



## Hilton Central School District Urban-Suburban (U-S) Program Fact Sheet



### U-S Program History and Facts:

- Purpose: Voluntarily reduce racial isolation and the segregation of educational opportunities for children
- Established in 1965 in response to racial tensions in the region
- Coordinated through Monroe 1 BOCES
- State Education Department approved for minority students
- Currently seven participating districts: Brighton, Brockport, Fairport, Penfield, Pittsford, West Irondequoit, Wheatland-Chili
- All districts that joined U-S have remained in the program
- Approximately 587 students currently placed in U-S school districts
- Rochester City School District (RCSD) provides student transportation to and from suburban districts
- All urban students apply to the program; currently a waiting list
- Student academic, social/emotional information provided
- State aid from RCSD follows student to suburban district
- Student and parent are interviewed as part of the application process
- Urban parent involvement is a requirement of the program
- If student and parent do not meet pre-determined criteria, district may exit the student

### Why is Hilton considering the U-S Program?

- Hilton's diversity ranking is 18<sup>th</sup> out of 19 districts in Monroe County
- Hilton's 6% minority population is not reflective of what our students will experience outside of the district and following graduation
- National Demographics: 31% minority population in colleges, 24% in armed forces, 36% in workforce
- Aligns with the District's Mission and Beliefs
- Aligns with District's International Baccalaureate philosophy

- Helps foster diverse experiences and cultural understandings for students
- Economic benefit to the District
- High performing urban students align with our high expectations at HCSD
- Balances variation in class size from school to school and year to year
- Addresses the possibility of declining district enrollment

#### **Tentative Plan to introduce U-S Program in Hilton:**

- U-S students enter HCSD in grades 1 or 2
- Number of U-S students dependent upon available space in existing classes
- Number of U-S students determined annually
- Anticipated average enrollment – 10-12 students per year
- Students placed primarily at Northwood and Village Elementary Schools
- Placement at Quest Elementary School only if there is space following school's lottery
- Hilton selects students based on its own criteria
- Program would be phased in over a 12-year period
- Hilton principals select students after an application review

#### **Next Steps:**

- Provide information to stakeholders in the community
- Engage stakeholders in conversation about U-S Program
- Invite community members to attend a U-S Program Board of Education Study Session on Tuesday, Feb. 10 and Tuesday, Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. at Merton Williams Middle School, Multi-Instructional Room (MIR).
- Board of Education discussion
- Superintendent recommendation and Board of Education decision

#### **Find more information at:**

- <http://hilton.k12.ny.us/info/UrbanSuburban.htm>
- <http://www.monroe.edu/urbansuburban.cfm>