



# GHS and Board of Education Goals

- GHS is seeing an uptick in the number and depth of social emotional struggles students are facing.
- In order to help provide mental health support to our students- GHS would like to pilot a “CARES Classroom”
- Board of Education Goal:
  - Objective: The Board of Education shall provide Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and mental health support for students and staff.

# What Is The CARES Classroom?

- A Self-contained Classroom
- Targets students who are not successful in the general ed. classroom due to high social emotional needs.
- The classroom is a temporary setting for students.
- Provides individualized academic and social emotional supports



# Why Do We Need A CARES Classroom?

## Why?

- There is a population of GHS students who would benefit from attending an in-house school program to meet their high social emotional/mental health needs.
  - 6-10 students have chosen homeschool in the past 3 years due to social emotional needs
  - Uptick in number of students needing SEL services
  - Goal is to keep students in school
  - Transition from hospitalization to regular classroom setting is too fast for some individuals



# Benefits of the CARES Classroom

- Students would be provided a blend of therapeutic and educational services in a small group setting using a multidisciplinary team approach.
- Students would be supported through a team approach of professionals.
  - School Social Worker
  - School Psychologist
  - School Counselors
  - Nurse (as needed)
  - Other outside mental health agencies as needed
  - Teachers
- Services would be designed to promote:
  - Problem-Solving skills and appropriate coping skills
  - Improvement of overall mental wellness
  - Self-Confidence
  - Daily academic/education support with certified trained staff, to help students remain on track with their educational needs and graduation requirements.
  - A successful transition back to the general ed environment

# How Does It Work?

- Classroom Housed At GHS
- Staffed By An Adult With Knowledge Of:
  - Social & emotional development
  - SEL programs and methodologies
  - 4 year degree in a related field
- Formal Referral Process
  - Application & Rubric
- Individual Scheduling, Goal Setting and Ongoing Progress Monitoring
- Exit Criteria
  - The goal is to transition students back into the regular classroom setting. The CARES Classroom is a temporary setting for students.

# Staffing and Potential Costs

- One Full Time Employee - Salary and Benefits TBD
- SEL Curriculum and Progress Monitoring-minimal cost
- Online Academic Courses Through Edmentum- \$140 per student- unlimited access to all courses. (annual cost)
- Flexible Seating and Classroom Materials ~\$2,500 (one time purchase)
  - Will write a GEF Grant to help cover start-up costs if the furniture cannot be acquired through the district's existing supply.

# Questions and Feedback

**C-** Cultivating a supportive environment

**A-** Advancing social and emotional skills

**R-** Responding to student needs

**E-** Encouraging positive relationships

**S-** Supporting academic success

