video productions, material from the educational channel and Rochester Government channels reached over 10,000 viewers per week. As we have said many times, Old Rochester Community TV takes the community portion of our name very seriously as it is the story of the community that we are here to help residents tell through the imagination and ideas of our member producers who have been creating amazing content on our channels since 2006.

During 2022 ORCTV programs cablecast on our public channel reached over 8,300 hours of programming with 6,500 hours of programming shown on our educational channel and approximately 6550 programming hours shown on Rochester’s government channel. ORCTV is proud to serve this community as your public access media outlet and we look forward to our continued service to the town of Rochester in the years to come.

Report of the
HERRING INSPECTOR

The 2022 Mattapoissett River herring count was 2,332, which is a small increase from the 2021 count of 1,886. The counting conditions were excellent and the count appears to be accurate for the Mattapoissett River.

Alewives Anonymous did not set up their electronic fish counter at Leonard's Pond fish ladder this year. Buzzard's Bay Coalition recorded 37 fish at Hathaway's Pond fish ladder with their counter.

Alewives Anonymous cleaned portions of the Mattapoissett River in the spring in preparation for the herring run. They hope to clean portions of the Sippican River in the fall.

Respectfully submitted,

William D. Watling Jr.

Report of the **VETERANS AGENT**

The Tri-Town Veterans Services Office serves the Towns of Rochester, Marion, and Mattapoisett. It is located at the Mattapoisett Town Hall at 16 Main Street, Mattapoisett, MA. The Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. The telephone number is (508) 758-4100, Ext. 212/214. The Veterans Service Office assists Veterans and their families as defined by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 115. Chapter 115 is a needs-based program available to Veterans and Widows/Widowers who meet Department of Veterans Services (DVS) income guidelines. Our office continues to serve Veterans and their families on an individual basis to see that they receive assistance when needed. We partner with local, state, and national organizations to ensure the need is met.

In 2022 much of the day-to-day business returned to pre-Covid norms. The virus continues to be a health concern, but many are learning to live with it. More residents came to the office for face-to-face service. We also noticed increased inquiries for services due to the pressure inflation put on the population, many of our veterans are also seniors. We partnered with area food pantries to help counteract the rising cost of groceries. We assisted numerous Veterans with emergency household expenses and repairs. Weekly meetings with MA DVS leadership and other VSOs were conducted via video chat and continue to be very useful in informing this office of changing benefits and new opportunities to help Veterans. The office processed numerous types of VA claims Requests for proof of military service (DD-214). In October Diane Sweeney was hired as the new Admin Assistant.

If you are a Veteran, a Veteran's widow or widower, or know one who may be in need of financial or medical assistance please have them reach out to our office.

Sincerely,
Christopher Gerrior, Veterans Agent
Diane Sweeney, Administrative Assistant
Veterans Services Office
Towns of Mattapoisett, Rochester, and Marion

Report of the **WATER COMMISSION**

The RWC was authorized under the Legislature's Acts of 2011 and established by the Board of Selectmen in 2012 to supply public water to the inhabitants of the town. There are three elected Water Commissioners who meet monthly to conduct RWC business.

Accomplishments during 2022 include:

- The Commission worked with the Board of Selectmen to secure an additional 45,000 gal./day allotment from the Wareham Water District to extend water service in the Route 28 industrial/commercial area.
- Installation of public water supply to the Annie Maxim Home from an extension of the water supply from the Middleborough Water Department.
- Review and approval of an extension of the water supply from the Wareham Water District to the new MBTA facility on King's Hwy.
- Discussions with Old Colony Regional V.T.H.S., engineering consultants and the Middleborough Water Department about the extension of public water supply to the school grounds.
- Submittal of comments to Mass. D.E.P. opposed to provisions in the renewal of the Water Withdrawal Permit for the City of New Bedford's withdrawal from Great Quittacas Pond.
- Reviewed the recommended action plan prepared by SRPEDD and the Assawompsett Ponds Committee to address flooding and climate change and prompted an informational meeting with the Board of Selectmen and the public.
- Working with Marion, Mattapoisett and Fairhaven within the Mattapoisett River Valley Water District to monitor water quality and volumes and to review the impacts of development within the watershed.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Underhill, Chairman
David Hughes
Richard J. Charon

Report of the

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (SRPEDD)

The Town of Rochester is a member of the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District. Originally founded in 1956, SRPEDD (pronounced “sir-ped”) is one of 13 regional planning agencies (RPAs) across the state and one of approximately 550 across the country.

SRPEDD serves 4 cities and 23 towns in southeastern Massachusetts. Through our work, we address common issues facing the region, including economic development, growth and land use, safe and efficient transportation, environmental stewardship, municipal partnerships, community development and affordable housing, and general planning. A Commission of local mayors, selectmen, planning board members, and at-large members govern SRPEDD. Federal and state grants, local assessments, and local contracts fund our activities. In 2022, the Town of Rochester paid \$1,029.66 to SRPEDD, based upon an assessment of 20.17 cents per capita. SRPEDD’s annual budget in 2022 was \$2,720,262.

SRPEDD also serves as the region’s staff for the Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO) and the regional Economic Development District (EDD) with the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). In both roles, SRPEDD works with numerous partners to program tens of millions of dollars to directly invest in our region’s infrastructure and community development.

Please visit SRPEDD’s recently updated agency website at www.srpedd.org to review our work, read our 2022 Annual Report, and tour new projects, including: our Drone Program and Virtual Building Tours; our work to support communities as they comply with the new Section 3A of Chapter 40A; our watershed and resilience planning work program; our Complete Streets and Multi-Use Path transportation projects; our work with the Southeastern Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (SRAC); our work with school districts and public safety officials to create Active Shooter/Hostile Event (ASHE) Response Tools; and various municipal projects, such as Redevelopment Studies and Community Master Plans. Our website also includes departmental web pages, a calendar of events, and recent news.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, concerns, or project ideas.

Local citizens/officials representing Rochester in SRPEDD activities:

Nancy Durfee and Greenwood Hartley, III on the SRPEDD Commission.

David Desroches on the Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG).

Report of the
ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ROCHESTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Sharon Hartley, Chairperson	Term Expires 2025
Robin Rounseville, Vice-Chairperson	Term Expires 2024
Katherine Duggan	Term Expires 2023
Jason Chisholm	Term Expires 2024
Anne Fernandes	Term Expires 2023

ORR SCHOOL COMMITTEE (Rochester Representatives)

Matthew Monteiro	Term Expires 2024
Joseph Pires	Term Expires 2023
Jason Chisholm	Term Expires 2024

Please check the school district website at www.olderochester.org
for meeting schedule.

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Michael S. Nelson, M.Ed.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF TEACHING & LEARNING
Sharlene Fedorowicz, Ph.D.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF FINANCE & OPERATIONS
Howard Barber, CPA, MCPPO

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES
Craig J. Davidson, M.Ed.

DISTRICT FACILITIES DIRECTOR
Eugene Jones, B.A.

ROCHESTER MEMORIAL SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL, Derek Medeiros
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, Charles West
SCHOOL PHYSICIAN, Dr. Mendes & Dr. Reynolds
SCHOOL NURSE, Ellen Murphy

ORR JR. HIGH SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL, Silas Coellner
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, Kelly Chouinard
SCHOOL PHYSICIAN, Dr. Mendes & Dr. Reynolds
SCHOOL NURSE, Linda Deveau

ORR HIGH SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL, Michael C. Devoll
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, Vanessa Harvey

SCHOOL PHYSICIAN, Dr. Mendes & Dr. Reynolds
SCHOOL NURSE, Nicole Reedy

Introduction

Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts School Superintendency Union #55 serve the towns of Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester. Dedicated educators and staff serve the three communities of Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester and the four school district structure, working collaboratively to provide a high quality education for our students preparing them for post-secondary success. The support provided to the school-system from the three towns from a resource standpoint helps ensure the ongoing success of our students through strong educational programming and by providing safe learning environments.

The 2021-2022 school year marked the third consecutive year where the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the typical operations of the school-system. However, the 2021-2022 school year also marked an important return to full in-person learning for all students. In the previous school year, due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the schools had to operate different learning models that included full in-person learning, hybrid learning (combination of in-person and remote learning opportunities), and full remote learning. Doing so – was a difficult task for our educators, our staff members, our families, and our students. Therefore, a return to full in-person learning, even with COVID-19 planning still needed, to start the 2021-2022 school year provided a strong sense of optimism that we were returning towards normalcy.

To ensure the safest in-person learning environments for our students and staff members, the school-system implemented COVID-19 protocols and mitigation strategies to decrease the likeliness of in-school COVID-19 transmission. These protocols and mitigation strategies included wearing face coverings, in-school COVID-19 testing abilities, improved air quality measures, and the collective emphasis on staying home when feeling ill. Although school still felt different than pre-pandemic times, educators know that students learn best when they are with their teachers in-person. Throughout the school year, we continuously adjusted our COVID-19 protocols and mitigation strategies in alignment with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's guidance and requirements, leading state health agencies, and our local health experts' recommendations. By the close of the school year, most of the COVID-19 safeguards had been discontinued.

Additionally, in between the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, school years our school-system focused on what teaching and learning supports would help address any potential learning loss experienced by students. To do this, we committed to utilizing the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Acceleration Roadmap. This tool was designed to acknowledge the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on our students' learning and to provide best practices to support student learning moving forward. The roadmap's framework is built on three priority areas, which are grounded in educational research and were developed through extensive statewide stakeholder feedback.

The priorities are:

- 1. Foster a sense of belonging and partnership among students and families,**
- 2. Continuously monitor students' understanding, and**
- 3. Ensure strong grade-appropriate instruction with just-in-time scaffolds when they are needed.**

Within each priority, the intent is to create equitable experiences and outcomes for all our students in a manner that is affirming to students' unique abilities. We started by offering not only our traditional summer SAIL learning opportunities, but also accelerated learning opportunities for identified students that required additional supports. Our team identified eligible students based on a matrix of data points. Throughout the 2021-2022 school year, we used the Acceleration Roadmap as a learning plan guide to navigate beyond the pandemic.

Additional accelerated learning opportunities were offered during school vacations, during an extended day program at all schools, and we planned for an expanded summer learning program during the summer of 2022. One of the most important pieces of this work is the fact that our own educators and staff members continued to answer the call to offer more. All of our own educators were willing to work in the summers, school vacations, and after the school day to provide additional services to our students and families.

Throughout the school year the leadership team, the educators, staff members, families, and our students remained steadfast in living our schools' mission, which is to inspire all students to think, to learn, and to care.

As you read this report you will see examples of our students' achievements, staffing and program changes, as well as signs of the structural improvements that have taken place in our buildings to upgrade learning spaces, technology infrastructure and safety.

Strategic Plan Overview

Vision 2023 was created in the spring of 2018 by a steering committee with the help of focus groups from all three towns. The steering committee narrowed the scope of the work to three priority areas; social and emotional learning, global awareness, and 21st century learning. The anchoring outcome or theory of action is:

IF WE ...

provide all students with life and career skills, learning and innovation skills, and technology skills, by integrating these skills into a rigorous and relevant curriculum,

AND

develop and consistently utilize evidence-based approaches and strategies that foster the social and emotional well-being of students to promote their success,

AND

create a school district environment that broadens our students' leadership skills, understanding and appreciation of multiculturalism, diversity, and global awareness by building relationships to establish a broader worldwide network, inspire all students to think, to learn, and

THEN WE WILL ... to care.
 have provided our Tri-Town students with 21st-century academic skills, strengthened their social and emotional competencies and prepared them to be engaged global citizens.

Strategic Plan - Year Four Review

During the 2021-2022 school year school stakeholders (i.e. students, teachers, staff members, families, school leaders, and school committee members) worked hard to complete the desired outcomes identified in the fourth year of the strategic plan. The Vision 2023 strategic plan includes strategic initiatives and desired strategic outcomes for each of the five years. Below are the fourth year outcomes for each of the three goal areas within Vision 2023:

21st Century Learning Year Four Review

Strategic Initiatives	Strategic Outcomes	4th Year
Subjects - Review all curricula bedding them 21st-century and themes.	Core Subjects - Adopted 21st Century skills and theme based curricula is documented using Atlas Rubicon design and management system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project Based Learning template was reviewed with staff to ensure that PBL units were planned and documented consistently throughout the district. Teacher teams planned and implemented at least two units that were standards based and provided opportunities for students to collaborate. Examples of units included: Sled Race Challenge, Engineering Compost Bins, ABCs of the Revolution, Best Part About Me, Water Cycle Graphic Novel Published, Civics Action Projects and Mass Hire Project.
Life and Career - Expand the opportunity for all students to work	Life and Career Skills - Collaborative project-based	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principals provided professional development at staff meetings to re-establish common

21st Century Learning Year Four Review Cont.

		<p>the school year - conducted learning walks using the Culturally Responsive Look-For's and Kaleidoscope tool through Responsive Classroom.</p>
<p><u>Learning and Innovation</u> - Engage students in learning that is purposely designed to incorporate 21st-century skills of collaboration, creativity, communication, and critical thinking/ problem-solving (4Cs).</p>	<p>Learning and Innovation - Student learning and professional practice goals for educators and administrators are utilized to improve 21st Century teaching and learning skills (4Cs).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Development from ATLAS consultancy was provided district wide. • After the PD, time was provided for teachers to discuss and assess next steps needs for their grade level/departments. • Professional development time was given by grade level/department to teachers for curriculum writing. • The district, through the office of teaching and learning, is ready to move forward with establishing a curriculum review cycle.
<p><u>Technology</u> - Support students and educators to use technology to strengthen their ability to research, apply, and communicate responsibly, and meaningfully, and effectively.</p>	<p>Technology - Integrated digital instruction is embedded and embraced in all learning environments to improve student digital literacy outcomes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 Devices - Google Classroom - Google Education Suite - IXL Jamboards - Interactive Display Boards - Interacting with Simulations - Building Apps on Glide - Creating Digital Songs - Creating Graphic Art on Canva - Coding Projects - 3-D Printing Media Production.

Strategic Initiatives	Strategic Outcomes	4th Year
<p>Relationships - Build positive relationships with each other and focus on student as an individual to build a sense of belonging and engagement.</p>	<p>Relationships - Students are invested in their learning and feel they are valued members of their learning communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HS continues to implement SEL lessons through Block. CASEL competencies weaknesses identified in 3rd grade. ● The district continues to train new staff in Responsive Classroom practices with goal of 100% trained staff. ● JHS continues to use Feedback their advisory program. Feedback through survey student reporting has a goal for JHS to adjust lessons based on needs of the student. ● District administrative staff participated in a refresher training for the Kaleidoscope Tool, which will enable assessment of RC teaching practices. ● Panorama survey data continues to be utilized in all schools and is one way to measure student/staff connectedness. This type of Panorama survey data will lead to direct adjustment to practices toward meeting School Improvement Plan goal as well as District Strategic goals. ● Student engagement practices continue to be forefront of our goal to increase sense of belonging for all student population.
<p>Behavior Management - Develop and expand consistent discipline practices</p>	<p>Behavior Management - Consistent and effective discipline practices characterized by</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All District schools have agreed to utilize the same incident reporting system which will be in PowerSchool

Social Emotional Learning Year Four Review Cont.

		<p>and updated in alignment with best practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elementary schools will align codes of conduct using DESE's current language as it relates to discipline. • Secondary schools are currently aligned but will update language as necessary to more closely mirror DESE recommendations.
Partnerships - Enhance family and community engagement opportunities, communication, and practices.	Partnerships - Maximized partnerships among family, community, and staff to ensure short and long-term student success are formed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All schools in the district engaged in multiple family engagement opportunities during this school year. • These activities ranged from musical events to cultural opportunities. Families were allowed to have increased access to the events in the school. • District Administration was able to take a closer look at the DESE Family Engagement Framework and are in the process of developing a more formal family engagement philosophy.
Safety and Security - Identify and enhance effective and comprehensive safety and security measures.	Safety and Security - A learning environment is created which protects and promotes the physical and psychological safety of our students and staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Safety procedures were updated through the District MERP. • Cameras and alarm system upgrades at HS, OHS and RMS. • Phone systems have been updated at all district buildings. • All in-house ALICE district trainers were recertified in ALICE procedures (spring 2022). • ALICE procedures and drills were conducted at the HS & JHS (staff and students). Procedure and drills were conducted for the staff at all elementary schools.

Strategic Initiatives	Outcomes	
<p>Global Awareness - Port students as they from, and work collaboratively with, duals representing se cultures, ons, and lifestyles in it of mutual respect open dialogue in nal, work, and unity contexts.</p>	<p>Global Awareness - A diverse and inclusive curriculum that offers a wide range of voices, perspectives, and experiences of local and global communities is developed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identified/Re-engaged members of the district Social Studies/Civics curriculum team through the C Teaching and Learning. ● Department Coordinators share exemplar lessons with educators regularly. Examples included: Culturally diverse toys-Early Childhood; Inquiry and Investigation in Art History; Genetically modified crops in agriculture; Women's in Turkey; Critical Lens Theater Harlem Renaissance during the Great Gatsby; Race in Latin America; Cultural views of her Latin.
<p>Personal Responsibility - Urge students to responsibly with the sts of the larger unity in mind while illustrating personal ity, honesty, and al behavior.</p>	<p>Personal Responsibility - A school culture exists where students are invested in their learning and respect differences.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District professional development <i>Connecting 21st Century Learning Project Based Learning and Social Emotional Learning</i>, as well as <i>Social & Emotional Learning & Global Citizenship</i>. ● Building based PD focus on Culturally Responsive Look Fors/Teaching. ● Social & Emotional Learning & Global Citizenship. ● World Language teachers use applications such as conjugue gimkit, and duolingo to assist connections in the global society. ● Partnering with the school-based organizations (Gender Sexual Alliance and Cultural Club), staff have participated in several trips to create a more inclusive learning environment for all. ● Handbook updates have been to include more inclusive language for students, families, and caregivers.

		<p>ongoing in its development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Service Club civics projects. For example: High School Knitting Club donates what they make to the New Bedford Women's Shelter. 9-12 Social Studies courses embed lessons on the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and amendments as well as court cases that have influenced our society. Local History elective exposed students to local government and its operation. The Life Sciences and Environmental Sciences class have updated curriculum to incorporate lessons on how to be better citizens with respect to the earth, including renewable resources, climate change, and recycling.
Empathy - Teach students to demonstrate an understanding of others' perspectives and needs while listening with an open mind to understand others' situations.	Empathy - Ongoing learning opportunities for students and professional development for all staff are provided to foster empathy for others' perspectives and needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the high school environmental and genetics courses, teachers have incorporated lessons that have students research both sides of ethical issues, such as gene editing and climate change. Building-based student offerings: Jamele Adams (grades 7-12). Bulldog Block staff created offerings for students: <i>Black History in Music, Unsung Heroes of the Civil Rights Movement, and Notable African Americans from Greater New Bedford.</i> Cultural Proficiency teams were established and met monthly. School Beats/Family Beats Drum and Rhythm events. Teachers21 Training. District Equity subcommittee.

School Leadership

During the 2021-2022 school year, the leadership team within the Superintendent's Office remained consistent from the previous year. Mr. Michael S. Nelson continued to serve as Superintendent of Schools, supported by Mr. Howard G. Barber, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, Dr. Jannell Pearson-Campbell, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, and Mr. Craig J. Davidson, Director of Student Services. In the winter of 2022, Dr. Pearson-Campbell did formally announce that she would not return for the 2022-2023 school year. In addition, Mr. Eugene Jones, Director of Facilities, Mrs. Jill Henesey, Director of Food Service, and Mrs. Doreen Lopes, Early Childhood Education Coordinator continued to serve our schools in their capacities.

At the school building level – our administration teams remained relatively constant from the previous school year. The Marion School District welcomed back Mrs. Marla Sirois, Principal and Mr. Peter Crisafulli as a newly appointed Assistant Principal replacing Mr. Sean Persico who accepted a position in different school district. As for the Mattapoisett

School District, both Mrs. Rose Bowman, Principal and Mr. Kevin Tavares, Associate Principal returned to service. Principal Bowman did formally announce her retirement at the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year after many decades serving the community. As a result, Mr. Tavares was named the Principal of Old Hammondtown School and Dr. Linda Ashley was appointed the Principal of Center School for the start of the 2022-2023 school year. Mr. Michael C. Devoll, Principal and Mrs. Vanessa Harvey, Assistant Principal returned to lead the Old Rochester Regional High School during the 2021-2022 school year. At the Junior High School, they also returned Silas Coellner, Principal and Ms. Kelly Chouinard, Assistant Principal. Lastly, the Rochester School District continued to be led by Derek J. Medeiros, Principal and Mr. Charles West, Assistant Principal.

School Buildings

All Schools

This past year we have continued our focus on the safety and security of our students and staff. We have upgraded our surveillance capability as well as our ability to communicate real time information to all our staff using two-way radios. Each staff member has access to their own two-way radio that is directly linked with all staff as well as first responders.

We are still very mindful of air and water quality in all our schools and we maintain our intense monitoring program to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment.

We continue our open and transparent capital improvements requests and input to the three Towns with positive dialog between School and Town Committees.

All mandated yearly inspections and tests have been completed in all buildings.

Rochester Memorial School

We replaced a well booster pump that was malfunctioning.

We had to replace the Emergency Generator Automatic Transfer Switch Controller, which provides the automatic function to a loss of power with the Town grid.

We took ownership of a new facility grounds tractor, which was funded by Capital Improvements. The old tractor was resourced to the Town's Facilities Department.

We completed a Security Alarm upgrade that will provide more accurate and precise notifications and will reduce the number of false and trouble alarms. This was also funded by Capital Improvements.

Routine maintenance was conducted on all facility machinery and equipment to ensure proper operation and reliability.

Old Rochester Senior/Junior High School

We replaced a failed 400-amp service to the main field and all out buildings. It was

determined the failure was due to old and faulty wiring.

We replaced the obsolete front marquee enabling us to project real time notices and schedules to the public with an aesthetically pleasing display.

We replaced the failed #2 sewer pump which is used to boost grey and black water to the Towns sewer system.

We acquired and assembled School Resource Officer (SRO) portable offices in the High and Junior High School foyer. This will provide the SRO a more visible presence to students, staff and the community.

The FY23 Operation Budgets and the Regional Agreement ratification allowed for a Capital Stabilization Fund that the three Towns allocated the funds to resurface High School track. Following proper procurement practices and through the bid process, Cape and Islands Tennis and Track was awarded the bid and will start the resurface of the High School track in April 2023.

Routine maintenance was conducted on all facility machinery and equipment to ensure proper operation and reliability.

Sippican Elementary School

With the emergency access road in the back of the school completed, we had the fitness playground reinstalled to provide our 4th, 5th and 6th grade students with the equipment during recess.

We created a 2nd floor student Safe Space to provide a safe area for educators to use to calm students if necessary.

We installed a handicap door access to the main entrance of the school to meet the ADA requirement. This was funded by Capital Improvements.

Our Building Management System (BMS) required to be re-commissioned as a result of our HVAC Audit. This allowed us to control the air quality more effectively and efficiently this past year providing a safe and healthy environment for our students and staff. This was also funded by Capital Improvements.

Routine maintenance was conducted on all facility machinery and equipment to ensure proper operation and reliability.

Center School

We started a complete HVAC upgrade (Capital Improvements) during the Christmas break. This will completely upgrade and recommission our HVAC/BMS system to up-to-date controllers and server. We will continue the upgrade through the February 2023 school break.

We completed painting of the entire trim, excluding the top of clock tower, in the 1898 section of school. Along with the painting, all the soffits and eaves were repaired. We also painted and repaired the metal fire escape. This was funded by a collaboration of the Town and the school district.

Routine maintenance was conducted on all facility machinery and equipment to ensure proper operation and reliability.

Old Hammondtown School

Completed upgrade on all HVAC controllers ensuring efficient and effective control of our Building Management System (BMS) allowing safe and healthy control of our air quality within the building.

Installed emergency shut offs for boilers in second location to meet existing codes.

Routine maintenance is conducted on all facility machinery and equipment to ensure proper operation and reliability.

Student Services and Special Education

Students who receive special education services in the Tri-Town range in age from 3 to 21. Our integrated preschool program, Project GROW, provides services for any preschoolers who are eligible for special education in their least restrictive environments. Some preschoolers, who are eligible for special education services, receive therapies on an appointment basis based on individual needs.

Students in our elementary schools range from those who may have very mild learning or language disabilities or a developmental delay, to students who have more significant disabilities (autism, multiple disabilities, etc.). School-based TEAMS consider the impact of the student's disability on their education in determining the types of services or programming the student needs. Some students with complex disabilities affecting all areas of their lives may require services after school or during summer vacation. As students become older, school-based TEAMS work with adult agencies to begin the transition process for students who are entitled to support services.

During 2022 and as compared with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts - the Marion, Mattapoisett, Rochester and Old Rochester Regional School Districts educated 89.3% of their students who receive special education services within a full inclusion service delivery model, as compared with a state average of 66.2%. The benefits of education within our neighborhood schools include: higher expectations for students with disabilities; improved instruction (because of the need for teachers to teach to individual children regardless of their achievement levels); and a richer school environment because of the diversity of our classrooms. The average percentage of students with disabilities (SWDs) is 17.8%, which is 1.6% less than the state average of 19.4%. A particular point of pride continues to be how few of our students are educated in schools outside of their communities. Specifically, only .77% of students with disabilities are educated in schools or programs not in the Tri-Town. This data is evidence of the strong commitment to an inclusive school and town(s) environment.

There is variability in the percent of students with disabilities among our school districts – as outlined in the table below:

District	%SWD
Marion	20.8%
Mattapoissett	18.6%
Rochester	19.7%
ORR	15.4%
System-Wide	17.8%
State-Wide	19.4%

Regarding the professional development of staff members within our schools, our traditional Responsive Classroom Elementary Course returned in 2022. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the course was not provided during 2021 and all elementary staff who were hired in the last two years participated in the four-day training this year. Responsive Classroom is a student-centered, social and emotional learning approach to teaching and discipline. It consists of a set of research, and evidence-based practices designed to create safe, joyful, and engaging classrooms and school communities for both students and teachers. Furthermore, Responsive Classroom is an evidence-based approach to teaching and discipline that focuses on engaging academics, positive community, effective management, and developmental awareness. Moreover, the Office of Student Services offered additional trainings in the areas of Social Emotional Learning Strategies (SEL), Individual Education Program (IEP) development, adult agency support for students with disabilities (MRC and DMH), 504 Plans: School Nurse Considerations for Field Trips and The Essentials of School Nurse Documentation, Creating Therapeutic Classrooms for ALL Learners, confidentiality, student records, Crisis Prevention and Intervention (CPI), and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training.

The high school athletics program continued with their Unified Sports/Special Olympics affiliation. Special Olympics is dedicated to promoting social inclusion through shared sports training and competition experiences. Unified Sports joins people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team. It was inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding. The Bulldogs have embraced this philosophy and participated in their second season of basketball. The team continues to increase in numbers and had 18 members participate in the winter season and 14 during the spring. We had two athletes compete at the state championship this year with one bringing a gold medal back to Old Rochester Regional High School. Our athletes also participated in Tabor Day - a dedicated jamboree for students with intellectual disabilities to participate in athletic events with school districts from the South Coast.

Our youngest learners continued to receive high level preschool services in an integrated classroom model that reflects our schools’ philosophy regarding inclusion and best practices. The Early Education Coordinator worked with both school personnel and community partners to offer in-person and virtual playgroups for our youngest learners. Our staff participated in a professional development - Year 2 of Building Equitable Supports for Children with Disabilities - and qualified for a grant opportunity to support

instruction focusing on equitable supports and anti-bias practices. Each of our preschools continue to build their reading libraries to create an inclusive reading selection for our youngest learners.

The Office of Student Services partnered with Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative (SMEC) to provide community wide events for students and families focusing on Anxiety, Supporting Adolescents with their Mental Health, Responding to Racial Situations and Executive Functioning.

In 2022, the Office of Student Services also participated in the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s Tiered Focused Monitoring On-Site Audit - building off our districts self-assessment in 2021. This review process emphasizes procedures for following state and federal regulations for students with disabilities and Civil Rights. Particularly, the DESE auditors interviewed families and staff, reviewed our procedures, reviewed Special Education documentation and visited our schools to certify compliance with state and federal regulations.

In 2022, our staff, students, and families continued to work together to provide students with unbelievable educational opportunities within our schools. Our special educators, service providers, paraprofessionals and support staff continue to be the most dedicated professionals in the field of education.

Finances

Federal and state grants continue to offset staffing in all four school districts, as well as provide staff development for targeted student needs including social and emotional learning, language-based learning disabilities, and students with significant and complex needs. Grants also offset a percentage of preschool programming. Finally, the continued investment in providing special education services within the neighborhood schools enriches the quality of teaching available to all students, improves the school culture and ultimately results in students with disabilities and their families maintaining a higher level of independence.

The School Budgets

The table below displays the trends in the budgets of the Tri-Town district in the last three years. The per pupil cost for education in the schools of the Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts School Superintendency Union #55 is compared to each other as well as to the Massachusetts state average:

	FY’19	FY’20	FY’21
Marion	\$16,112	\$17,017	\$19,705
Mattapoisett	\$20,549	\$20,891	\$23,679
Rochester	\$14,580	\$14,805	\$16,832
Old Rochester	\$16,508	\$17,110	\$18,231
State Average	\$17,150	\$17,575	\$19,113

The source of support for public education programs in the Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 includes funding sources described in the tables below:

**Local Tax Assessments: Local School Budgets
(Grades K-6 Elementary School Program)**

	FY'20	FY'21	FY'22
Marion	\$6,165,701	\$6,301,167	\$6,456,815
Mattapoisett	\$7,185,583	\$7,357,475	\$7,511,872
Rochester	\$6,424,585	\$6,609,831	\$6,798,275

Old Rochester Regional School District (Grades 7-12 Program)

	FY'20		FY'21		FY'22	
	Operating	Capital	Operating	Capital	Operating	Capital
Marion's share	\$4,540,902	\$221,749	\$4,743,800	\$212,223	\$4,901,695	\$201,747
Mattapoisett's share	\$5,706,582	\$305,713	\$5,885,034	\$292,716	\$5,952,951	\$278,197
Rochester's share	\$4,566,742	\$276,910	\$4,627,733	\$264,464	\$4,727,285	\$260,692

State Aid (Towns (K-6) & ORR District (7-12))

	FY'20	FY'21	FY'22
Marion	\$860,344	\$860,344	\$872,434
Mattapoisett	\$839,485	\$839,485	\$851,365
Rochester	\$2,057,549	\$2,057,549	\$2,072,039
Old Rochester	\$3,043,394	\$3,043,394	\$3,074,894

Grants

	FY'20	FY'21	FY'22
Federal and State Entitlements	\$896,276	\$1,410,874	\$3,087,836
Competitive State Grants	\$76,977	\$47,689	\$389,652
Private Grants	\$3,414	\$9,675	\$33,572

Included in the FY'22 Federal and State Entitlement Grants are specific one time grants which may not be available next fiscal year. The ESSER II and III grant(s) for \$471,315 and \$996,754 respectively, State American Rescue Plan: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for \$158,008, American Rescue Plan: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – Early Childhood for \$6,621 and American Rescue Plan – Homeless Children and Youth II for \$3,367 are included in the \$3,087,836 total. Below is a description of each of these grants.

ESSER II: Education Emergency Relief Funds Grant

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act provide resources to school districts to address the impact the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools. This supplemental funding opportunity, the Elementary and Secondary Education Emergency Relief II (ESSER II) Fund, is intended to help school districts safely reopen schools, and measure and effectively address significant learning loss.

ESSER III: Emergency Relief Fund American Rescue Plan Act Grant

The purpose of the American Rescue Plan Act Grant is to provide resources to school districts to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Education portion of this funding, the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III or ARP ESSER) purpose of the ESSER III fund is to help schools and districts safely reopen and sustain the safe operations of schools and must respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

American Rescue Plan (ARP): Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

The purpose of this federal special education entitlement grant program is to provide funds to ensure that eligible students with disabilities receive a free and appropriate public education that includes special education and related services designed to meet their individual needs. This grant came from the American Rescue Plan Act that was signed into law on March 11, 2021, dedicating supplemental funding in section 2014(a) to serve students with disabilities.

American Rescue Plan (ARP): Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – Early Childhood

The purpose of this federal special education entitlement grant program is to provide funds to ensure that eligible 3, 4 and 5-year-old children with disabilities receive a free and appropriate public education that includes special education and related services designed to meet their individual needs in the least restrictive environment (LRE). Local Education Agencies (LEAs) are required to ensure that children, aged 3 through 5, who need special education and related services, receive these services through free and appropriate public education (FAPE), in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – IDEA4 and Massachusetts Special Education laws (M.G.L. c. 71B) and regulations (603 CMR 28.00). The American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law on March 11, 2021, dedicating supplemental funding in section 2014(a) to serve students with disabilities.

American Rescue Plan – Homeless Children and Youth II

The purpose of this grant is to provide funding for programs that ensure students who are homeless enroll in and attend school, and have racially equitable and culturally responsive opportunities to succeed in school through the following grant program. Funds are designed for four aspects of us: to address the immediate basic needs of students who are homeless; to ensure students who are homeless have access to the educational programming, services and opportunities they need due to gaps created by COVID-19 and homelessness; to support districts in locating and identifying students who are homeless; and to ensure district staff are trained and have the capacity to support students who are homeless.

Enrollment

The October 1st enrollment totals in the Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts School Superintendency Union #55 Districts are showing a fluctuation from year to year. Enrollment in Massachusetts public schools has fallen nearly 4 percent — or by roughly 37,000 students — since fall 2019, a decline that is attributed to shifting demographics, housing costs, and fallout from the pandemic. It is important to note that our homeschool numbers are almost at the same level they were prior to COVID-19. In

2019, we reported 24 students districtwide. In 2020 we reported 92 students K-12 and in 2021 there were 31 students K-12 that were homeschooled.

	October 1		
	2020	2021	2022
Sippican School	392	400	403
Center School	224	235	229
Old Hammond town	170	187	189
Rochester Memorial	472	511	489
ORR Junior High School	399	388	390
ORR Senior High School	636	600	559

Although a high percentage of the elementary school students K-6 are enrolled in the Tri-Town Public Schools, there is some movement to independent and parochial schools from grade seven and a more significant movement to independent, parochial, and vocational schools, after the eighth grade. The following chart captures trends in student transfers. The largest transfer trend is seen from Grade 8 to Grade 9 where some of our students opt to go into Vocational High Schools, such as Upper Cape Cod Technical High School, Old Colony Regional High School and Bristol County Agricultural High School.

	2020	2021	2022
Grade 6	177	208	187
Grade 7	192	183	212
Grade 8	207	205	178
Grade 9	136	135	134
Grade 12	166	170	151
Graduating Class*	185	188	192

* Graduating class figures are as of June 2022; other figures are as of October 1, 2022

GRADE	NON-RESIDENT			MR	MT	RCH	TOTAL
ELEMENTARY:	NON TUITION						
	MR	MT	RCH				
PROJECT GROW	1			25	25	20	70
K		1		47	52	57	156
1	1	1	2	48	56	57	161
2				53	49	63	165
3		1		53	47	67	167
4	1		1	62	60	72	194
5	1			56	66	88	210
6			1	59	63	65	187
SUB-TOTALS	4	3	4	403	418	489	1310
JUNIOR HIGH:*				MR	MT	RCH	TOTAL
7				68	61	83	212
8				56	57	65	178
SUB-TOTALS				124	118	148	390

SENIOR HIGH:*		MR	MT	RCH	TOTAL
9		40	49	45	134
10		47	54	31	132
11		38	50	49	137
12		47	54	50	151
SP		2	2	1	5
SUB-TOTALS		174	209	176	559
SUB-TOTALS 7-12		298	327	324	949
Charter School Students 7-12 (FY22 Reporting)		3	0	4	7
FY 22 School Choice 7-12 (sending)		9	5	8	22
SUB-TOTALS 7-12		310	332	336	978
GRAND TOTAL		701	745	813	2259
UPPER CAPE COD:		MR	MT	RCH	TOTAL
9		13			13
10		5			5
11		6			6
12		1			1
TOTAL		25	0	0	25
OLD COLONY:		MR	MT	RCH	TOTAL
9			10	20	30
10			10	37	47
11			10	17	27
12			11	19	30
TOTAL			41	93	134
BRISTOL COUNTY AGGIE:		MR	MT	RCH	TOTAL
9			2	1	3
10				2	2
11				2	2
12				1	1
TOTAL		0	2	6	8

*not including school choice

SP= Special Program (18-22 years of age)

GRADE	SCHOOL CHOICE		
		MATTAPOISETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS	
K		1	
1		2	
2		2	
3		3	
4		2	
5		1	
6		1	
GRAND TOTAL		12	
JUNIOR HIGH:		OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL	
7		18	
8		16	
SUB TOTAL		34	
SENIOR HIGH:			
9		15	
10		19	
11		14	
12		19	
SP(18-22)		1	
SUB TOTAL		68	
GRAND TOTAL		114	

The following students from Rochester graduated in 2022.

Amanda	Armanetti
Nathaniel	Bangs
Owen	Bates
Katelyn	Bellemare
James	Coleman
Isabella	Correia
Wilson	Coucci
Benjamin	DeMoranville
David	Ditata
Tiago	Duarte
Christopher	Feeney
Logan	Fernandes
Jillian	Ferreira
Isabel	Friedrichs
Hannah	Furtado

The following students from Rochester graduated in 2022 (Continued).

Brody	Garber
Keira	Gleasure
Taylor	Green
Colby	Gross
Brooke	Hammond
Isabella	Hedges
Isabella	Hunter
Chase	Johnson
Emma	Levasseur
Sean	Lund
Keane	MacGregor
Jillian	Martin
Makayla	Matson
Zackary	Matson
Isabelle	McCarthy
Lucas	Mello
Lukas	Michaelis
Matthew	Modracek
Steven	Morrell
Olivia	Mydlack
Jemberu	Noyce
Tavish	Nunes
Colin	Perry
Michael	Petrone
Emilia	Pinhancos
Sydnee	Pires
Olivia	Pitter
Apollo	Prefontaine
Zachary	Proffit
Daegen	Resendes
Chase	Sherman
Brett	Smith
Carson	Spencer
Brooke	Steed
Hannah	Teixeira
Savannah	Teixeira
Emma	Thayer
Autumn	Tilley
Kinsley	Trout
Emily	Wheeler
Jennifer	Williams
James	Yoo
Joseph	Ziino

The following students graduated in 2022 as part of the School Choice Program.

Justin Allain	Dartmouth
Jaelyn Allen	New Bedford
Thomas Botelho	Fairhaven
Cole Burke	West Wareham
Haylee Carreiro	Westport
Adam Forrest	Wareham
Edward Gonet IV	Fairhaven
Michael Holmes	Dartmouth
Lauryn Lent	West Wareham
Ethan McElroy	Westport
Lucas McElroy	Westport
Spencer Merolla	New Bedford
Drew Miranda	Acushnet
Joseph Mulvey	New Bedford
Maggie Nailor	South Dartmouth
Benjamin Pacheco	New Bedford
Landon Pascual	Wareham
Charles Richards	Buzzards Bay
Hayden Rinta	West Wareham
Nataly Rivera	New Bedford
Leo Schiappa	Wareham
Makayla Semiao	Wareham
Gabrielle Theodore	Wareham
Michael Tobin III	Wareham
Tyler Trudeau	Carver

Union Agreements

During the 2021-2022 school year the following agreements were negotiated and settled as follows:

- On February 3, 2022, the Rochester School Committee ratified an agreement with the ROCHESTER MEMORIAL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION for a successor agreement retroactively to September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2024.
- On April 7, 2022, the Rochester School Committee ratified an agreement with the ROCHESTER MEMORIAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION for a successor agreement retroactively to July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024.
- On May 16, 2022, the Mattapoisett School Committee ratified an agreement with the MATTAPOISETT EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION for a successor agreement to begin on September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025.
- On June 22, 2022, the Old Rochester Regional School Committee ratified agreements with the following Associations:

- o OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION for a successor agreement to begin on September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025.
- o OLD ROCHESTER PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION for a successor agreement to begin on September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025.
- o OLD ROCHESTER SECRETARIES ASSOCIATION/MTA/NEA for a successor agreement to begin on July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025.
- o UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO AND MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA (UE), LOCAL 248 for a successor agreement to begin on July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025.

2021-2022 Academic Performance

At Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts School Superintendency Union #55, we are extremely proud of our school community's efforts and achievement on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS). The 2022 school year was the first full MCAS administration for grades 3-8 since 2019, with a modified test in 2021. Grade 10 students in 2022 had not taken an MCAS assessment since they were in grade 7 in 2019.

Trends from the state show mixed results compared with 2021 scores. According to the state, overall math and science scores increased slightly, whereas English Language Arts scores, including writing, declined. When we compare these results to pre-pandemic levels, we are still working to fully recover learning losses in all subject areas. However, in many subject areas the state has seen that about 50% of the "loss" from 2021 is beginning to be recovered. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) acknowledged that the last two and a half school years have not been normal and therefore predicted this learning loss due to the pandemic. For the 2022 school year, the majority of Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts School Superintendency Union #55 MCAS scores were consistent with or above State averages.

The MCAS results are for diagnostic and improvement purposes to support planning for the district and school buildings. The assessment is computer based and focuses on critical (independent) thinking abilities, application of knowledge, and ability to make connections between reading and writing.

Achievement levels are broken down into four categories ranging in increments of 30 from 440-560. A score of 500 or above is considered "meeting expectation" and a score of 530 or above is "exceeding expectations" which are both passing scores. Scores under 500 are not considered a passing score in MCAS. These include the categories of "Partially Meeting Expectations" or "Not Meeting Expectations".

In our districts, we continue to accelerate learning by using data (MCAS and other assessment data) to triangulate, inform, and guide our instruction moving forward. We want to acknowledge how impressed we are by our students' perseverance and positive

mindset and attitude, along with teachers. In addition, fostering a sense of belonging and partnership with families and students creates strong relationships that improve students’ learning needs.

In terms of accountability status, most schools and districts did not receive an overall accountability determination in 2022. Although the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education did not assign an accountability status, they did provide districts with a percentile score. An accountability percentile for schools ranges between the numbers of 1 and 99. The percentile score is an indication of a school’s overall performance relative to other schools with similar grades, and is calculated using data from multiple years. Although percentiles are calculated for schools, they are not calculated for districts. The table below shows an at-a-glance overall performance of each district according to these new accountability measures. Each school’s individual performance is discussed with school by school data.

2021/2022 Accountability Percentile	
District	Overall Progress Toward
Rochester Memorial School	65%
Sippican	78%
Old Hammondtown School	90%
ORR Junior High	65%
ORR High School	68%

Rochester Memorial School Performance

Rochester Memorial School is made up of pre-k through grade 6 students. Rochester Memorial School students continue to perform at a high level in all subjects.

Students at Rochester Memorial School in grades 3 through 6 achieved an average standard score very close to the 500 threshold consisting of 499 for grade 3, 494 for grade 4, 497 for grade 5 and 496 for grade 6 in English Language Arts.

Average math scaled scores for Rochester Memorial School students were 497 for grades 3, 496 for grade 4, 491 for grade 5 and 508 for grade 6.

The grade 5 average score in science was 508 which outperformed the state by 27%. Grade 5 is the only elementary grade that takes the science MCAS.

The table below describes the 2022 performance by grade at Rochester Memorial School.

**Rochester Memorial School
MCAS Performance
Grades 3 and 4**

Grade/Subject		Gr. 3 ELA	Gr. 3 Math	Gr. 4 ELA	Gr. 4 Math
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations	District	42	44	36	42
	State	44	41	38	42
Exceeding Expectations	District	8	1	2	5
	State	6	6	4	6
Meeting Expectations	District	33	42	34	37
	State	38	35	34	37
Partially Meeting Expectations	District	53	47	56	48
	State	41	39	46	40
Not Meeting Expectations	District	6	10	8	10
	State	15	20	16	17
No. of Students Included		72	73	91	92
Average Scaled Score		499	497	494	496
Average SGP		N/A	N/A	51	46
Included in Avg. SGP.		N/A	N/A	79	79

Grade/Subject		Gr. 3 ELA	Gr. 3 Math	Gr. 3 Science	Gr. 3 ELA	
Reading Proficiency	District	44	28	70	43	
	State	41	36	43	41	
Writing Proficiency	District	3	2	10	5	
	State	5	4	7	8	
Math Proficiency	District	41	27	60	38	
	State	36	32	36	33	
Science Proficiency	District	50	63	29	42	
	State	46	48	40	36	
Language Arts Proficiency	District	6	9	2	15	
	State	13	16	18	22	
Total Students		64	64	63	84	

Sippican School MCAS Performance Grades 3 and 4					
Grade/Subject		Gr. 3 ELA	Gr. 3 Math	Gr. 4 ELA	Gr. 4 Math
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations	District	48	53	45	53
	State	44	41	38	42
Exceeding Expectations	District	12	11	8	6
	State	6	6	4	6
Meeting Expectations	District	36	42	38	47
	State	38	35	34	37
Partially Meeting Expectations	District	44	38	40	38
	State	41	39	46	40
Not Meeting Expectations	District	8	9	15	9
	State	15	20	16	17
No. of Students Included		66	66	53	53
Average Scaled Score		504	502	498	502
Average SGP		N/A	N/A	56	65
Included in Avg. SGP.		N/A	N/A	52	52

Sippican School Performance

Sippican School serves students in grades pre-k through grade 6. Sippican School students continue to outperform the state at a high level in ELA, Math and Science.

Almost all students at Sippican School in grades 3 through 6 achieved an average standard score above the aforementioned 500 threshold consisting of 504 for grade 3, 498 for grade 4, 502 for grade 5 and 502 for grade 6 in English Language Arts.

Average Math scores for Sippican School students were 502 for grades 3, 502 for grade 4, 504 for grade 5 and 502 for grade 6.

The average science score at Sippican was 508 for grade 5. Grade 5 is the only elementary grade that takes the science MCAS.

Grade 6 English Language Arts scored 14% higher compared to the state average in the met or exceeded expectations category and grade 5 students scored a 20% higher in Math compared to the state average in the met or exceeded expectations category. On the science exam, our students scored 16% above the state average.

The table below describes the 2022 performance by grade at Sippican School.

Sippican School MCAS Performance Grades 5 and 6						
Grade/Subject		Gr. 5 ELA	Gr. 5 Math	Gr. 5 Science	Gr. 6 ELA	Gr. 6 Math
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations	District	50	56	59	55	52
	State	41	36	43	41	42
Exceeding Expectations	District	13	7	19	12	9
	State	5	4	7	8	5
Meeting Expectations	District	37	48	41	43	43
	State	36	32	36	33	37
Partially Meeting Expectations	District	41	39	33	33	39
	State	46	48	40	36	43
Not Meeting Expectations	District	9	6	7	12	9
	State	13	16	18	22	15
No. of Students Included		54	54	54	69	69
Average Scaled Score		502	504	508	502	502
Average SGP		61	65	N/A	56	53
Included in Avg. SGP.		50	50	N/A	63	63

Mattapoisett Schools Performance

Center School serves students in grades pre-k through grade 3. Old Hammondtown School serves students grades 4 through 6.

Students at the Mattapoisett schools in grades 3 through 6 achieved an average standard score very close to or above the 500 threshold consisting of 499 for grade 3, 501 for grade 4, 501 for grade 5 and 523 for grade 6 in English Language Arts.

Average math scaled scores for Mattapoisett schools in grades 3 through 6 were 494 for grades 3, 506 for grade 4, 504 for grade 5 and 518 for grade 6.

The grade 5 average score in science was 506 which outperformed the state by 22%.

Grade 6 English Language Arts scored 39% higher compared to the state average in the met or exceeded expectations category and in Math scored 38% higher than the state. Grade 5 students scored 22% higher in Math compared to the state average in the met or exceeded expectations category. Grade 4 had scores that outperformed the state in math by 23%.

The table below describes the 2022 performance by grade at Mattapoisett schools.

Mattapoisett MCAS Performance Grades 3 and 4					
Grade/Subject		Gr. 3 ELA	Gr. 3 Math	Gr. 4 ELA	Gr. 4 Math
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations	District	46	39	49	65
	State	44	41	38	42
Exceeding Expectations	District	3	2	8	8
	State	6	6	4	6
Meeting Expectations	District	43	37	41	57
	State	38	35	34	37
Partially Meeting Expectations	District	51	50	46	32
	State	41	39	46	40
Not Meeting Expectations	District	3	11	5	3
	State	15	20	16	17
No. of Students Included		61	62	63	63
Average Scaled Score		499	494	501	506
Average SGP		N/A	N/A	48	66
Included in Avg. SGP.		N/A	N/A	58	58

Mattapoisett MCAS Performance Grades 5 and 6						
Grade/Subject		Gr. 5 ELA	Gr. 5 Math	Gr. 5 Science	Gr. 6 ELA	Gr. 6 Math
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations	District	55	58	65	80	80
	State	41	36	43	41	42
Exceeding Expectations	District	2	5	12	46	24
	State	5	4	7	8	5
Meeting Expectations	District	53	54	52	34	56
	State	36	32	36	33	37
Partially Meeting Expectations	District	39	35	28	19	19
	State	46	48	40	36	43
Not Meeting Expectations	District	6	6	8	2	2
	State	13	16	18	22	15
No. of Students Included		66	65	65	59	59
Average Scaled Score		501	504	506	523	518
Average SGP		55	50	N/A	80	75
Included in Avg. SGP.		57	57	N/A	56	56

Old Rochester Regional Junior High School Performance

Old Rochester Regional Junior High School serves students in grades 7 and 8 from Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester.

Students at Old Rochester Junior High School in grade 7 scored 498 in English Language Arts and 497 in math. In grade 8, students achieved an average standard score 496 in English Language Arts and 495 in math.

The grade 8 average score in science was 500 which outperformed the state by 8%. Grade 8 is the only junior high school grade that takes the science MCAS.

Grade 7 students who met or exceeded expectations in English Language Arts and math outperformed the state by 9%.

The table below describes the 2022 performance by grade at ORRJHS.

		ELA	Math	ELA	Math	Score
Grades 7-8	District	50	46	42	34	
	State	41	37	32	36	
Grades 7-8	District	6	4	6	6	
	State	5	7	7	7	
Grades 7-8	District	44	42	36	29	
	State	36	31	35	29	
Grades 7-8	District	38	47	48	58	
	State	40	44	40	47	
Grades 7-8	District	12	7	11	8	
	State	19	19	18	17	
Students		195	196	216	216	
Scaled Score		498	497	496	495	

Old Rochester Regional High School Performance

Old Rochester Regional High School serves students grades 9 through 12 from the towns of Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester.

Students at Old Rochester High School in grade 10 scored 511 in English Language Arts which was 15% above the state average. In math, grade 10 students scored 508 which was 18% above the state average.

The average science score at the ORRHS was 511. The ORRHS students scored 25% better than the state average in science.

The table below describes the 2022 performance by grade at ORRHS.

Old Rochester Regional High School
Grade 10 MCAS Performance

Grade/Subject		Grade 10 ELA	Grade 10 Math	Grade 10 Science
Writing or Speaking	District	73	68	72
	State	58	50	47
Reading	District	17	11	12
	State	9	11	9
Listening	District	56	57	60
	State	49	38	38
Reading Comprehension	District	25	30	27
	State	34	40	40
Meeting	District	2	2	1
	State	8	10	14
Total Students Included		147	147	139

Old Rochester Regional SAT Performance

Two hundred thirty-three students took the SAT Exam in 2021-2022. The Mean Score for Evidence-Based Reading and Writing was 578. In Math, the mean score was 573.

Advanced Placement Coursework

Two hundred twenty students took advantage of the variety of Advancement Placements courses offered at Old Rochester Regional High School in the 2021-2022 academic year. These 220 students took a total of 421 AP exams, meaning many took multiple AP courses at the same time. Many students chose to get a leg up on college level coursework while still in high school. AP exams are developed by the College Board. With a scoring system of 1 through 5 on the exam, if a student earns a 3, 4, or 5, many higher education institutions offer college credit. Students enter college with credits already earned, placing them ahead in their degree aspirations. We are proud that many students take multiple AP courses and exams while at the Old Rochester Regional High School.

With AP Scholar awards, the AP Program recognizes high school students who have demonstrated outstanding college level achievement through their performance on AP exams. The AP scholar designation is granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on 3 or more AP Exams. Old Rochester Regional High School had an impressive 95 students who earned this distinction. We are very proud of the robust participation of our students in Advanced Placement courses.

AP Awards

38 ORR students received the AP Scholar Award which is granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams.

15 ORR students received the AP Scholar with Honor Award which is granted to students receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

26 ORR students received the AP Scholar with Distinction Award which is granted to students receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

2 ORR students received the AP Capstone Diploma which is granted to students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on 4 additional AP Exams of their choosing.

14 ORR students received the AP Seminar & Research Certificate which is granted to students who earn scores of 3 or higher in both AP Seminar and AP Research.

College and University Admissions

Old Rochester Regional School District students attained admissions at a variety of public and private institutions of higher education. The largest portion of Old Rochester Regional High School's class of 2022 students, 30 students total, each respectively, chose University of Massachusetts, Amherst and University of New Hampshire as their school of choice. Many chose the economically advantageous opportunities within close proximity to the Tri-Town: 14 chose Bristol Community College, 10 chose Bridgewater State University and 11 chose University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. Six chose Roger Williams University, five chose Massachusetts Maritime Academy, five chose University of Vermont, five chose Emmanuel College, four chose University of Connecticut and four chose Rhode Island College, respectively.

The complete listing of colleges and universities the Class of 2021 attended is: Anna Maria College, Arizona State University Tempe Campus, Bard College, Bay State College-Taunton Campus, Bentley University, Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis University, Bridgewater State University, Bristol Community College, Brown University, Bryant University, Cape Cod Community College, Champlain College, Coastal Carolina University, College of Charleston, College of the Holy Cross, Dean College, Elon University, Emerson College, Emmanuel College, Fitchburg State University, Florida Atlantic University, Framingham State University, Harvard University, Johnson & Wales University, Keene State College, Lasell University, Lewis and Clark College, Loyola Marymount University, Loyola University Chicago, MA College of Art and Design, MA Maritime Academy, North Carolina State University, Northeastern University, Providence College, Quinnipiac University, Rhode Island College, Rochester Institute of Technology, Roger Williams University, Sacred Heart University, Salem State University, Salve Regina University, San Diego State University, Southern Connecticut State University, Southern New Hampshire University, St. Lawrence University, Stonehill College, Suffolk University, UMASS Amherst, UMASS Boston, UMASS Dartmouth, UMASS Lowell, University College Dublin, University of Arizona, University of California Davis, University of Colorado Springs, University of Connecticut, University of Glasgow, University of New England, University of New Hampshire, University of New Haven, University of Rhode Island, University of South Florida, University of St. Andrews, University of Tennessee, University of Vermont, Westfield State University, Wheaton College, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester State University.

The graduating Class of 2022 also had students who chose to serve in the Armed Forces. We are proud of those individuals and thank each of them for their service.

Conclusion

In conclusion, our school community continued its important work to inspire all students to think, to learn, and to care. The mission of the school-system and its adopted strategic plan continue to anchor the work and direction of the schools within Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester. Despite unprecedented challenges in recent years related to the COVID-19 school years, the educators within this school-system continue to meet the needs of their students at the highest levels – with incredible support from the families and townspeople.

School Committee

During the 2021-2022 school year we had four (4) School Committee members conclude their service. We extend our sincere gratitude for their willingness to offer their time and commitment to our schools and our students.

The following school committee members completed terms in 2022:

- Heather Burke, ORR School Committee, Marion
- Suzanne Tseki, ORR School Committee, Mattapoisett
- Karin Barrows, Mattapoisett School Committee
- Christine Marcolini, Marion School Committee

We also welcomed five (5) new members and we thank them for joining our school community. The stakes involved in school committee decision-making are quite high and we look forward to working collaboratively with them throughout their term. Ms. April Nye was elected to serve on the Old Rochester Regional School Committee in May of 2022 as well as serving on the Marion School Committee.

The following school committee members began terms in 2022:

- Rosemary Bowman, ORR School Committee, Mattapoisett
- April Nye, ORR School Committee, Marion
- Amanda Hastings, Mattapoisett School Committee
- Cristin Cowles, Mattapoisett School Committee
- Nichole Nye McGaffey, Marion School Committee

The following school committee members were re-elected in 2022:

- Jason Chisholm, Rochester School Committee
- Nichole Daniel, Marion School Committee
- Sharon Hartley, Rochester School Committee
- Michelle Smith, Marion School Committee

Annual Report of the Rochester Memorial School Principal January 2023

The community's support of our school has always been immense and we are reminded of this as we arrive to such a state-of-the-art facility and grounds on a daily basis. With this continued support, we are pleased to see our student enrollment figures increasing each year. This school year our current student enrollment grades PK-6 is approximately 500 students.

The start to this school year has been fast paced but full of exciting work as we are all thrilled to be fully back in school under pre-pandemic routines. Our students and staff commitment to our C.A.R.E.S. motto has been on full display as we all understand the importance Cooperation, Assertiveness, Responsibility, Empathy and Self-Control play in ensuring that our school environment is safe and built on student learning, growth and development both socially and academically.

We would like to introduce our community to the new staff members joining us here at Rochester Memorial for the 2022-2023 school year. We welcome aboard two new general educators with Mrs. Anne Realini joining our grade 2 team, Mrs. Kathryn Koeppel joining our grade 4 team, Mrs. Jenn Hunter joining our grade 3 team, Mrs. Kaitlin Laprise is our new instrumental music teacher and Ms. Fatima Pimentel is joining our cafeteria team as the new 3-hour cook.

In ensuring that we utilize best practice in our classrooms as well as across the building that connect to our school improvement and district strategic plans, we have implemented the following school wide goals:

- Rochester Memorial students will continue to engage in instructional practices that include Global Citizenship, 21st Century Skills and Project Based Learning.
- We have transformed our traditional computer lab to a full hands-on STEAM Lab where students are engaged in experiences that focus on science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics. This was made possible due to the acquisition of Chromebooks or iPads for all students K-6 in order to implement a 1:1 student to device ratio as well as through planning/design from our STEAM specialist.
- The Rochester Memorial School PTO purchased a new book vending machine that allows our staff and families to collaborate through a focus on increasing students daily reading. Individual student and classroom goals were created to allow students to earn tokens to the book vending machine based on the number of minutes they read each month.
- We are excited with the addition of our new Promethean Boards. Our technology team programmed and delivered these new interactive boards to all classrooms, specialists' areas and support staff offices. We are extremely fortunate to have the support of our community in ensuring that our school is equipped with the latest 21st century technology.

As we look to the future here at RMS, we keep in mind our mission to inspire all children to think, to learn, to achieve, and to care. As a school community we focus daily on our school rules; take CARE of yourself, take CARE of others and take CARE of our school environment. These rules allow us to fulfill the great expectations that we all have come to expect from the Rochester Memorial School.

Sincerely,
Derek J. Medeiros
Principal

**Principal's Annual Report
Old Rochester Regional Junior High School
FOR: FY2021/2022
Silas Coellner, Principal**

The Junior High experienced several personnel changes in the past year.

The following new staff were added to the Junior High:

Crystal Gendreau - Special Education Teacher

Mary Caine - Special Education Teacher

Collin Melo - Paraprofessional

Caitlin Roberts - Paraprofessional

Camryn Kidney - Paraprofessional

Kathrynne Perrill - Receptionist

The following staff retired/resigned from the Jr. High School:

Maureen Barrett - Mathematics Teacher (retired)

Nancy Juvinall - Health Teacher (retired)

Donna Kirk - Special Education Administrative Assistant (retired)

Joanna Buckley - Special Education Teacher (resigned)

Rubab Rashid - Special Education Teacher (resigned)

Morgan Matthews - Paraprofessional (resigned)

Curriculum and Instruction:

- Continued professional development and implementation of project based learning.
- Integration of the 21st century skills focused on collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking.
- The social studies department continued to develop and refine curriculum aligned with the 2018 History & Social Studies Curriculum Frameworks.
- Continued implementation of The Responsive Classroom approach to teaching and learning
- Raising and releasing trout project-based learning was conducted in 8th grade science.
- Piloted OpenSciEd Science Units in grade 7.
- Conducted multiple Aimsweb+ and IXL Benchmark Assessments
- Students experienced 8 weeks of “Planning for Success” in their Advisory curriculum.
- Acceleration Road Map After School Program - tutoring for six weeks in ELA and math
- Coastal Ecology by Rail Field Trip for the 7th grade students

After School Activities: Old Rochester Regional Junior High School offers many extracurricular activities throughout the year. Activities offered include: Field Hockey, Jazz Band, Volleyball, Ping Pong, X-Country, GSA, Computer Science, Engineering, Jr. Ambassadors, Spring Track
Sports Clinics: Lacrosse, Soccer, Cheerleading, Football, Basketball, Volleyball

Survival and S.C.O.P.E.: The Survival and SCOPE programs returned after a two-year hiatus due to COVID 19.

Grade 7 Orientation/Opening Day: Ninety-five percent of our Grade 7 students attended the 6th annual orientation. Mrs. Carla Cafarella and Mrs. Carol Herrmann volunteered over the summer to organize this event; 15 teachers and numerous 9th graders volunteered for this day. Parent tours were conducted on four different occasions as well as a parent reopening Q & A via Zoom.

School Council: The Old Rochester Regional Junior High School's School Council met regularly from October 2021 through June 2022. The School Council provided input for the FY 22-23 budget and received updates on the progress of the School Improvement Plan.

Project 351 Ambassadors for 2021-2022:

Town of Rochester: Molly Wronski

Town of Marion - Nicholas O'Donnell

Town of Mattapoisett - Sasha Volkema

The Project 315 Ambassadors facilitate a school wide children's clothing drive supporting the non-profit organization Cradles to Crayons. The Junior Ambassadors read the Governor's Proclamation on Memorial day in their respective town celebrations.

Grant Recipients: Brian Almeida received a WPI grant for a Robotics Kit to be used with the 7th and 8th grade curricula. The grant included two days of professional development.

Staff Accomplishment(s): Nichole Charbonneau, Grade 8 English Teacher (Orange Team), was selected again to serve on the state level Bias & Sensitivity Assessment Development Committee for the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS)

Student Accomplishment(s):

Twelve 8th grade students were published in the 2022 edition of Young Writers

Old Rochester Regional Junior High to Senior High Transition: In September, 2020, Gr. 8 Guidance Counselor, Julie Taylor, visited each of the Grade 8 social studies classes regarding Career Exploration and High School Planning. The 8th grade students participated in the ORRHS Club Hub Day to see what the high school has to offer for afterschool activities. The 8th graders attended the fall high school pep rally, to participate in and experience school spirit at ORRHS. The ORRHS Ambassadors gave our 8th grade students tours of the high school. A "Step Up" day happened on June 1, 2021.

Vocational School Visits: On November 22, 2021, Grade 8 Students participated in a High School Application Process assembly; and, high school tours took place during the week of November 22.

On December 7, 2021, students in Grade 8 had the opportunity to visit Old Colony Vocational School. (Mattapoisett and Rochester students) and Upper Cape Vocational School (Marion students). Transportation was provided by the vocational schools.

Grade 6 to 7 Student Transition: On March 22nd and 29th, 6th grade parent nights were held by Zoom. The sessions consisted of an informational presentation and a time for Q & A.

As mentioned, an orientation half-day was held at the end of August, 2021 to familiarize incoming Grade 7 students with the school prior to the first day.

On May 25, 2022, 6th grade parents were offered the opportunity to tour the ORRJHS with Junior Ambassadors.

6th grade students toured the ORRJHS from each elementary school. On June 13, 2022 Old Hammondtown School students, on June 14, 2022 Sippican School students, and on June 15, 2022 Rochester Memorial School students toured.

Highlights:

- Reopening Q & A Zoom session for parents
- In-person Open House returned after a hiatus due to COVID
- Maintained our summer reading program where students in grades 7 & 8 were allowed to choose a minimum of one book from a selection of fiction and non-fiction titles. A book discussion was held on their selected title in September.
- Annual Booster-thon Fundraiser raised \$17,000.00. This money was used to defray field trip admission and transportation costs, supplies and equipment for student afterschool and advisory activities.
- With the Mattapoisett Police and School Resource Officer, Matt McGraw, we trained our staff and students in the A.L.I.C.E. program (enhanced lock-down for school intruder emergencies).
- Continued our ORRJHS Student Junior Ambassador Program.
- 1:1 Chromebook initiative continued
- Continued late buses 3 days a week, which dropped off students at their local town libraries.
- Mandatory substance abuse screening “SBIRT” took place for our Grade 7 students.
- Conducted the National Geography Bee and Spelling Bee.

- Conducted Panorama SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Survey for students and staff.
- World Read Aloud Day lead by Ms. Enos on February 2, 2022.
- Regularly held Cultural Proficiency Committee meetings.
- Junior Ambassadors attended the “YOU Lead” student leadership conference
- 8th Grade Jury Commission Presentation returned after two-year hiatus
- Unified Sports Day at Tabor Academy
- Parent supported “Teacher Appreciation Day”
- Friday Enrichment Activities
- 8th Grade Dinner Dance
- First Annual 8th Grade Awards & Promotion Ceremony
- First Annual 8th Grade Breakfast
- Europe Trip lead by Mr. Orie on June 15, 2022

Student Assemblies:

- May 10, 2022 Jamele Adams on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- 7th Grade: Ben Speaks “Power of Choice” with Judy Giovangelo

Music Accomplishments:

- Amanda Tomasso auditioned for, was accepted and performed in the Treble Chorus at Southeast Music Educators Annual District Concert. It was held at Scituate High School in March, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Silas D. Coellner, Principal

**Principal's Annual Report
Old Rochester Regional High School
2022**

**Michael Devoll – Principal
Vanessa Harvey– Assistant Principal**

Our Towns

Our school serves three southeastern Massachusetts towns: Mattapoisett; Marion; and, Rochester. All three towns have maintained their individual charm through careful and thoughtful community planning. Marion and Mattapoisett are quaint, close-knit seaside communities. Rochester has a more rural landscape surrounded by scenic farms, cranberry bogs, pine forests and fresh water ponds. Residents are proud of their school systems and have been very supportive in passing legislation to ensure its continued success.

Our School

The 2021-2022 school year featured a student body made up of 674 students, including 71 students attending Old Rochester Regional High School through the School Choice Program. Our student body resides in the communities of the Tri-Town: Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester. Through the School Choice Program, the school was able to welcome residents of the following communities to our school: Acushnet, Fairhaven, Lakeville, Middleboro, New Bedford, and Wareham. In 2022, ORRHS graduated a class of 193 seniors. ORRHS offers a comprehensive curriculum with a wide selection of Honors and Advanced Placement courses. The hard work and determination of these young scholars will not stop there as they earned themselves 597 college acceptances to 181 universities and colleges across the country. In this graduating class, 79% of the students plan to attend a 4-year college and 8% plan to attend a 2-year college. Three graduates will be entering the armed forces of the United States. Forty-eight members of this graduating class were inducted into the National Honor Society, forty-nine graduates received the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship, there were two Commended Students and one Finalist in the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program, and 79 of the graduates received scholarships from a variety of 131 state and local organizations. Graduates will be attending institutions across New England such as Bentley, Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis, Brown, Bryant, College of the Holy Cross, Harvard, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Northeastern, Providence College, Quinnipiac, Stonehill, Suffolk, Wheaton and Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Across the country and world, ORRHS will send graduates to Arizona State, College of Charleston, Lewis and Clark College, Loyola Marymount University, Loyola University Chicago, Rochester Institute of Technology, University College Dublin, University of Arizona, University of California Davis, University of Glasgow, University of St. Andrews, and the University of Tennessee. The most well-attended colleges amongst our graduates are University of Massachusetts Amherst and University of New Hampshire. This year, the most popular anticipated college majors include Engineering, Business, Criminal Justice, Education, and the Health/Science fields including Nursing.

Our Faculty

Of the 61 faculty members at ORRHS, 78% have their Master's degree and 3% have their Doctoral degree. The school has a 14.5 to 1 student to teacher ratio.

Accreditation

Principal of Old Rochester Regional High School in Mattapoisett, Massachusetts, Michael Devoll was pleased to report that the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, voted for continued accreditation for Old Rochester Regional High School at their April 2019 meeting. The New England Association of Schools and Colleges, founded in 1885, is the oldest accrediting agency in the country and is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a reliable agency to award accreditation to New England Schools. The Association is a voluntary accrediting agency of more than 2000 public and independent schools, colleges and universities, and vocational, technical, and career institutions. Of these, approximately 630 high schools, middle/high schools and PreK-12 schools have been accredited through the Association's Commission on Public Schools.

Community Service Learning

The 2021-22 school year began with the excitement of seeing returning members as well as welcoming new member's energy and commitment to give back to our Tri-Town community. CSL offered yearly volunteer opportunities and always enjoyed adding new ones so students could participate on their own. The club met once a week after school. The CSL co-advisors, Karen Browning and Andrea Moniz, helped to advise students as they take on student leadership roles on various community service projects that are new and on-going projects. For the 5th year, under the leadership of the students, the CSL Club collected new pairs of socks for their "SOCKTOBER" event in October. It was another huge success and the socks were donated to The Women's Center in New Bedford. As October came to a close, the CSL Club turned its focus to the December group event in collaboration with Toys for Tots and the Tri-Town police departments, for our "Stuff a Cruiser" event. This year they were especially pleased as all three town's police departments were represented and CSL was able to collect many toys for local children. The club appreciated the generosity of our Tri-Town residents.

Among these group volunteer activities, CSL has had several individual volunteer opportunities brought to the group by students and led by students, such as volunteering on weekends at Damien's Pantry.

The CSL Club has also been informed of opportunities brought from the community, such as with the Mattapoisett Land Trust (story walks), The Friends of the Mattapoisett Bike Path (tour de Creme bike ride and "Bikes for All" program), and at the Mattapoisett Library (used book sales). For the second year, the CSL Club has continued a wonderful connection with VASE from Sippican School in Marion. The students have volunteered in various events and opportunities with the students. Some of them included the Holiday Shop event, the After Class Enrichment (ACE) Homework Help and a "movie night!"

The club planned a "beach clean-up" in the spring, as well as a school wide clean-up outside (trash as well as pruning branches and mulching in the memorial gardens). The club capped off the successful year in May of 2022, where the club honored students who

have submitted their community service hours that have earned them the “President’s Volunteer Service Award”, an award where students earn either a gold, silver, or bronze medallion medal depending on the number of their volunteer hours along with a signed letter and certificate from the President of the United States, thanking them for their community service.

GSA Club

The ORRHS GSA had a very successful year advocating for education and policy change in the school district and the state to create a more inclusive community. Our GSA leadership continued last year’s presentation series, providing staff training on LGBTQ+ issues and updating them on topics such as basic education on LGBTQ+ terms and identities, respecting trans students and their needs, and creating and integrating LGBTQ-inclusive curriculum. Throughout the year, the GSA focused on educating about community care and mental health support, and invited community members to meetings to continue conversations about what is affecting our students. In March, students participated in the National Queer Youth Walkout to raise awareness of the devastating impact of anti-transgender legislation across the U.S., and the GSA president, Alia Cusolito, spoke at the Massachusetts State House on Transgender Day of Visibility to state legislators and community members. Alia was also awarded the 2022 Advancing Equity and Justice Award from the Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth in recognition of their contributions as a student leader. In addition, our members were also involved with other groups, including TriTown Against Racism (TTAR), the ORR School Committee Equity Subcommittee, Massachusetts Commission for LGBTQ Youth, Queer Youth Assemble, and Let Trans Athletes Play.

Class of 2024

Despite the challenges of the 2021-2022 school year, the Class of 2024 managed to have a fun and productive year. The new officers started the year off by helping to organize the first ever outdoor Homecoming. With the theme of Angry Birds, the sophomore class decked their class hallway with decorations, created a fun skit complete with choreographed dances and music, and performed in front of the whole school on the football field. Volunteers from the class ran the concession stand during the very cold homecoming dance. The class ran several fundraisers including restaurant nights at The Inn on Shipyard Park and Walrus and the Captain. They also participated in the neediest family fundraiser and organized the first freshmen/sophomore semi-formal winter dance. In June, the class elected new officers and senators.

AFS Club

The AFS Club empowers students to become globally engaged citizens by delivering meaningful intercultural experiences that provide the knowledge and skill needed to help create a more just and peaceful world. AFS is open to all students who enjoy traveling and meeting new people. 2021-2022 was a great year as our club welcomed three international students to ORRHS and were able to attend a few of our traditional activities. In October, we were able to open up the Halloween Pumpkin Carving Contest and also visit Keith’s Apple Orchard with our exchange students, where we took a tractor ride through the pumpkin patch to introduce our new international students to our community. In November, the club hosted the Annual International Dinner where they

invited the Southeastern Mass International student delegation. They presented slideshows on their countries and educated the ORR students about other cultures. The club traveled to New York City in December with the international students and club members. The club visited the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island and learned about immigrants and their stories of how they passed through those now quiet halls from 1892 to 1954. In May the club took a trip to Fenway Park to watch the Boston Red Sox take on the Houston Astros. Lastly, the club finished with a trip to Newport and shared one last dinner with the international students.

Student Council

The 2021-2022 school year was another year full of Covid-19 challenges and new normals, but Student Council (STUCO) remained committed to promoting positive school spirit and supporting students and activities within the school community. STUCO started the school year by organizing and running secure online elections for the class of 2025. After hosting a successful socially distanced Club Hub in the media center for the whole school in October, STUCO then got to work on the massive undertaking of planning ORR's first ever all fresco Homecoming! From meeting with town nurses to reaching out to parents and local businesses for donations, STUCO successfully organized and executed a truly unique homecoming dance, complete with a DJ, fire pits, warming stations, and a tent for dancing under the stars.

From the proceeds raised through the Homecoming ticket sales, STUCO was once again able to help various clubs and organizations fund activities and initiatives. Clubs that received funding from STUCO in the 2021-2022 school year included Cultural Club, Drama Club, GSA, Environmental Club, and E-Sports.

STUCO remained busy throughout the year, including hosting the annual fundraiser for neediest families and end-of-year ice cream social for the school in December. In January, STUCO members attended an educational trip to the Edward M. Kennedy Center to learn more about the important role of the Senate in our government. In February, STUCO members performed random acts of kindness during kindness week and provided hot chocolate to the entire student body before winter break. In the spring, Senators attended the SEMASC Leadership Conference at Marshfield High School, and STUCO hosted the first outdoors Class Olympics, complete with a new inflatable obstacle course event, on the football field. The year culminated with STUCO presenting \$500 "Unsung Hero" scholarships to two deserving seniors from the Class of 2022.

Art Department

Students in the art classes used their artwork to connect with their community. In the fall of 2021 the students made bowls and hosted their second Empty Bowls fundraiser. Soup was donated by Blunt Fine foods and patrons made a donation in exchange for a hand-crafted ceramic bowl and warm soup. All monies raised went to support local families.

Art 1 and English students collaborated to bring modern day monsters to life through words and sculptures. The collaboration was on display in the library. Students entered local and regional art shows and earned recognition. ORR students had artwork selected for the Emerging Young Artist Show (UMass Dartmouth) and were also

recognized with honorable mention awards in the Scholastic Art competition.

Locally the AP Art and Design and Honors Art II classes showed their work at the Mattapoissett Library. Eight students submitted AP Art and Design portfolios, all earning passing grades and half earning 4s and 5s.

National Honor Society

During the 2021-2022 school year, members of the Old Rochester Regional National Honor Society have worked tirelessly to fulfill the tenets of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. In addition to maintaining high academic standards and serving in leadership roles here at ORR, they have joined with the school and greater community on various initiatives throughout the year. NHS members have reached out to younger students through tutoring sessions and craft afternoons. During the literacy initiative, students donated over 1,000 books to Southcoast schools and Gifts to Give. They also supported the Boy's and Girl's Club of Fall River's afternoon program with supply packages. NHS members reached out to the senior citizens in our community through holiday greetings and packages. In an effort to promote positive mental health here at the high school, students started various positivity and mental health campaigns. These students have laid the groundwork for the new NHS members who will continue the valuable work done by this group.

Music

During the 2021-2022 school year, the Music Department saw a return to many of the pre-Covid events. The Southeast District Music Festival was finally in-person again, and ORRHS had one student participate. So far in the 2022-2023 school year, the music department have had eight students accepted to and participate in the District Festival, as well as one student recommended to audition for All-State. The District Music Department and FORM were also able to once again sponsor the annual FORM Concerts in the High School Gym. They were very well attended and continue to be a great recruiting tool for the High School Music Department and fundraiser for the FORM Scholarships. In May 2022, the Concert Band and Chorus returned to the Great East Music Festival. The Chorus received a Gold rating and the Concert Band received a Platinum rating. This was the first festival for most of ORRHS's students due to Covid, so this was an exceptionally good day for group! The music ensembles plan to return to the Great East Music Festival this Spring.

Debate Team

The Old Rochester Regional High School Debate Team had a successful year in 2021-22 within the Eastern Massachusetts Debate League (EMDL). The COVID pandemic caused two major changes to debate. First all debates took place virtually and second, the size of the team increased. The 2021-22 debate season was once again held virtually. During the season, the debaters argued the following resolution:
Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its protection of water resources in the United States.

Strong debate performances were made by seniors Edward Gonet, Mackenzie Wilson, Sam Harris and Max Vivino. The Old Rochester Regional Varsity Debate Team was the highest ranked four-person team in the league in the Eastern Massachusetts Debate

League. Edward Gonet was the highest affirmative speaker in the league. The affirmative team debated in the league finals with the entire league as an audience. Sam Harris, Mackenzie Wilson and Max Vivino were also in the top ten speakers in the league.

In 2022-23 the Debate Team is arguing the following resolution:

Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its security cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in one or more of the following areas: artificial intelligence, bio-technology, cybersecurity.

Mock Trial

The Mock Trial club once again participated in a virtual tournament in January and February while competing in turn as both the prosecution and defense in a simulated criminal case involving a felony murder charge due to an armed robbery gone wrong. Juniors Caitlin Collier and Sam Williamson returned and gave strong performances as attorney and witness, respectively. Sophomores Ella Caesar and Jaymison Gunschel also performed well in the attorney role, building on their skills learned during the 2020-2021 season. Senior Chris Bell put forth a very strong performance as a witness, earning the top possible score 10/10 for one of our three preliminary trials. The team will return to an in-person format for the 2022-2023 season, holding trials in host-school classrooms rather than in a virtual setting.

CPR/AED Training

CPR & AED Training for both Coaches and Students were held in 4 separate classes with full attendance over this past school year. Training included Adult, Child, and Infant CPR, and Choke Save as well as the use of Automated External Defibrillator. Certification cards were given on completion of these courses. Choke Save Training was also given to all cafeteria staff with certification cards on completion. In January students were trained in the use of the AED and hands only CPR. This training took place in their Bulldog block. It was met with great interest, and participation.

Environmental Club

The Environmental Club collaborated with the Mattapoisett Land Trust and Sippican Land Trust to learn about local flora and fauna, and maintain and clean up land trust properties in the two towns. They were active in learning about the flora and fauna of the school campus, while picking up trash, and clearing the nature trail. They brainstormed about strategies to bring back the recycling program throughout the building. Students made a proposal to STUCO for materials for recycling around campus and beyond, and were granted to funds. They ordered and used the tools to clean-up plastic and trash, not only on the school campus, but at the beach clean-up at Fort Phoenix in the spring. Finally, they collaborated with the community service club in weeding and mulching the memorial gardens on campus.

Student Newspaper

The student newspaper was able to increase the rate of production for the newspaper after being sidelined by COVID for a couple of years. The staff welcomed a fresh batch of Freshmen who started to make their way into leadership positions. This fresh burst of energy was exciting coming off a year of remote meetings that limited the students' ability to produce as a team.

Science Fiction Club

The science fiction club was able to return to in-person meetings and create opportunities for students to gather and share the stories and games that inspire their creativity.

This year also saw the return of Science Fiction Club game nights that provide a safe opportunity for ORR students to build connections with their peers throughout the building and across grade levels.

Class of 2025

The Class of 2025 continued to vigorously pursue fundraising throughout the 2021–2022 academic year in preparation for future senior activities. To begin the year, the class sold Bulldog tumblers. The class held several dine-out nights throughout the year. During the holiday season, the class sold candy cane grams to benefit the Neediest Family Fund. In the spring, the class organized a school dance to benefit the freshman and sophomore classes, while simultaneously running a successful calendar raffle which included prizes from various businesses throughout the area. Overall, the class of 2025 had a very busy and productive 2021-2022 school year of successful fundraising.

Once again, the Old Rochester Regional High School proved to be first-class and continued the school's history of excellence. Students and staff congratulated the following staff members for their work at ORRHS as they moved on at the close of the school year: Phil Alessi, Jeremy Bare, Megan Hall, Donna Perry, Jaden Teixeira, Nicole Sadeck, Aaron Strothers, Zach Tilden, and Michelle Wright.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Devoll
Principal

Report of the **ROCHESTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

The year 2022 began with continued focus on the health and safety of Rochester Memorial School students and staff as the School Committee supported school leaders to ensure the best possible education during the COVID-19 Pandemic. During spring and summer, COVID concerns slowly receded. By September, with the guidance and effort of district and school leaders, we were able to bring students, teachers, and staff back to school with normal formats and routines while still maintaining cautious practices.

2022 Rochester School Committee members included Sharon Hartley, Chairperson, Robin Rounseville, Vice Chairperson, Jason Chisholm, Kate Duggan, and Anne Fernandes.

In June, the School Committee honored and recognized the following individuals as they retired from our school:

- Jane LaRue for 18 years of dedicated work in Food Services at RMS,
- Kristen Mathieu for 18 years of dedication as a third grade teacher at RMS, and
- Christine Williamson for 28 years of dedicated service and musical contributions as the Instrumental Music Teacher at RMS.

During the summer, the Old Rochester Regional School District accepted the resignation of the Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning and, consequently, began the search for a replacement.

In September, we welcomed and recognized the following new staff members: Dr. Shari Fedorowicz, newly hired Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning; Kaitlyn Laprise, Music Teacher; Jennifer Hunter, Classroom Teacher; Kathryn (Sebastiao) Koepfel, Classroom Teacher; Anne Realini, Classroom Teacher; Dawn L'Hereux, Assistant Head Cook; and Fatima Pimentel, Assistant Cook.

During the year, the School Committee proudly recognized the RMS school community for their significant accomplishments in a nationwide competition: the NexTrex Plastic Film Recycling Challenge. RMS students, with the support of their teachers and the RMS Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), led a community project to recycle polyethylene plastic. For six months, sixth grade students collected and recycled more than 3,327 pounds of polyethylene plastic. These students informed us that this project helped prevent plastic materials from contaminating oceans and piling up in landfills. Our sixth grade students were recognized as champions in the northeast and nationwide ranking 9th among elementary schools and 15th overall among participating schools from grades K through 12. We congratulate all who were involved in this project: the students who led the project, their teachers, RMS PTO, and the many community members who saved and donated polyethylene plastic film.

In 2022, we also gratefully accepted the following generous donations:

- \$500 from Rochester Cultural Council for RMS sixth grade students to participate in the Lunabotics Junior Contest sponsored by NASA,
- \$500 from Rochester Cultural Council for the Money Wise Kids Financial Literacy Fair organized by fifth grade students and their teachers at RMS, and
- An inspirational mural created by Kristen Mathieu to communicate positive messages to the school community.

During the year, the School Committee took the following actions:

- Approved a Memorandum of Agreement between the Rochester School Committee and the Rochester Memorial School Teachers Association;
- Approved a Memorandum of Agreement between the Rochester School Committee and the Rochester Support Staff Association;
- Approved the FY23 Operating Budget of \$6,960,850;
- Approved RMS School Handbook with updates regarding masking;
- Voted to not to participate in the school choice program for the 2022-2023 school year;
- Approved an insurance policy option for student technology needs;
- Approved leases with Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative and Countryside Childcare Center for the 2022-2023 School Year;
- Reviewed the following updates to the Rochester Memorial School Improvement Plan for 2021-2023: Instructional practices that include 21st Century Skills as well as Project Based Learning; Social Emotional Learning Goal to ensure positive support for students; and a Global Citizenship Goal; and
- Reviewed a presentation by school and district leaders regarding the student achievement in the 2022 Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System.

In closing, as we reflect back on this year of recovery from COVID restrictions, we are grateful for the exceptional effort and dedication of our leaders and staff, the resilient spirit of RMS students and their families, and the ongoing support of the citizens of Rochester.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hartley, Chairperson
Robin Rounseville, Vice chairperson
Jason Chisholm
Kate Duggan
Anne Fernandes

**Town of Rochester
Municipal Telephone Directory**

Emergency Only 911

Police/Fire/Ambulance

Town Hall	508-763-3871
Police Department	781-934-1111
Fire Department	508-763-2611
Board of Assessors	508-763-5250
Town Hall Annex	508-763-5421
Highway Department	508-763-1991
Council on Aging	508-763-8723
Plumb Library	508-763-8600

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