

# Vision for Oak Park Learning Center

Presented to the school board **December 21, 2021** 

#### Our Vision for Oak Park Learning Center

# Create a center for **learning**, **collaboration** and **community** within the Oak Park Building

- Create a functional home for Bridge Transitions 18-21
- Design an inviting alternative environment for ALC students
- Develop a welcoming learning space for the community
  - Professional Learning Center, daytime and evening Community
     Education classes, facility rental, gym space and more

#### **Community Design Team Recommendations**

Working through the team's top priorities:

- **Rebuilding Lake Elmo Elementary Future bond**
- Expanding Brookview Elementary Addition to open Fall 2022
  - **Utilizing Oak Park as a multi-purpose center** to house the St. Croix Valley Area Learning Center, Bridge Transition (18-21) program, and Central Services staff - Studying options for this space
- Remodeling Stonebridge Elementary Addressed some needs through Long Term Facilities
   Maintenance and Capital Funds
- ✓ Selling Withrow Elementary Sold November 2021
  - Selling Central Services Building



#### **Community Design Team**

#3 priority of CDT was to utilize Oak Park as a multi-purpose center

- ✓ Address needs of existing Bridge Transition program
- ✓ Create a space for ALC students





# **Bridge Transitions 18-21**

#### About Bridge Transitions 18-21

- Program serving eligible students ages 18-21 with continuing needs in employment, independent living, and postsecondary readiness
- Prioritizes site-based, hands-on instructional activities and experiences
- Bridges students to community resources, community job opportunities, and independent living supports





## Bridge Transitions Program Needs

Specialized space to support 18-21 programming:

- Safe and accessible building
- Simulated adult work environments
- Simulated adult living environments
- Flexible learning spaces and common areas
- Access to public transportation
- Easy access to community-based work environments







# St. Croix Valley Area Learning Center

#### St. Croix Valley Area Learning Center

- Provides an alternative option for at-risk students who experience challenges succeeding in the formal school system
- Helps students earn credit toward graduation
- Offers students smaller classroom settings and a more flexible learning environment



#### **ALC Program Needs**

Alternative location outside of high school setting:

- Safe and accessible building with separate entrance
- Quiet, welcoming and non-threatening space for students with anxiety
- Flexible learning spaces and common areas
- Room to expand program to 120 students

#### Considerations:

- ALC is part of high school with shared spaces and limited room for expansion
- ALC students have access to elective courses and SAHS spaces like Pony Activity Center, music, tech ed, and world language
- ALC shares services

   (ie. nurse, counselors,
   Wellness Center) with
   SAHS, could also share
   services with Transitions



# **Community Learning Center**

### **Community Learning Center**

Spaces to support daytime, evening and weekend programming for staff, kids, adults and retirees in the community:

#### **Community Education Needs**

- Adult education classes
- Youth and adult enrichment, fitness and sports
- Facility rental
  - Community meeting spaces
  - Gym space and fields

#### **Professional Learning Needs**

- Large and small group meeting spaces
- Professional resource library

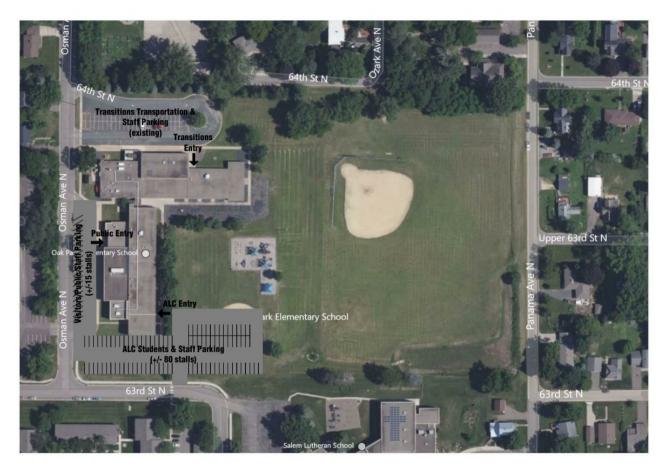


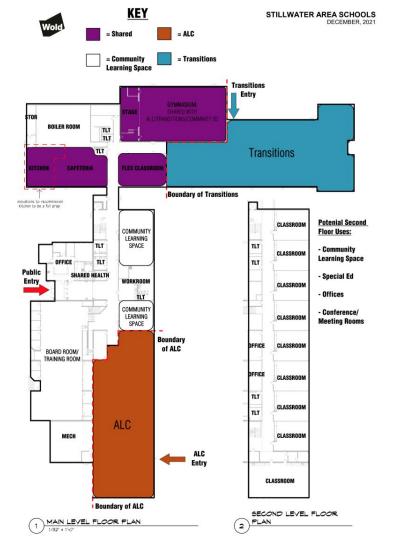
#### **Benefits of Co-Located Programs**

- Ability to share services, economies of scale
- Opportunities for mentorship
- Real-world experiences for students
- Opportunities to connect with and meet the needs within our community









Estimated Facility Improvement Costs	
Phase 1 - Summer 2022	
Transitions remodel	\$3.8 million
Phase 2 - Summer 2023	
ALC and shared spaced remodel	\$4.6 million





## Questions