

A close-up, low-angle shot of a brown leather satchel or bag. The bag has a textured, slightly worn leather surface and a prominent strap with a large, circular buckle. It is resting on a stack of white papers or documents. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting an indoor setting like a desk or library.

# Wynantskill UFSD

JULY 1, 2025

OPTIMIZATION STUDY

# Focus

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Purpose of Study

Methodology

District Strengths & Frustrations

Stakeholder Perceptions & Reality

Findings & Recommendations

Key Takeaways

Next Steps





# Purpose

## Optimization Study



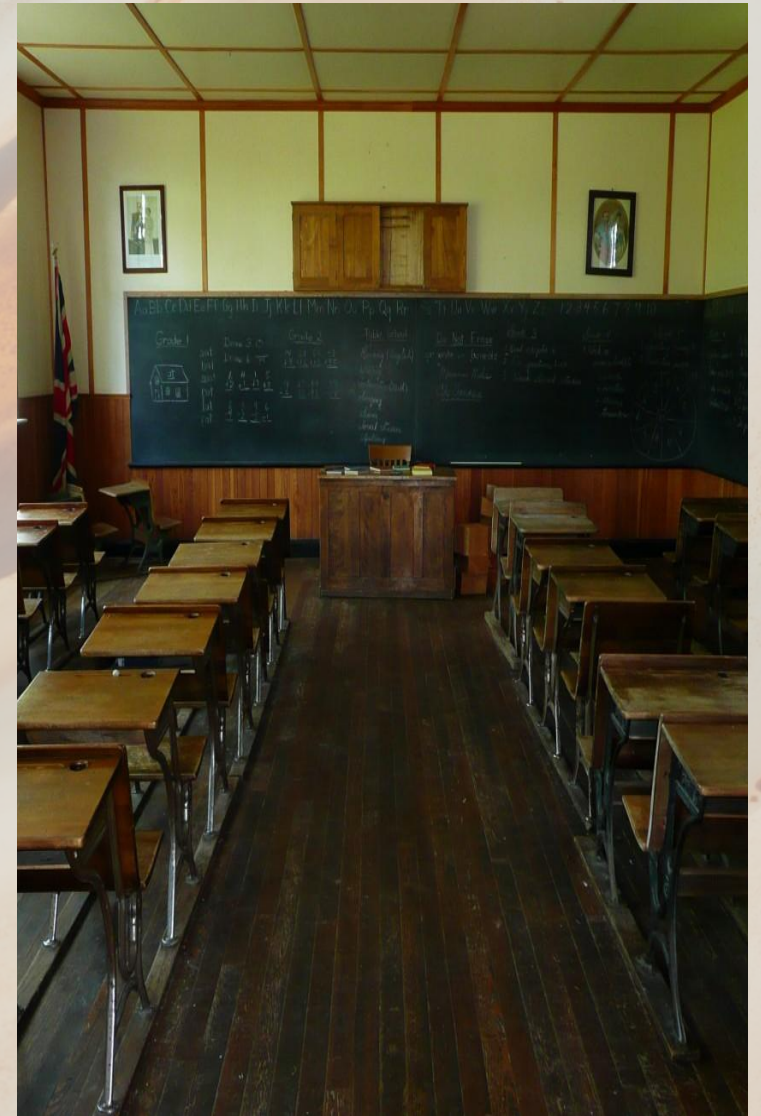
To determine strengths and frustrations the Wynantskill UFSD is experiencing and advise on long-term sustainability options:

Culture

Instruction

Fiscal

Facility





# Methodology



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Deep data dive  
Stakeholder Interviews  
Public Forums  
Public Updates & Progress Reporting  
Final Report & Recommendations

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# Strengths

No. 1	The small, connected, family-oriented relationships in the District
No. 2	Academic success, class size
No. 3	Stakeholders highly value a Wynantskill UFSD education





# Frustrations

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<b>No. 1</b>	Limited Options- electives, sports, clubs
<b>No. 2</b>	Fiscal stressors and limited resources
<b>No. 3</b>	Long-term sustainability is a substantial concern for all stakeholders, including students, parents, staff and administration



## Perceptions

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- Stakeholders want Wynantskill UFSD to remain viable
- Staff is committed to preserving the culture, experience and learning
- The G-D campus is an essential part of the community
- Facility improvements are needed

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Stakeholders understand the urgency

## Reality

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- Sustainability must equate to system-wide changes
- Fiscal stress jeopardizes the stakeholders' commitment to sustainability
- The district is in serious financial jeopardy within 36 months
- A reorganization must be explored

Wynantskill UFSD must make merger decision to remain viable

# Findings



## Finding #1

Stakeholders agree they want Wynantskill UFSD to be viable for the long-term

## Finding #2

Stakeholders agree the district faces severe financial risk in the next 36 months

## Finding #3

Stakeholders agree the culture, climate and family connections are essential to the G-D experience

## Finding #4

Stakeholders recognize the need to improve course offerings, electives, facilities and make systemic changes



# Recommendations

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## Rec #1

The Wynantskill UFSD BOE should formally accept the Optimization Study via resolution and share the study with the community

## Rec #2

The Boards of Education of Wynantskill UFSD and the Troy City School District should have an informal conversation to gauge interest in joint Feasibility Study

## Rec #3

The Board of Education of the Wynantskill UFSD should begin a Feasibility Study with the Troy City School District

## Rec #4

The Wynantskill UFSD Board of Education should create and distribute a timeline for the Feasibility Study and hire a party to carry out the study



# Five Key Takeaways



Must be student centered		Must be transparent	
Must Preserve Identity		Must adhere to Mission & Philosophy	
	Must Be Fiscally Responsible		





A woman with long brown hair is seen from behind, looking out over a city skyline at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the buildings. The woman is standing on a balcony or rooftop, with a railing visible in the foreground.

## Next Steps- 60 Days:

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1. Receive Optimization Report
  2. Share report with community
  3. Informally meet with Troy BOE
  4. Begin Feasibility Study Process
  5. Institutionalize Key Takeaways
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# Q & A

## Thank you

Schmitt Leadership Group

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