



Ernest Flagler

Ernest Flagler-Mitchell is the father of eight children.

Ernest attended and graduated from East High School in 1997. He was accepted in the Firefighter Trainee program in 11th grade at East. Ernest became one of the first African Americans to complete the fire fighter trainee program and made it into the fire department. Ernest is a 17year veteran of the Rochester Fire Department worked his way up the ranks and is currently a fire marshal.

Ernest founded Rochester Parents United. As a leader of Rochester Parents United, he has shown an ability to merge different factions, bringing together parents of students in public schools and charter schools.

For decades, Rochester parents looked to organize and improve the schools and had just two options: the sanctioned district parent's council and the outside advocacy groups working with the teachers union. Ernest believes that neither option is truly independent or in the best interest of parents and students. Neither option empowers parents to bring change in their schools instead, this simply uses parents to lobby Albany for more funding and to block reform. For this reason, we founded the Rochester Parents United, a union of district and charter school parents with a unique focus: greater accountability and choice.

