City district will restore Edison Tech

Pair of high schools to be replaced with new ‘career pathways’

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The Rochester School District plans to reshuffle the Edison Tech campus starting in 2015-16, closing the two high schools there now and replacing them with several “career pathways” under the structure of one school.

The move is aimed to restore some luster to the westside campus, which has fallen from its past status as a prime career training ground for Rochester students. Few have heard of the schools at 655 Colfax St. (Rochester STEM High School and the Robert Brown High School of Construction and Design), and their attendance rates and academic indicators are dismal.

Only about half the students on campus are even enrolled in a career and technical education (CTE) program; job placements are few.

“It’s definitely not what it used to be,” said Keith Babuszczak, the district’s newly hired chief of school innovation for career pathways and integrated learning. “We’ve lost the plot.”

The new model, called “Linked Learning,” is sup

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KEITH BABUSZCZAK

CHIEF OF SCHOOL INNOVATION FOR CAREER PATHWAYS AND INTEGRATED LEARNING FOR THE ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Anthony Smith, P-TECH project administrator, goes over a coding exercise with ninth-grader Steven Kinnear, 14, in an intro to information technology class that is part of the P-TECH program at the Edison Technology Campus on Tuesday.
Edison Technology Campus at 655 Colfax St.