

# School Facilities and Grade Organization Study

Oneida City School District

## **Parent/Community Meeting**

November 13, 2023



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# Agenda

- Review Minutes from 10/4/2023 Meeting
- Debrief From Staff and Parent/Community Meetings
- Continued Discussion: Four Grade Configuration Options
  - ❖ Key Questions
    - Three or Four Elementary Buildings? Which Configuration?
      - Neighborhood Schools
      - Grade Center Schools
    - If Three Elementary Buildings, Which Building to Close?
    - Target date(s) for Implementation of any Change in Grade Configuration
    - Location and Delivery of Programs  
(Pre-K, Special Education Services, Support Services, Band, Chorus, Other)
- Next Steps/Moving Forward
  - Timeline for Recommendation(s) – Answer Key Questions
  - Communication
- Public Questions/Comments

# Grade Configuration Options

## Four Elementary School Buildings

- Option 1 - Status Quo - (4) K- 5 Neighborhood Schools
- Option 2 - Transition to a Grade Center Plan (Grades K-2; 3-5)
  - (2) buildings - grades K-2
  - (2) buildings - grades 3-5

## Three Elementary School Buildings

- Option 3 - Close an Elementary School - (3) K-5 Neighborhood Schools
- Option 4 - Close an Elementary School - (3) Grade Center Schools
  - Transition to a Grade Center Plan (Grades K-1; 2-3; 4-5)
    - (1) School - Grades K-1
    - (1) School - Grades 2-3
    - (1) School - Grades 4-5

# Moving Forward (From 10/4 Committee Meeting)

- Delivery and Location of Special Education Services
- Delivery and Location of Pre-K Program
- Location for Band and Chorus
- District Office
- Implications for Transportation – Depending on Grade Configuration
- Update of Financial Savings
- Community Communication
  - Website
  - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
  - Community Meeting(s)
  - Other
- Timeline for Recommendation(s)
  - Timeline for Implementation Strategies

# Grade Configuration Options

## Key Questions

- Is it prudent to keep four elementary school buildings?
  - If so, in what configuration?
    - (4) K-5 Neighborhood Schools
    - (4) Grade Center Schools: (2) K-2; (2) 3-5
- Is it prudent to close an elementary school?
  - If so, in what configuration? Which school?
    - (3) K-5
    - (3) Grade Center: (1) K-1; (1) 2-3; (1) 4-5
- If an elementary school is closed, should the district
  - Keep it for district use (i.e. Pre-K; district offices, other)
  - Lease it to another organization
  - Sell it

# Additional Questions/Areas to Consider

- Will there be enough classroom space in three buildings to house elementary students?
- Program delivery and location
  - Full day Pre-K Program
  - Special Education Services (In District, BOCES)
  - Special Education Support Services (OT, PT, Speech, Counseling)
  - Other Support Services (AIS Reading and Math)
  - Special Subject Areas (Art, Music, Library and Physical Education)
    - 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band/Band Lessons
    - 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus
  - Other Special Areas (Cafeteria/Kitchen; Gym, Indoor recess)
  - Staff Room
- What will be the impact on transportation with any change in grade configuration?

## K-5 Grade Configuration (Common Themes - Advantages and Disadvantages)

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Transportation – living close to school</li><li>-Sense of community/community within a community/sense of home on a personal level/building relationships.</li><li>-Consistency for families to have their children in one building. Participation of family members at school events.</li><li>-Vertical alignment/collaboration</li><li>-Peer role models</li><li>-Less transitions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Single graded buildings/levels – no teaching partner to collaborate with. Students are with the same group every year.</li><li>-Scheduling for shared staff</li><li>-Inequities - inefficient use of resources, shared spaces/single grade/class size not balanced</li><li>- Horizontal alignment - lack of consistency across grade levels in the district/collaboration issue</li><li>- Lack of exposure to diversity/isolating community in each building</li><li>-Social grouping issues (going into middle school)</li><li>-Limits ability to provide push-in support to students with special needs/least restrictive problems (special education)</li></ul>

K-1, 2-3, 4-5 Grade Configuration  
(Common Themes – Advantages and Disadvantages)

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="247 451 562 492">-Equity in resources</li><li data-bbox="247 557 688 597">-Single sense of community</li><li data-bbox="247 662 951 703">-Consistency with special education services</li><li data-bbox="247 768 751 808">-Scheduling (staff and students)</li><li data-bbox="247 873 741 914">-Flexibility (staff and students)</li><li data-bbox="247 979 646 1019">-Horizontal collaboration</li><li data-bbox="247 1084 720 1125">-Elimination of social stigmas</li><li data-bbox="247 1190 405 1230">-Diversity</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1012 451 1255 492">-Transportation</li><li data-bbox="1012 557 1329 597">-Multiple transitions</li><li data-bbox="1012 662 1570 703">-Reduction in vertical collaboration</li><li data-bbox="1012 768 1875 857">-Students in multiple buildings may be challenging for families</li><li data-bbox="1012 922 1822 1011">-Transportation for parents/students outside of each neighborhood</li></ul>



# 2023-2024 PreK-5 Grade Configuration

## 2023-2024 Class Sizes for each Elementary School – 38 Sections As of 10/04/2023

Grade		Current Number of Sections and Class Size of Each Section				
	Total # of Students by Grade	Durhamville	North Broad	Seneca Street	Willard Prior	# of Sections
Pre-K		-	-	-	72*	
K	114	18,18	19	19,20	20	6/19.0
1	103	16,17	19	19,19	13	6/17.2
2	117	20,21	19	19,21	17	6/19.5
3	131	18,19	18,19	20,20	17	7/18.7
4	127	16,16	16,16	21,20	21	7/18.1
5	109	16,17	25	16,16	19	6/18.2
K-5 Total	701 Students	12 Sections 212 Students (17.7 avg.) 222 Students with 10 Students in a Self-Contained Special Education Classroom	8 Sections 151 Students (18.9 avg.)	12 Sections 231 Students (19.3 avg.)	6 Sections 107 Students (17.8 avg.) 148 students with 41 students in Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms	<b>38 Sections</b> 701 Students (18.4 avg.) 752 Students with 51 students in Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms

Note: \* The Pre-K program is a full day program. Pre-K students are not included in the total number of students.

# PreK-5 - Close One of the Elementary Schools

**Based on 2023-2024 Student Enrollment with 3 Elementary Schools  
Assuming an Equal Distribution of Students  
Reducing 38 sections to 36 Sections (12 Sections Per School)**

Grade	Total # of Students by Grade	# of Students Per School	Willard Prior	North Broad or Seneca Street	Durhamville	# of Sections
Pre-K	72*		(2) Pre-K*	—	(2) Pre-K*	
K	114	38	19,19	19,19	19,19	6/19.0
1	103	34 or 35	17,17	17,17	18,17	6/17.2
2	117	39	20,19	20,19	20,19	6/19.5
3	131	43 or 44	22,21	22,22	22,22	6/21.8
4	127	42 or 43	21,21	21,21	21,22	6/21.2
5	109	36 or 37	18,18	18,18	19,18	6/18.2
K-5 Total	701	232, 233, 236	232/12 Sections	233/12 Sections	236/12 Sections	<b>36</b>
Average			Avg. = 19.3	Avg. = 19.4	Avg. = 19.7	Avg. – 19.5

\* Full day Pre-K Program – The Total # of Sections does not include the Pre-K Sections

# Grade Center Configuration (K-1;2-3;4-5)

## Close One of the Elementary Schools

**Based on 2023-2024 Student Enrollment**  
**Possible Grade Center Configuration with 3 Elementary Schools**  
**(K-1; 2-3; 4-5)**  
**Reducing 38 sections to 36 Sections (12 Sections Per School)**

Grade	Total # of Students by Grade	Willard Prior (Pre-K-1)	North Broad or Seneca Street (Grades 2-3)	Durhamville Grades (Grades 4-5)	# of Sections/ Avg. Section Size
Pre-K	72*	(4 )Pre-K*	—	—	
K	114	114/6 Sections			6/19.0
1	103	103/6 Sections			6/17.2
2	117		117/6 Sections		6/19.5
3	131		131/6 Sections		6/21.8
4	127			127/6 Sections	6/21.2
5	109			109/6 Sections	6/18.2
K-5 Total	701	217/12 Sections	248/ 12 Sections	236/12 Sections	36/19.5
Average		Avg. = 18.1	Avg. = 20.7	Avg. = 19.7	

\* Full Day Pre-K Program – the Total # of Sections does not include the Pre-K Sections

# Overview of Oneida School Buildings

Overview of Oneida School Buildings						
Schools	Durhamville	North Broad	Seneca Street	Willard Prior	Middle School	High School
Address	5462 Main St Durhamville	230 N Broad St Oneida	436 Seneca St Oneida	205 East Ave Oneida	200 Markell Dr Wampsville	560 Seneca St Oneida
Year of Original Building	1958	1912	1978	1957	1967	1958
Sq. Ft. in Current Building	41,810	35,568	30,178	38,224	84,965	131,300
Number of Floors	1	3	1	1	1	2
Grades Housed	K-5	K-5	K-5	Pre-K-5	6-8	9-12
Students Served 2023-24	222	151	231	148+ 72	367	520
Architect	King and King					
NOTES: All information was taken from the NYS Building Condition Survey completed in 2020 except the enrollments that were drawn from the 2023-2024 academic year.						

# Summary of PreK-5 Elementary Full Size Classrooms

## 2023-24 Summary of PreK-5 Elementary Full Size Classrooms by Building As of 10/04/2023

School	Grade Levels	# of Students	<b>Total # of Full Size Classrooms</b>	# of Full Size Grade Level Classrooms	# of Full Size Classrooms for Special Education Services	# of Other Full Size Classrooms
Durhamville	K-5	222	<b>17</b>	12	4	1
North Broad	K-5	151	<b>17</b>	8	1	8
Seneca Street	K-5	231	<b>15</b>	12	1	2
Willard Prior	PreK-5*	148	<b>20</b>	6	7	7*
Total	K-5	752	<b>69</b>	38	13	18

\* Full Day Pre-K Program is located at WP using Four Full Size Classrooms

# Factors to Consider to Close a School

- Which school has the smallest enrollment as this will impact the fewest students, staff and families?
- Which building is the oldest?
- Which building has discretionary square footage of the building to accommodate new students?
- Which building has the geographic proximity to other schools to facilitate transportation and sharing of students and staff?
- Which building has the most challenging site considerations for parking, playfields and a bus loop?
- Which building will require the most renovation?
- Which building has the least square footage?
- Which building has multiple stories; a single story building is better

# Grade Configuration Three Elementary Schools

- Special Education Classrooms and Support Services
  - Future Program Delivery and Location of Current Full Size Classrooms
    - Considerations/Discussion
      - In District Programs (Through Inclusion)
      - Out-of-District Programs (BOCES, Other Locations)
  
- Full Day Pre-K Program

# Grade Configuration

## Three Elementary Schools

### 2023-2024 Space Utilization For Special Education

- There are 13 Full Size Classrooms Currently Being Used for Special Education Services
    - (3) 15-1 Classrooms (2) 15-1-1 Classrooms (1) K-1; (1) 2-3; (1) 4-5
    - (3) 12-1-1 Classrooms (1) K-1; (1) 2-3; (1) 4-5
    - (2) 8-1-1 Classrooms (1) K-2; (1) 3-5
    - (1) 6-1-1 Classroom (K-1)
    - (1) ENL/Resource Room
    - (3) OT/PT/Speech (2) OT/PT/Speech find smaller spaces; 1 OT/PT/Speech
- (13 Classrooms)**



# Grade Configuration Three Elementary Schools

Space Utilization: Total # of Full Size Classrooms: 52-54

- 36 Grade Level Classrooms (12 Sections per Building)
  - 3 Art Classrooms
  - 3 Music Classrooms
  - 6-8 Special Education Classrooms\*
  - 4 Full Day Pre-K Classrooms
- (52-54 Classrooms)
- The Number of Special Education Classrooms to be Determined.

# Questions????

