School Facilities Use Study

### Mexico Academy & Central School District

Advisory Committee Meeting February 27, 2017



Castallo and Silky LLC Alan Pole and Bill Silky, Consultants

### Purpose of the Study

How can we educationally and fiscally reconfigure our grades and/or facilities to provide a sound instructional program now and in the future?



# Updates From December 12<sup>th</sup> & January 9<sup>th</sup> Meetings



Middle School Course Offerings		
English		
ELA 5 21,20,20,22,20,22		
ELA6	21,20,21,22,19,19,19,23,23,23	
English 7	16,22,17,20,18,16,12,17,10	
English 8	22,17,20,20,19,23,20,18,22,7,5	
ELA 5-8	5,5,5,1,5	
RTI ELA 7	7,7	
RTI ELA 8	3,3	
AVID 7	12,24	
AVID 8	22	
Digital Literacy 20,25,19,20,22,22,22		
Reading 5-6 5		
Ma	ath	
Math 5	20,20,21,20,22,22,22	
Math 6	20,21,21,19,22,23,23	
Math 7 17,22,23,17,15,15,16		
Math 7A	18	
Math 7B	6	
Math 8	22,23,22,22,22,14	
Algebra 1 15,21		
Math 8 A 9		
RTI Math 7	2,6	
RTI Math 8	1,3	
Math 5-6S	1,1	
Math 5-8	5,5,5,3,3	

### Middle School Course Offerings



Middle School Offerings		
Science		
Science 5	20,20,21,20,22,22,22	
Science 6	21,22,21,20,22,23,23	
Science 7	20,19,16,23,22,19,17,13	
Science 8	23,21,22,22,21,25,18,25	
Living Environments	19	
Science 5-8	5,3	
Science 5-6S	3	
Social	Studies	
SS 5	10,21,20,22,21,22,22	
SS 6	23,20,21,22,20,23,23	
SS 7	16,19,13,20,23,16,21,21	
SS 8	24,22,19,20,22,23,19,22	
SS 5-8	4,3	
SS/SC 5-8	2,3	
SS 5-6S	2,1	
Foreign L	anguage	
French 7	23,21	
French 1	21,14	
Spanish 7	16,18,23,15	
Spanish 1	12,15,16,16	
German 7	24,24	
German 1 24,25		

# Middle School Course Offerings



### Middle School Course Offerings

Middle School Offerings		
Health		
Health 7 7,10,15,16,13,23,11,12,9 14		
Technol	logy	
Tech 7	9,8,11,17,15,25,13,17,7,14	
Tech 8	19,15,18,11,20,18,15,18,20	
Expl. OCC	13	
C &	L	
C & L Skills 6	22,21,21,22,19,24,23	
C & L Skills 7	17,19,5,16,18,20,11,13	
C & L Skills 8	21,22,12,20,21,19,17,22	
Art		
Art 5	20,25,20,20,22,22,22	
Art 6	23,20,22,22,19,23,23	
Art 7	19,18,6,18,19,17,10,16	
Art 8	18,22,12,18,17,21,13,21	
Studio Art	20,25	



Middle School Course Offerings		
Music		
Music 5	20,21,24,20,22,22,22	
Music 6	24,20,21,22,19,23,23	
Music 7	9,11,10,9	
Music 8	9,12,17,15	
Instrumental Music 5A	30	
Instrumental Music 5B	42	
Instrumental Music 6A	39	
Instrumental Music 6B	36	
Instrumental Music 7	44	
Instrumental Music 7A	24	
Instrumental Music 8	36,19	
Chorus		
Chorus 5A	32	
Chorus 5B	42	
Chorus 6A	27	
Chorus 6B	36	
Chorus 7	29	
Chorus 7A	24	
Chorus 8	36	
Chorus 8B	19	

# Middle School Course Offerings



### Middle School Course Offerings

Middle School Course Offerings		
Physical Education		
Physical Education 5	28,24,26,26,21,27	
Physical Education 6	27,24,27,24,23,28	
Physical Education 7	20,16,18,24,24,19,10,19	
Physical Education 8 12,23,22,20,17,18,12 11,7		
AP-PE	3	



### Average Class Sizes for Mexico & Other County Districts

#### Table ?

Average K-4 Class Sizes for Mexico Compared with APW, Fulton, Hannibal, Phoenix, and Sandy Creek and NYS

Grade	Average Class Size in Mexico for 2016-17	Average Class Size in 6 Oswego County Districts in 2016-17	Average Class Size in New York State in 2009-10
К	18.9	19	20.7
1	17.8	20	21.8
2	17.5	20	20.8
3	16.4	21	21.5
4	18.6	21	22.2

Mexico Teacher Contract Language on Class Size

While recognizing that final determination of class size is vested in the sole discretion of the Board, the Association and the District mutually subscribe to the principle that unduly large and unduly heavy class loads are educationally undesirable and should be avoided to the extent consistent with the economic means of the District and the health and safety of the students and staff.

Table XXX Classroom Utilization at the Middle School (Also includes IAC/ISS, Computer Lab, Faculty Room, Gym, Cafeteria, Fitness Center, Art (2), Tech (2), Career & Life Skills, OT/PT, Speech, Chorus, Band, Weight Room, Auditorium, & Library)

Room #	Area	# of Class Periods	# of Plan/Lunch/Study Hall Periods	% of Class Periods
6	English	6	3	67
7	Math	6	3	67
8	English	6	3	67
9	Math	6	3	67
10	Special Ed-12:1:4	8	1	89
11	Science/Social Studies	6	3	67
12	English	6	3	67
13	Math	6	3	67
14	Math	6	3	67
15	English	6	3	67
16	Professional Development	9	9	0
18	Science	5	4	56
19	Social Studies	6	3	67
20	English	5	4	56
21	English	6	3	67
22	Social Studies	6	3	67
23	Math	6	3	67
24	Math	6	3	67
25	Health	6	3	67
28	Lab	3	6	33
29	French	6	3	67
30	Science	5.5	3.5	61
31 *	Special Ed-15:1	3	6	33
32	Science	6	3	67
34	Math	6	3	67
35	Special Ed-8:1:1	8	1	89
37	Social Studies	5	4	56
38	English	6	3	67
40 *	Special Ed-15:1	3	6	33
51	Math/Science	6	3	67
52	English	6	3	67
53	Math	6	3	67
54	Science/Social Studies	6	3	67
55	English/Social Studies	6	3	67
56 **	Testing	9	9	0
57	Spanish/AVID	3	6	33
59 **	Testing	9	9	0
68	German/Music	6	3	67
70	Spanish	6	3	67
	41	ERAGE USAG	F	58.5 %

Middle School Room Utilization



Castallo & Silky LLC-Education Consultants

\*Full size classrooms that are used for testing/extra help when special education students are mainstreamed \*\*Smaller rooms that are reserved for testing/extra help for special education students

### Is There Room in the Middle School to Add a Grade Level?

Table XXX Middle School Enrollment History			
Year 5-8 Enrollment			
2000-01	923		
2005-06	792		
2011-12	689		
2016-17	629		



Yes, but some things would have to change!

- ✓ Full inclusion would open up special education classrooms
- ✓ Staff development room is clearly open
- Core academic classrooms would be shared
- ✓ Would some teachers have to be put on a cart?
- Resource rooms for 7 & 8 will be put back into the schedule for 2017-18 which will take some rooms
- ✓ District office has taken up 5 classrooms

Table XXX		
Classroom Utilization at the High School		
(Also includes 6 Special Ed Rooms, 2 Tech Rooms, JROTC Room, ISS Room,		
Math Lab, Science Lab, Computer Lab, FCS Room, Testing Room, Health Room,		
2 Art Rooms, Gym, Band Room, Chorus Room, Grad Point Room, English AIS		
Room, and a Greenhouse)		

		,,		
HS Room #	Area	# of Class Periods	# of Planning Periods	% of Class Periods
101	Language	18	7	72
103	English	19	6	76
104	English	19	6	76
105	English	19	6	76
106	English	19	6	76
107	English	19	6	76
111	Spanish/SH	0	0	0
112	Language	19	6	76
114	Social Studies	19	6	76
120	English	19	6	76
122	Math	19	6	76
124	English	18	7	72
130	Language	19	6	76
144	Science	18	7	72
146	Science	19	6	76
202	Social Studies	19	6	76
203	Social Studies	18	7	72
204	Social Studies	19	6	76
205	Social Studies	18	7	72
206	Social Studies	19	6	76
207	Social Studies	18	7	72
214	Math	18	7	72
215	Math	18	7	72
218	Math	19	6	76
221	Math	19	6	76
222	Math	19	6	76
223	English	18	7	72
224	Science	21	4	84
226	Science	19	6	76
227	Science	21	4	84
228	Science	18	7	72
230	Math	19	6	76
234	Science	19	6	76
236	Science	19	6	76
AVERAGE 73.1				

# High School Room Utilization



# Is There Room in the High School to Add Another Grade Level?

Table XXX High School Enrollment History			
Year 9-12 Enrollment			
2000-01	844		
2005-06	936		
2011-12	710		
2016-17	701		



Yes, but some things would have to change!

- ✓ Reduce some foreign language classrooms???
- Consolidate classroom spaces for special education???
- ✓ Consolidate classroom spaces for AIS???
- ✓ Increase number of periods classrooms are being used???
- Put some services on a cart???

### Staffing



### Instructional Staff Overview

Table 8.1 Instructional Staff Overview				
Category # of Instructional Staff Average Salary				
Teachers	184	\$59,228		
Teaching Assistants	50	\$36,005		
Teacher Aides	25	\$18,130		
Principals	5	\$97,546		
Assistant Principals	2	\$82,548		

### Cost of Staff With 37% Fringe Benefits

Table 8.2 Cost of Staff With 37% Benefits							
Category	# of Staff	Avg. Salary	Cost w/37% Benefits				
Teachers	184	\$59,228	\$81,142				
Teaching Assistants	50	\$36,005	\$49,327				
Teacher Aides	25	\$18,130	\$24,838				
Principals	5	\$97,546	\$133,638				
Ass't Principals	2	\$82,548	\$113,091				



### **Staff Reduction Options**

- Involuntary reductions
  - More predictable
  - Causes more anxiety
  - Maximizes savings
- Attrition
  - Driven by decisions staff make
  - Generally well accepted



- Savings accrue when appropriate vacancies occur

### **Update & Information on Options**



# Feasible and "Possibly" Desirable Options



•Option 1: Remaining as is and renovate the schools.

•Option 2: (revised-PK only at Palermo) Develop a grade center plan; Palermo houses grades PK-1; New Haven houses grades 2-4; other buildings remain as is.

•Option 3: Close two elementary schools and add onto Mexico Elementary; centralize the campus.

### Feasible But Not Desirable Options

- Develop a grade center plan across all three elementary schools (i.e., PK-1, 2-3, 4). Rationale: Transportation would lengthen the bus ride for 2/3 of the elementary students; not the most effective use of space-particularly Mexico Elementary School.
- Realign grades as follows-PK-2 in all three elementary schools, 3-6 in the Middle School, and 7-12 in the High School. *Rationale: The high school now and in the foreseeable future cannot accommodate grades 7 and 8 without an addition; an addition would exacerbate parking and take athletic fields; no additional cost for transportation if staggered Middle School start times, otherwise there would be significant additional transportation cost.*
- Close two outlying elementary schools and change the grade organization to PK-3, 4-8, 9-12. Rationale: The developmental difference are significant between 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders; transportation would either have to stagger Middle School start time or add 3 buses plus drivers and the elementary start times would be later.

OPTION

**OPTION 3** 



## Feasible But Not Desirable Options

- Close all three elementary schools and build a new one on the Middle School campus. *Rationale: What to do with three vacant elementary buildings; no site space to do this unless Mexico Elementary is demolished.*
- Close all district schools and build a new PK-12 school. *Rationale: Fiscally irresponsible (Estimate \$165,000,000-\$180,000,000); land to build is problematical; what to do with five vacant buildings.*

NOTE: Redistricting the current elementary attendance boundaries was also suggested by one sub-group of the Advisory Committee. While this is something that could be considered by the Board, it clearly does not address the critical question this study is attempting to answer. A different type of study would need to be designed to explore redistricting.

# Option 1: Remaining as is and renovate the schools

Cost to Improve Schools: BCS Priority Ranking							
Building	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4	Priority 5	Total	
Mexico Elem	\$184,794	\$1,980,875	\$204,276		\$2,728,034	\$5,097,079	
New Haven Elem	\$276,007	\$718,803	\$2,297,777	\$489,854	\$2,767,409	\$6,549,850	
Palermo Elem	\$307,991	\$236,768	\$690,244	\$647,109	\$4,210,176	\$6,092,288	
Middle School	\$497,523	\$1,523,814	\$273,235	\$467,867	\$4,366,191	\$7,128,630	
High School	\$2,843		\$1,992,014	\$90,456	\$12,125,338	\$14,210,651	

### Selected Building Aid Ratio=87.7%



Option 2: (revised-PK only at Palermo) Develop a grade center plan; Palermo houses grades PK-1; New Haven houses grades 2-4; other buildings remain as is.

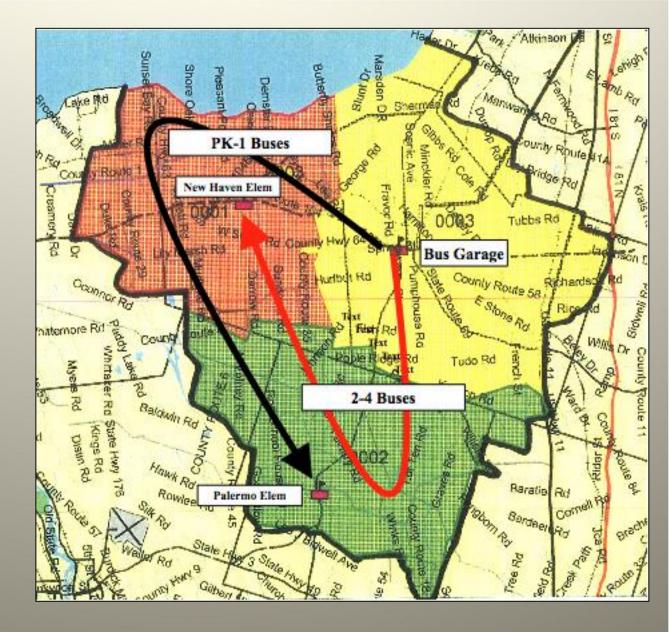


### Option 2: Impact on Number of Class Sections

	Table ?? Option 2-Class Sizes for Grade Center Plan Using 2016-17 Enrollments									
Current Arrangement				Modified Grade Center						
Grade	Mexico	New Haven	Palermo	# of Sec 's	Avg. Class Size	Mexico	New Haven 2- 4	Palermo PK-1	# of Sections with 1 Less Section	Avg. Class Size With 1 Less Section
K	19, 18, 19	18, 18, 17	21, 21	8	18.9	19, 18, 19	-	95	4	23.8
1	17, 18, 19	19, 17, 19	17, 16	8	17.8	17, 18, 19		88	4	22.0
2	14, 16, 16, 16	23, 24	16, 15	8	17.5	14, 16, 16, 16	79	-	3	26.3
3	16, 16, 16	16, 16, 16	18, 17	8	16.4	16, 16, 16	83	-	4	20.8
4	18, 18, 18	21, 23	16, 16	7	18.6	18, 18, 18	76	-	3	25.3
TOTAL/AVERAGE			39	17.8				34 w Mex		

### Routing Plan for New Haven & Palermo

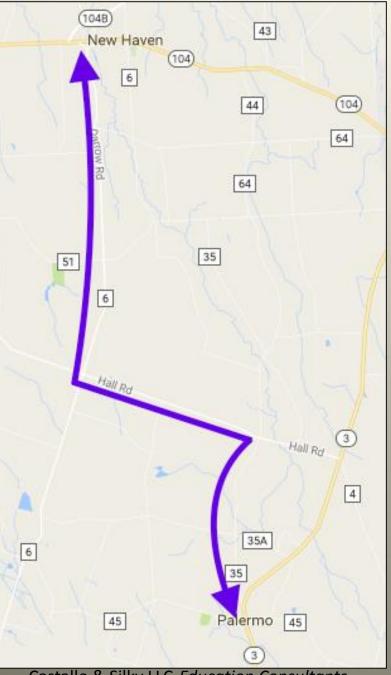






### Impact on Transportation

- No transportation changes for Mexico Elementary students
- Longer bus rides for New Haven & Palermo students (could push start times back for these schools).
- Possibility of hiring more bus drivers & buying buses to achieve shorter rides
- More monitors would need to be hired for New Haven routes (exact number would need to be determined)



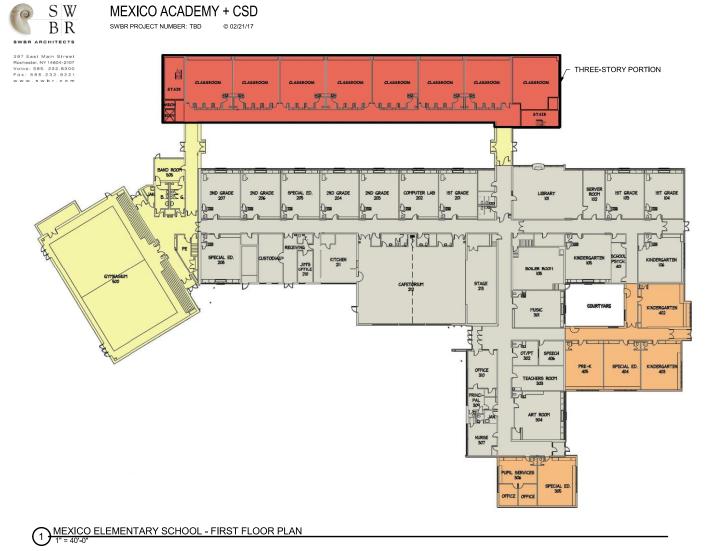
Best Route Between the Two Elementary Transportation Regions



#### 9.3 miles/10-15 minutes

## Option 3: Close two elementary schools and add onto Mexico Elementary; centralize the campus.





#### **OPTION 1**: THREE STORY OPTION

#### **17 NEW CLASSROOMS:**

- 1ST FLOOR: 1 NEW + 7 EXISTING
  2ND FLOOR: 8 NEW
- · 3RD FLOOR: 8 NEW

#### ESTIMATED PROJECT COST:

BUILDING & SITEWORK (2016 DOLLARS) \$10,500,000 - \$12,000,000

#### PROS:

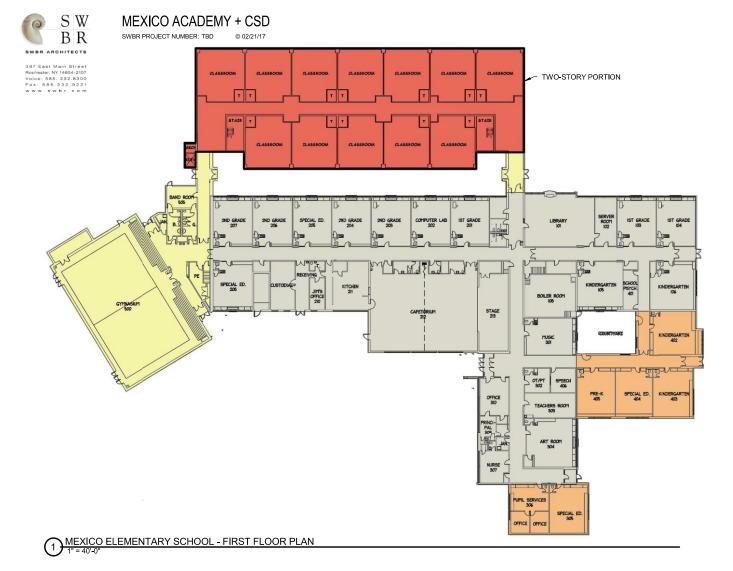
- COST EFFECTIVE
   USES APPROXIMATELY 2,400 SF OF ADDITIONAL GREEN SPACE

#### CONS:

- 1. MAY NOT ELIMINATE MOISTURE ISSUES
- 2. CANNOT BE MODIFIED FOR FUTURE ALTERATIONS







#### **OPTION 2: TWO STORY OPTION**

#### 24 NEW CLASSROOMS:

- 1ST FLOOR: 12 NEW2ND FLOOR: 12 NEW

#### ESTIMATED PROJECT COST:

BUILDING & SITEWORK (2016 DOLLARS) \$12,500,000 - \$14,000,000

#### PROS:

- 1. ELIMINATES MOISTURE ISSUES
- 2. FLEXIBLE FOR FUTURE ALTERATION

#### CONS:

1. USES APPROXIMATELY 5,800 SF OF ADDITIONAL GREEN SPACE

**1956** 1987 2001 POTENTIAL FUTURE ADDITION

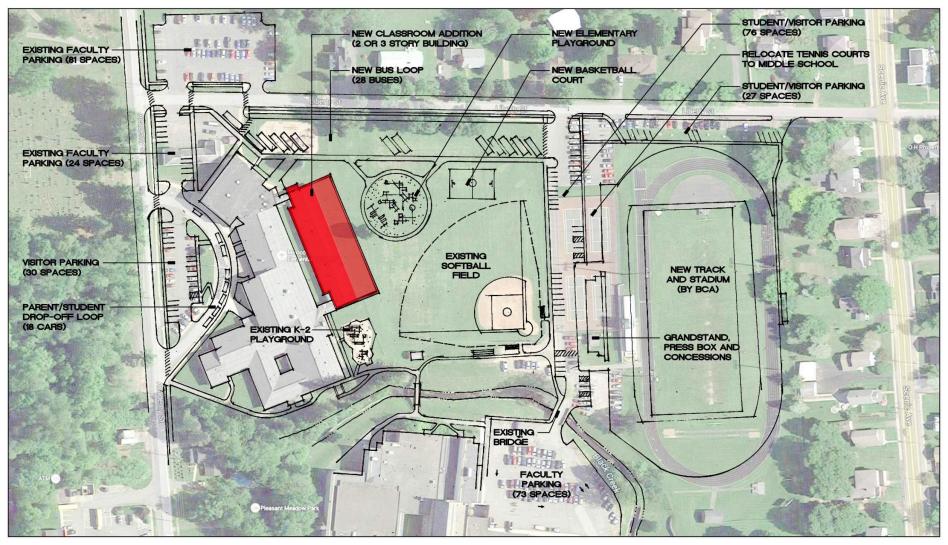
KEY:





### Impact on Transportation

- Bus parking (24) full size buses now-too small now; more buses would make the matter worse.
- Small buses-will need space to accommodate at least 4 more buses
- Parent parking-will increase on-street parking
- Will increase congestion in the village
- More monitors may need to be hired



MEXICO CSD MEXICO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING ADDITION SITE SCHEMATIC PLAN 2-13-2017



### What About a Closed School Building?



### Demolition of a School Building

•Although not tested before the Commissioner, legal opinion says "demolishing a schoolhouse would constitute 'disposal' of school property and therefore voter approval would be required prior to demolition." (Education Law Section 1804(6)(a))

•The Education Law further states that "after five years of discontinuance of the school.....the Board of Education may, in its discretion, *without* voter approval, sell or otherwise *dispose* of such a school." Thus if a Board closes a building and waits five years prior to the sale or disposal, it may not need voter approval.

•Demolition constitutes a capital project (Education Law, Section 416(a) therefore voter approval for the cost of demolition would be required.



### Sale of a School Building



•The Board of Education may approve a resolution, after a period of at least seven years of centralization, authorizing the sale of unneeded real property (Education Law Section 1804(6)(c).

•The Board must adopt a resolution that the building is no longer needed for an educational purpose.

•The sale may be approved without the approval of the school district voters. However, Section 1804(6)(c) provides a mechanism by which voters in the school district may seek a referendum on the question of whether to sell the property. That mechanism requires at least ten percent (10%) of the qualified voters in the district to sign a petition, demanding the voters in the district be allowed to vote on the sale. This petition must be presented to the Board within 30 days following the resolution to sell the building.

•Any debt service on the building would still have to be paid and state aid would continue less the sale price.

### **Appraised Value of District Buildings**

Table ?? Replacement Cost of School Buildings*						
School Building	Replacement Cost					
Mexico High School	\$49,306,855					
Mexico Middle School	\$23,659,930					
Mexico Elementary \$16,462,561						
New Haven Elementary \$9,793,105						
Palermo Elementary \$10,273,867						
*Replacement cost is just for the building, not contents. Provided by Utica National Insurance on 1/4/16						

MARKET VALUE APPRAISED VALUE

### What We Know About School Closure and Impact on Home Values

- Research tell us if an elementary school closes thus increasing the distance from home to school, it has an adverse affect on property values.
- Research also tells us that when the perceived quality of a school district improves it positively impacts property values.



### **Property Valuation: Defining Terms**

- "Assessed Value": The value placed on a parcel of land by a local assessor
- "Full Value": The value of a parcel of land once the state's equalization rate has been applied to the assessed value.
- "True Value": The amount of money a person would pay for a particular parcel of land.



### **One School District's Experience**

Altmar-Parish-Williamstown Central School District							
Year		Total					
	Altmar	Parish	Williamstown	Assessed Value			
2007-08	\$71,003,677	\$93,663,049	\$55,530,142	\$220,196,868			
2008-09	\$76,149,128	\$93,609,716	\$58,193,389	\$227,952,233			
2009-10	\$89,177,362	\$94,497,871	\$65,829,816	\$249,505,049			
2010-11	\$89,868,246	\$93,596,737	\$65,879,683	\$249,344,666			
2011-12	\$77,210,580	\$117,707,782	\$58,874,237	\$253,792,599			
2012-13	\$92,084,907	\$140,318,700	\$66,303,225	\$298,706,832			
2013-14	\$89,952,721	\$138,048,935	\$66,526,050	\$294,527,706			
2014-15	\$92,978,097	\$141,411,076	\$66,574,411	\$300,963,584			
2015-16	\$92,208,868	\$141,727,312	\$67,458,888	\$301,395,068			

NOTE: The Altmar and Parish Elementary Schools closed on June 30, 2012. The Altmar building sold for \$400,000 on 12/18/12 and is now a luxury salmon fishing resort; the Parish building sold for \$245,000 on 11/22/13 and is now a high tech manufacturing facility. Williamstown Elementary sold on 5/15/13 for \$55,000.

### A Second School District's Experience

	Sch		
Year	Sidney Center	Masonville	Total Full Value
2005-06	\$209,221,400	\$66,435,559	\$275,656,959
2006-07	\$220,668,979	\$67,159,626	\$287,828,605
2007-08	\$240,746,919	\$81,273,627	\$322,020,546
2008-09	\$244,505,811	\$83,694,640	\$328,200,451
2009-10	\$291,626,555	\$85,069,757	\$376,696,312
2010-11	\$287,215,522	\$85,407,851	\$372,63,373
2011-12	\$288,394,869	\$86,381,182	\$374,776,051
2012-13	\$272,879,487	\$79,327,490	\$352,206,977
2013-14	\$256,064,237	\$85,458,041	\$341,522,278
2014-15	\$250,725,145	\$82,652,328	\$333,377,473
2015-16	\$245,705,322	\$82,899,307	\$328,604,629



## 2016-17 Building-by-Building Utility Costs

2016-17 Utility Costs By Building								
Utility	New HavenPalermoMexicoMiddleHigh SchoolElementaryElementaryElementarySchoolImage: School							
Gas/Oil	\$16,532	\$18,641	See note	\$42,821	\$92,318			
Electric	\$24,745	\$32,651	\$37,059	\$112,021	\$157,494			
Total	\$41,277	\$51,292	\$37,059	\$154,842	\$249,812			

NOTES: 1-Palermo used \$18,641 for oil heat as of 12/31/16. 2-New Haven also uses oil to heat so approximately \$5,500 can be added to the total above. 3-The cost of Mexico Elementary gas is included with the High School amount due to a shared meter.



### Questions????

