New Brookfield Elementary School

Name the New School

- The new school will combine students from Center Elementary School (Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1st Grade) and Huckleberry Hill Elementary School (2nd, 3rd, and 4th Grade)

- It will also include 5th Graders from Whisconier Middle School

- The school will be on the site of the current Huckleberry Hill School on Candlewood Lake Rd (west side of Brookfield and south of Candlewood Lake)

Your Task…

- Each class should brainstorm a list of names and vote on ONE name to submit to their school Principal

- Each name should include a rationale or quotes from the students as to why the name was suggested

*Students should suggest some names based on history, natural elements, landmarks.

Rules...

- The school may NOT be named after a person

- If possible, the name should describe where the school is, or the area around it

- The school cannot use the same name as another school in Brookfield or in the surrounding area

- The name should have significance to the students in the school

Suggestions

Try to think of names with historical meaning to Brookfield

Try to think of names that people will associate with a school

Try to think of the natural elements that have been included into the design of the building

Some History

- __The first people to settle in this area were the **Pootatuck** Indians. Pocono Road was named for Chief **Pokono**. The word **Connittecock** means a "long river." It is now called Connecticut. **Housatonic** means "over the mountain." **Lillinonah** was the name of the daughter of Chief **Waramaug**. Indian relics can still be found in the hills and fields of Brookfield.
- In the 1700's Brookfield was an area of rich farm lands, forests filled with game, and streams abundant with fish. It was called **Newbury**, a name derived from the three towns from which the land was taken (*New Milford, Newtown, and Danbury*).

History (continued)

- In 1778 the name Newbury was changed to Brookfield in honor of the Reverend Thomas **Brooks.**

- In the 1800's Brookfield was a thriving community with stage coach shops, two railroad stations and several taverns and hotels. Industries included saw mills, grist mills, shear shops, lime kilns, comb & button factories, iron works, and harness shops. The old grist mill is now the Brookfield Craft Center.

History (continued)

- The first hydroelectric plant in America was built in 1915 to bring electricity to Brookfield. A reservoir for the water was needed, so land from Danbury, New Fairfield, Brookfield, and Sherman was taken. This land also included ponds named **Neversink, Barses**, and **Squantz**. In 1926, the plant was finished and **Candlewood Lake** was formed. It is the largest man-made lake in Connecticut. This plant works by having the lake water pour down a pipe into a turbine that produces electricity.
- The name Candlewood comes from Candlewood Mountain in New Milford. The trees on the mountain were named Candlewood Trees since the settlers would light the branches from the saplings and use them as candles.

History (continued)

- It was very important to the settlers to have a place for learning. One-room schools were built in many different sections of a town, because everyone walked to school. At one time Brookfield had eight one-room schools: **Whisconier, Huckleberry (called Whortleberry School at one time), Center, Bound Swamp, Longmeadow Hill, Obtuse, East Iron Works** and **West Iron Works Schools**. The very first school was **East Iron Works School** and it was built on land donated by Joseph Ruggles. The school was at the corner of Farview Road and Whisconier Road.

Natural Elements from CT

- Still River element encompassed in design
- Stone used is called CT Blend
- Bricks from CT included in design - Ironworks brick has speckle of iron in it
- Inspirational images from around town included in design:
  - Bridges, walkways like along Still River Greenway
  - Gurski Farm
  - Williams Park
- Butterfly sanctuary to be part of outdoor design of school