

# New charter school coming to Rochester

**JUSTIN MURPHY**

@CITIZENMURPHY

The New York State Board of Regents Tuesday gave final approval for Exploration Elementary Charter School of Science and Technology to open in Rochester in 2016, making it the first new charter to open in two years.

The school will begin with kindergarten and first grade and eventually expand to K-5, according to its letter of intent. Teachers will emphasize scientific inquiry in class and students will get a large dose of instruction on technology, engineering and computers, among other things.

The school's founders promise to exceed the proportions of students with disabilities, English language learners and poor students in the Rochester School District. The school will likely be sited in the former U Prep building at 180 Raines Park in the Maplewood neighborhood.

Exploration is affiliated with Education Enterprise of New York, an umbrella organization that helps run Discovery Charter School in Greece, the Norman Howard School in Henrietta and the tutoring company EnCompass: Resources for Learning. A connected real estate holding company bought the Raines Park building in 2014 for \$406,000.

Monroe County Chief Financial Officer Robert Franklin is among the school's founding trustees.

More than 5,000 students, mostly from the Rochester School District, currently attend charter schools in Rochester and Greece.

[JMURPHY7@Gannett.com](mailto:JMURPHY7@Gannett.com)

	<b>Nissan NV200®</b>	Build Your NV200
	<b>COMPACT CARGO</b>	
		<a href="#">Learn More</a>

Powered by [TECNAVIA](#)

Copyright © 2015 Democrat and Chronicle 11/19/2015