# THIS PRESENTATION WILL ADDRESS:

- How the Board of Education (BOE) made the unanimous decision to recommend **repurposing** the spaces identified in the Building Conditions Survey (BCS)
- How the project will be financed with a 0% tax increase to residents
- Why more educational space is needed
- Plans for the repurposed space
- How the capital improvement project elevates student opportunities
- Questions & Answers



## **AREAS IDENTIFIED TO BE REPURPOSED**





## HOW THE DECISION TO RECOMMEND OPTION #1 WAS MADE

- Three options were diligently explored by the BOE prior to their vote on March 20, 2023.
- Providing opportunities to the greatest number of students possible and being fiscally responsible to taxpayers were the top priorities





## WHY THE BOE UNANIMOUSLY VOTED FOR OPTION #1

OPTION #1 Repurpose the Space

- Option #1 provides the much needed learning space the building currently lacks to provide every one of our students with the best opportunities possible
- Option #1 is the most fiscally responsible with no increase to taxpayers



# **OPTION #1 - REPURPOSE THE SPACE PROPOSED \$9,025,000 CAPITAL PROJECT**

This is the only	NYS Building Aid	\$6,425,000	
option with no increase to the	Capital Reserve	\$2,600,000	
local share	Local Share	\$	0
	TOTAL	ቀሳ ሳሳር	

TOTAL: \$9,025,000



# **OPTION #2 - REFURBISH THE SPACE PROPOSED \$13,625,000 CAPITAL PROJECT**

- Natatorium 6,500 egf sf and 2,650 sf addition
- 1 added lane (6) total, 7' oc,
  5' 6" at sides
- Added deck space for officials, teams, and spectator seating for 100
- Equipment storage (enclosed)
- Structure/shell modifications for min pool depth and clearance a 1M diving board





# **OPTION #2 - REFURBISH THE SPACE PROPOSED \$13,625,000 CAPITAL PROJECT**

This option requires some construction that is not eligible by NYS Building Aid reimbursement, and would have to be financed by the local share.

Capital Reserve	\$ 2,600,000
NYS Building Aid	\$ 8,672,966
Local Share	\$ 2,352,034
TOTAL:	\$13,625,000



## OPTION #2 - REFURBISH THE SPACE PROPOSED \$13,625,000 CAPITAL PROJECT

- Additionally, there is a projected annual expense of \$70,000 to properly maintain a pool per NYS Codes & Regulations. (*Heat, lights, chemicals, daily water testing 3x per day/365 days*). This will impact the annual school budget.
- The BOE and school administrators recognize the importance of providing students the opportunity to learn and practice swimming. In partnership with Castleton State College and Hudson Falls Central School District, our students may attend these swimming programs with transportation provided at no cost to students or their families
- Option #2 still leaves the Jr./Sr. High School in need of new construction to provide our students with the space and services they deserve (Option #3).



# WHY IS MORE BUILDING SPACE NEEDED?

- Although student enrollment may have decreased, regulations to to the following have greatly increased:
  - 1. NYS graduation requirements have changed
  - 2. Regulations to support learning, privacy, and confidentiality have significantly increased per NYS Education Law
  - 3. Schools are now the hub to provide many services that were traditionally located elsewhere such as: mental health and other social issues.
  - 4. To provide even more student opportunities



# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS HAVE CHANGED, BUT OUR BUILDING HAS NOT

- Local high school diplomas requiring a minimum of 22 credits to graduate no longer exist. In the building's current situation, the classroom space is still the blueprint to accommodate a curriculum in which students only needed to earn the minimum 22 credits.
- NYS Education requires all students earn a NYS Regents diploma. This is of the beginning of the 2009 school year with the first cohort of students under this mandate graduating in 2012.
  - In order to meet this requirement, more classes had to be added. However, the classroom space has not expanded in proportion to the curriculum.



## WE ARE PROUD TO PROVIDE OUR STUDENTS EDUCATIONAL ABOVE & BEYOND THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

 Our building is outdated in comparison to modern curriculum

NYS credit requirements to graduate	Bare Minimum = Regents & Local Diplomas	For Advanced Diploma	100% Above and Beyond	Opportunity For Head Start on College Education	
4 English	English 9, 10, 11, 12		ENG 101 (College Credit)		
			ENG 102 (College Credit)		
			Am. Poli Hist101 (College)		
4 Social studies	Global 9, G 10, US Hist, SS 12		Am. Poli Hist 102 (College)		
			Psychology 101 (College		
	Algebra	Geometry	Precalc (College Credit)		
3 Math (1 Regent level)	Basic Math	Algebra 2	Calc (College Credit	Students can earn up to 21 in	
	Basic Math		Statistics	high school. This head start	
	Living Environment		Chemistry	provides a significant monetary savings of up to	
3 Science (1 Lab Regent level)	Basic Science	Earth Science	Physics	\$3,000 to our students and	
	Basic Science			their families. This savings	
PE	2 Credits PE			and time and money makes college a more viable option	
Health	.5 Credit health			for more students.	
1 Foreign Language	Spanish I	Spanish II	Spanish 201 (College credit)		
	Spanish	Spanish III	Spanish 202 (College credit)		
1 Fine Art	Studio Art		Art 106		
3.5 Electives	3.5 Any other course	5 Credits of Fine Art	Band		
		5 Credits of CTE	Chorus		
	S.S Ally Glief Course		Jazz Band		
			Bell Choir		



# WE ARE PROUD TO PROVIDE AN EDUCATION ABOVE & BEYOND MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- A NYS Advanced Regents diploma is optional in meeting NYS Education graduation requirements. Whitehall CSD goes beyond the minimum requirements by providing students the opportunity to earn a NYS Advanced Diploma.
  - To achieve this, the following classes were added: English 101, English 102, Political History 101, American & Political History 102, Spanish 202, Precalculus and Calculus, College Art 101, Intro to Psychology 101



# WE ARE PROUD TO PROVIDE AN EDUCATION ABOVE & BEYOND MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Whitehall CSD added classes for our students to earn a NYS Mastery Diplomas
  - The classes are: Algebra 2, Chemistry, Physics, Spanish 3



# OUR STUDENTS CAN GET AN EARLY START TO THEIR COLLEGE CAREER

- Whitehall students can earn up to 21 college credits upon graduating high school.
  - This provides a significant monetary savings of up to \$4,000 to our students and their families. This savings of time and money makes college a more viable option for more students.



## SPECIAL EDUCATION REGULATIONS HAVE CHANGED, BUT OUR BUILDING HAS NOT

- There is not a dedicated resource room to provide special education
- To meet the NYS Education law requirements:
  - 13 resource rooms are needed on a daily basis
  - 11 Academic Intervention Services (AIS) are needed daily



# THE ROLE OF SCHOOLS HAS CHANGED

- Schools now serve as the hub for the much needed social and emotional services not available in our immediate community (examples: Behavioral Health Services North (BHSN), speech therapy, and occupational therapy)
- These student services require private and confidential counseling space of which there is no dedicated space for these services
- Without providing these services on-site our students would miss valuable classroom time to travel to and from appointments, or worse
   not receive these services at all



### HOW HAS THE DISTRICT BEEN ABLE TO PROVIDE THESE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES & SERVICES WITHOUT THE SPACE BEING SOUGHT IN THE PROPOSED CAPITAL PROJECT?

- In addition to their regular responsibilities, every semester our school administrators dedicate a great deal of time to logistically determine which courses will be taught in which classrooms. This is not the best use of time, as it detracts from other priorities.
- In the building's current situation, 12 out of 15 of our high school teachers have to vacate and turn over their classrooms throughout the day multiple times in order to create space for special education classes and other student services.
- The only reason 3 of the 15 teachers do not turn over their classrooms to other teachers is because they are lab science rooms.



## **RECAP OF WHY THE BOE RECOMMENDS OPTION #1**

- Every time a teacher is displaced from their classroom they lose valuable class preparation time.
- Constantly having to borrow learning space prohibits special education teachers from developing the conducive educational climate every student deserves.
- Option #1 lends the solution for the building blueprint to match our curriculum and services
- Option #1 lends the solution to provide opportunities to the greatest number of students and further elevate student opportunities



## HOW WE PLAN TO ELEVATE STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- The capital improvement project would elevate student opportunities and benefit our student body by elevating our curriculum to add:
  - Career & Technical Education
  - Flex Student Workspace
  - STEM/Robotics/Vex Lab



## PLANS FOR REPURPOSED SPACE









































## **ARCHITECT RENDERING OF FLEX STUDENT WORKSPACE**





### **ARCHITECT RENDERING OF FLEX STUDENT WORKSPACE**





## **ARCHITECT RENDERING OF FLEX STUDENT WORKSPACE**




















# **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**



## THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING

We hope you will support our Board of Education's recommendation that best serves the greatest number of students, elevates their opportunities, while remaining fiscally responsible to the taxpayers

> PUBLIC VOTE Tuesday, February 6, 2024















































