

# Support for the Temporary Regional School Study Committee on Advisability of Regionalization

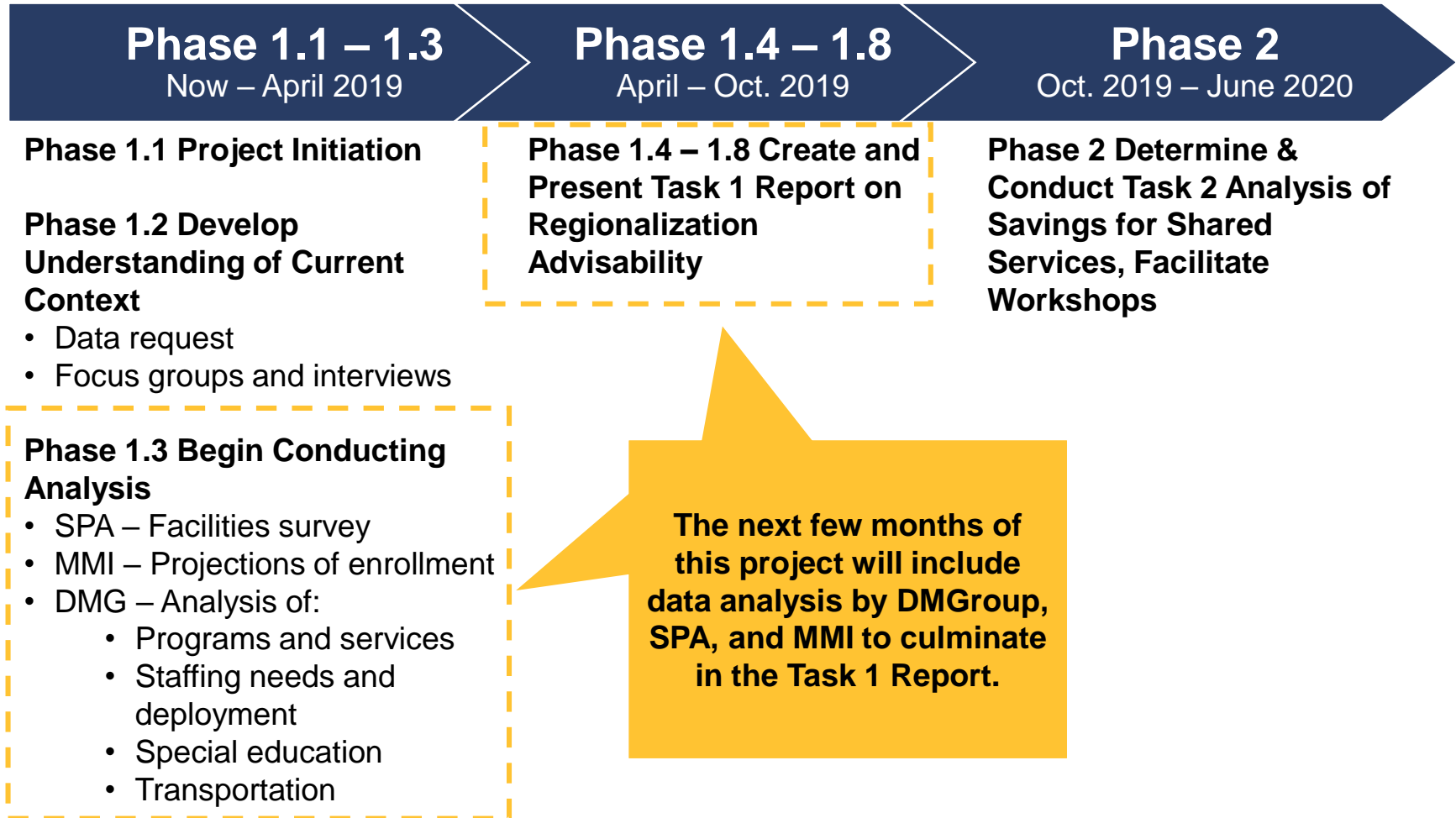
Ansonia and Derby

April 22, 2019



# DMGroup will lead a coordinated effort with MMI and SPA to complete the analysis and study within 18 months.

## 18 Month Workplan



# DMGroup completed a series of interviews and focus groups with stakeholders from both districts and communities.

## Phase 1.2: Focus Groups & Interviews

### Focus Group Participants:

- **Board of Education Members\***
- **Board of Alderman / City Council Members**
- **District Administrators**
- **School Administrators**
- **School Staff**
- **Students**
- **Parents & Community Members**

### Information from Focus Groups:

- What are some **potential benefits** to regionalizing Ansonia and Derby Public Schools?
- What are some **potential challenges** to regionalizing Ansonia and Derby Public Schools?
- What are some of the **academic, financial, and political implications** to regionalizing or not regionalizing Ansonia and Derby Public Schools?
- What are the **strengths and challenges** in each district?
- How could each district **benefit from shared services**?

\*Note: Members of the Ansonia Board of Education have not yet been re-scheduled.



# DMGroup, MMI, and SPA gathered quantitative data from both Ansonia and Derby Public Schools as well.

## Phase 1.2-1.3: Quantitative Data Collection & Analysis

### DMGroup Preliminary Data Request

- Historical & Projected Budget
- Capital Expenditure Projects
- District Policies
- Union Contracts
- Demographic & Enrollment Projections
- School Boundaries
- Grant Budgets
- School Site Budgets
- HR Data
- Academic Achievement Data
- Specialized Programming

### Information from Quantitative Analysis

- Where are there **similarities and differences** across Ansonia and Derby Public Schools?
- What are the **programs and services** provided in each district?
- How are **staff deployed** within each district?
- What are the **financial implications** to regionalizing or not regionalizing Ansonia and Derby Public Schools, over the next 5 years?
- What are the **district policies** in each district that may impact the advisability of regionalizing?



# MMI is analyzing data to understand enrollment and facilities in Ansonia and Derby Public Schools.

## Phase 1.2 – 1.3: MMI

*Over the next phases of work, MMI will...*

1

Analyze demographic and housing trends in each community

2

Analyze enrollment trends from each school district

3

Prepare 10-year enrollment projections on a facility basis for each district

4

Review existing school sites to identify current issues in conditions, site circulation, parking, and recreational areas, and assess potential for future uses



# SPA is evaluating the facilities in Ansonia and Derby Public Schools.

## Phase 1.2 – 1.3: SPA

### Upcoming tasks for SPA:

- Review the primary goals with both districts and educators
- Evaluate existing conditions of the buildings and program accommodations
- Create list of facility needs and deficiencies
- Evaluation of shared use space potential – flexible rooms, multi-purpose spaces, Special Ed, STEM, etc.
- Prioritize needs and developed cost estimates



Through our focus groups, DMGroup heard a number of themes that we will investigate further in the data.

## Focus Groups: Themes for Further Investigation

### Goals of Regionalization



*Are the goals similar across the two districts?*

### Facilities



*Are there facilities that could support regionalization?*

### Governance



*How could a future Board of Education operate?*

### Unions & Contracts



*How does having different unions and contracts impact regionalization?*

### Curricula



*What would regionalization mean for curricula?*

### Prior experience with shared services



*What have been successes and challenges to sharing services in the past?*

### Cost Sharing & Mill Rates



*How could the two districts share costs of a regional district?*

### Programming & Course Offerings



*What programs and courses could be offered to students?*

### Other Relevant Factors



*What other factors or questions should be reviewed further?*



# In the fall, DMGroup will provide a Task 1 report, outlining the advisability of regionalizing Ansonia and Derby Public Schools.

## Phase 1.4 – 1.8: Task 1 Report

### Task 1 Report:

- **Potential efficiencies** of a regional district & areas of **potential savings** with the status quo and a regional district
- Potential **academic impact** of a regional district in comparison to the status quo
- Potential **decisions for school districts** in the status quo and a regional district
- **Governance recommendations** related to a regional school district





With the full Task 1 Report, DMGroup will produce an executive summary or “Guide to Regionalization” for community members.

## Task 1 Report Executive Summary

*The executive summary will outline the...*



**Academic Impact**



**Enrollment Impact**



**Financial Impact**



**State of Facilities**



**Cultural & Governance  
Impact**

*...of regionalizing or  
not regionalizing  
Ansonia and Derby.*

*This will provide a  
shared fact base for  
community members  
to make informed  
decisions about  
regionalization*



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# Q & A





## District Management Group

Helping Schools and  
Students Thrive

If you have any comments or questions about the contents of this document, please contact District Management Group:

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