

Rochester Area Foundation - News & Publications**Quote of the Moment...**

A pessimist sees the
difficulty in every
opportunity; an optimist
sees the opportunity in
every difficulty

~Sir Winston Churchill~

First Steps, schools team up on childhood screening

Rochester Post Bulletin Editorial
05/15/2006

The First Steps program of Rochester Area Foundation is partnering with Rochester public schools to get the word out that early childhood screenings should be done at age 3.

First Steps and the school district have launched a campaign that includes TV public service announcements, posters and brochures informing people about the screenings.

A check-up of a child's development is required by law before the child enters kindergarten. Most people wait until their children are 4 to get it done. However, experts in early childhood development recommend it be done earlier so parents have more time to find any services their children may need to help get them ready for school.

"It's not a test or an entrance exam to kindergarten," Rochester Public Schools Superintendent Jerry Williams said Friday. "It's a way that the school district and a family can work closely together to ensure their child is ready to learn."

Rochester public schools provides the screenings free of charge at the district's Northrop Community Education Center.

For more information, call the Early Childhood Screening department at 285-8034.

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