

# Proposed School Reconfiguration – Solvay UFSD

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Lawrence Wright – January 23, 2017

# Why reconfigure?

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- Historically, 4<sup>th</sup> graders have had difficulty transitioning; negatively impacted outcomes
- A different set of challenges - SMS was designated as a focus school in 2016; district appealed, submitted plan to reconfigure
- Move 4<sup>th</sup> grade to a true elementary setting which would better be able to support social/emotional and instructional needs
- Reconfiguration of schools could provide district wide benefits

# How would students be transported?

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- Pre-K would NOT ride buses with older students in grades 5-8
- Pre-K students would ride with elementary students in the AM; dedicated Pre-K run in the afternoon – rides no longer than 45 minutes which is currently the maximum
- Pre-K will have delayed start and end time
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade would ride with other elementary students to/from SES

## Impact on staffing?

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- We would hire an additional aide to assist with toileting, hand washing, etc.
- ESL teachers may have to travel to SES based on student need
- Dedicated 4<sup>th</sup> grade AIS teacher
- Part-time band teacher for 4<sup>th</sup> grade at SES

## Impact on staffing?

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- May need an additional bus driver (dependent on route consolidation)
- Would need to provide time for pre-k teachers to collaborate with other teams on staff development days and during annual student placement day; (Will also provide Resources/time for teachers to come together outside of contractual hours)

## Space considerations?

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- At SES, classrooms would be configured by grade level: k-2 on first floor; 3 & 4 on second
- Switch should not cause additional parking issues at SES; would be able to accommodate a small number of traveling teachers
- Switch allows accommodation of same growth bubbles at SES; space at SMS allows room for pre-k resource center and opportunity to grow early childhood program

## Space considerations?

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- Pre-k would be housed in the rooms nearest the district office wing (3); a 4<sup>th</sup> room would be housed on the corner of the wing nearest the main office (resource center adjacent to 4<sup>th</sup> room) – 5<sup>th</sup> grade rooms at other end of the hallway
- Pre-k would have designated bathrooms across the hall from classrooms with toilet stools and sink platforms; 4<sup>th</sup> room has its own bathroom
- No adjustments need to be made to SES playground; minor adjustments would need to be made to SMS playground (adjust swing height on one set)

## Space considerations?

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- Pre-k would be able to use the small gym located next to the cafeteria and would receive art and music instruction
- Pre-k meals would be served in the classroom



## Accountability issues for teachers?

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- Pre-k teachers are not subject to the same accountability rules as k-12 teachers and does not count toward an administrators APPR
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade does have APPR accountability and APPR applies to both teacher and administrator

## When would the move take place?

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- Teachers moving classrooms would be given time to pack and unpack materials
- Maintenance and custodial crews would facilitate the move after the end of the school year in summer 2017

## What happens if we do nothing?

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- Negotiation with State Education Department (SED)

# Closing

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- Questions and public comments...