

State approves East High plan

UR Warner School of Education professor will serve as superintendent

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The New York State Education Department on Wednesday formally approved the Rochester School District's partnership with the University of Rochester for East High School, according to the district.

UR's Warner School of Education, in the person of professor and former Canandaigua superintendent Steve Uebbing, will serve as superintendent of the school, using district funds. The partnership begins immediately in the 2014-15 school year, but the university will spend the rest of 2014 developing a more in-depth plan for 2015-16.


The approval from the state was expected after it allowed the district and UR more time to develop their joint proposal.

"We are extremely gratified that the state saw the merit in the work that was put into the plan," school board president Van White said in a statement. "None of this could have been accomplished without the collaborative effort of so many people throughout this community. That is the type of effort that will produce the kind of results that everyone should expect from this district."

The state mandated in March that the district make a change in leadership or operation at East, Rochester's most populous school, after student performance and graduation rates stagnated there for several years.

The UR envisions a 6-12 school broken into three sub-schools, with fewer students in each grade, longer school days and intensive instruction in math and English language arts.

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