FACT SHEET:
Proposed Purchase of the Remington School Building

Some history:
Since 2013, Herkimer BOCES has leased the former Ilion Remington Elementary School to provide specialized educational programs for students from its 10 component districts—Central Valley, Dolgeville, Frankfort-Schuyler, Herkimer, Little Falls, Mount Markham, Owen D. Young, Poland, Richfield Springs and West Canada Valley.

As a more permanent solution to its space needs, Herkimer BOCES proposes to purchase the Remington school building. The Central Valley community voted on Nov. 12, 2019, overwhelmingly agreeing to sell the building to Herkimer BOCES.

Why Remington?
Remington is centrally located for the component districts, minimizing the time students would spend on the bus each day. The building is modern and well-kept, last updated in 1998 under a $15 million capital project. Over the last six years, Remington has proven to be a good fit for our students.

Why purchase?
Although Herkimer BOCES could continue leasing the Remington building from Central Valley, there is no guarantee that the lease will be renewed in the future. This creates uncertainty for the critical programs housed at Remington.

Central Valley has agreed to sell the property to Herkimer BOCES for $1. Other purchase or lease options would cost much more. Purchasing the building ensures programs would continue uninterrupted at lower operating costs, now and into the future.

Why will Central Valley sell for only $1?
Central Valley is owed $777,000 in building aid for the previous Remington building project. A selling price over $1 would reduce that building aid. It makes fiscal sense for Central Valley to pass the property on to Herkimer BOCES at the lowest price.

What programs are located at the Remington site?
During the current 2019-20 school year, 212 school-aged children from the 10 component school districts and 250 adults from the community have attended programs housed in the Remington building.

PK-12 education programs:
- Alternative education
- 6:1:1 school-based behavioral health operated in collaboration with ICAN
- 8:1:1 special education
- 12:1:1 special education

Programs Offices:
- Prekindergarten
- Migrant tutors

Adult education programs:
- Test Assessing Secondary Completion (formerly GED), which allows adults to earn high school equivalency diplomas
- Licensed practical nursing
- Certified nursing assistant
- Adult literacy

During the current 2019-20 school year, 19 West Canada Valley students are receiving their education at the Remington school building through Herkimer BOCES.
What is proposed?
Herkimer BOCES seeks public authorization to purchase the former Remington Elementary School building (which it currently leases) from the Central Valley Central School District.

What is the purchase price?
The purchase price of the Remington building is $1. Because of this price, Central Valley Central School District will not be penalized and will continue to receive approximately $837,000 in state aid owed to the district from prior building projects. If the selling price were higher, the amount of state aid received by Central Valley from prior building projects would be reduced.

What is the process for purchasing the Remington school building?
In order for Herkimer BOCES to purchase the Remington building, each component district of the BOCES must hold a public vote. Residents of the Central Valley Central School District voted on Nov. 12, 2019, to approve the sale of the building to Herkimer BOCES. The next step is for residents of all 10 component districts to vote to authorize the purchase of the building by Herkimer BOCES. A simple majority vote (or 50 percent plus one yes vote) is required for the proposal to pass.

When will voting take place?
The vote will be noon-8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2020.

Where will voting take place?
Qualified voters may vote at ANY location listed below or at the Herkimer BOCES WEB Complex Technical Education Conference Room at 352 Gros Blvd. in Herkimer. Each district will have a voting location for residents’ convenience:

- Central Valley: Small gym at CVA
- Dolgeville: High School Lobby
- Frankfort-Schuyler: Old Gymnasium
- Herkimer: High School Library
- Little Falls: Middle School Gymnasium
- Mount Markham: District Office
- Owen D Young: Founder’s Study
- Poland: Lobby
- Richfield Springs: Entrance adjacent to baseball field
- West Canada Valley: Front Lobby

What would happen if Herkimer BOCES could not house programs in the Remington school building?
There are three scenarios:

1. Programs would have to be relocated to spaces that may be available in component district buildings. Since many of these spaces are not centrally located in the Herkimer BOCES region, this would result in transportation difficulties for districts and significantly longer bus rides for students.

2. To provide adequate space for programs, Herkimer BOCES would have to embark on a very costly building project, estimated to cost up to $100 million.

3. Loss of the space would result in disruption to or elimination of Herkimer BOCES programs that are critical to our component district students, forcing districts to develop their own programs. This would be very expensive for the component districts and would eliminate the cost benefits of sharing services.

Who do I contact if I have questions, concerns or comments?
You may contact your component district’s superintendent or Herkimer BOCES District Superintendent Sandra Sherwood. Mrs. Sherwood can be reached at ssherwood@herkimer-boces.org or 315-867-2023.