



Rochester City School District Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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RCSD PARTNERS WITH SENECA PARK ZOO ON FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND CURRICULUM

*Community Becomes the Classroom for "Zoo Scholars"
as Part of Experiential Learning Program*

WHO: 2nd-grade students and staff from RCSD
Seneca Park Zoo Society Education Team

WHAT: RCSD 2nd-grade students will participate in a new experiential learning program at the Seneca Park Zoo designed to drive science, math, and English Language Arts standards.

WHEN: **Monday, April 16 and Tuesday April 17, 2018,
9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

WHERE: Seneca Park Zoo
2222 St. Paul Street

DETAILS: Rochester City School District students in second grade will join Seneca Park Zoo staff at the zoo where they will take part in an experiential learning program. The custom program was co-created

by RCSD staff and the Seneca Park Zoo Society Education team for the benefit of RCSD students.

The integrated, inquiry-based program was created with the goal of addressing standards for science, math, and language arts. During the two-hour program, students will be expected to complete a field guide-based study of four different animals. Groups will also be assigned one of two different “tracks” that will guide their learning throughout the experience. In each parallel track students will draw, measure, read, and write about their experiences.

The program does not end at the zoo. Once students return to their classrooms, they will participate in additional activities and assignments related to their experiences at the zoo. The program culminates with a final writing assignment.

The District expects approximately 1,300 students to participate. Funding for this program was given, in part, by a grant from the ESL Charitable Foundation.

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