

# School Committee Space Task Force Update

Elementary Modular Units

May 9, 2017

# Space Task Force Overview

- The Space Task Force initially requested that all six schools be reviewed by SMMA in 2015 to analyze each building and site's capacity for modular space
- Belmont High School had 6 modular units on their campus that were used by outside groups. These units were vacated and utilized for classrooms over the last two school years
- January 2016 the MSBA accepted the Town of Belmont's application for a new high school project; potentially creating opportunities to address district- wide space challenges
- **Chenery Middle School was reviewed by the Task Force and a set of six modular units were put in place for the 2016/17 school year**
- ***All four elementary schools were reviewed by SMMA***
  - Two schools were ruled out as not adequate for modular space additions: Wellington and Winn Brook
  - Both Burbank and Butler were identified as having the physical capacity for modular space

# Space Task Force Discussion

Two schools were identified as having capacity: Butler and Burbank

## ❑ Questions Reviewed:

- What are the enrollment projections for the next 10 years
- Before we add modular units can we have rolling grade configurations and not add modular space?
- Do we have 2 or 3 modular units at each school to ease the burden on any one school?
- If we add modular classrooms to one location, it could be possible that the enrollment demands and the final outcome of the BHSBC project may warrant a second site with modular classrooms in the near future

# Space Task Force

- SMMA toured the schools and sites with each building principal to review indoor and outdoor space, listen to input / feedback and assess needs.
- Each school was reassessed to determine:
  - Where modular units would go on the site
  - What the impact would be on entire school building and outdoor spaces
  - Infrastructure needs that should be embedded with project
  - What positive impacts or upgrades should be included in the project that enhance the site – e.g. ... safety and parking

# Data Points in Common

## **Butler and Burbank**

- Cafeteria space has capacity for additional students
- *Each school can be scheduled in a way that all building -wide spaces (gym, library, café) will be adequate*
- Each school can keep grades of classrooms together with some room changes within building
- *Will be adequately staffed and provided the necessary new instructional materials and technology*
- Playground areas will be comprised
- Additional parking is needed in both locations

# Side by Side Reflection of Data

## Butler

- ❑ Infrastructure work does not increase safety measures
- ❑ Option may necessitate cutting down of trees; an alternative option has been provided that fits with trees remaining ; but will further compromise the playing field
- ❑ Only provides a partial covered walkway for students
- ❑ Abutters would be directly impacted by structure
- ❑ Increase in enrollment is detrimental to already complex student demographic

## Burbank

- ❑ Infrastructure work will increase safety measures that are already needed
- ❑ Abutters are minimally impacted by proximity of modular units due to site configuration
- ❑ Full length covered walkway
- ❑ Student demographics are less impacted by increase in enrollment

# Next Steps .....

- ✓ Listen to feedback tonight
- ✓ Review written feedback and questions
- ✓ Create an FAQ with updated information
- ✓ Decide at June 6, 2017 School Committee meeting