CAROLINE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Michael Hubbard, Ed. D
Bowling Green

Lydell Fortune J.D
Mattaponi

JoWanda Rollins-Fells, Ph. D
Reedy Church

Shawn Kelley
Madison

Calvin Taylor, Sr.
Port Royal

Allison Sears
Western Caroline

Sarah Calveric, Ph. D
Superintendent

16261 Richmond Turnpike
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Office (804) 633-5088
Fax (804) 633-5563

August 19, 2026

Dear Chair Forehand and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Caroline County School Board, I would like to thank you for the collaborative and productive joint meeting held on July 29. We appreciated the opportunity to engage in meaningful discussion around several important issues facing our schools and community.

I would also like to thank Chair Forehand for meeting with me in advance of the joint meeting. That conversation helped clarify agenda items, identify relevant information, and establish a shared understanding that contributed to a focused and productive discussion between our two boards. Additionally, while you were unable to participate in the meeting in person, it was evident that you had briefed Vice Chair Sili on the premeeting items, which greatly supported successful facilitation of the joint work session.

During the School Board's August 14 workshop, board members reflected on the July 29 meeting, reviewed areas where progress and/or consensus appeared to emerge, and identified several potential next steps. Based on that discussion, the School Board believes the following areas represent topics warranting continued collaborative work:

1. FY25 Audit and LCES Learning Cottages:
Following completion of the FY25 audit, the School Board understood that the Board of Supervisors will revisit the use of CCPS reversion funds to purchase and install learning cottages at Lewis and Clark Elementary School. These cottages would serve as an important temporary bridge to provide additional capacity while the two boards continue working toward a permanent elementary school solution.

2. 1% Sales and Use Tax Referendum and Capital Funding:
There appeared to be agreement that moving forward with the 1% Sales and Use Tax referendum in November 2026 would not provide sufficient time for the level of planning, community engagement, and public education necessary for such an important initiative.

Discussion appeared to favor consideration of a special election in spring 2027, potentially including both a bond referendum and the 1% Sales and Use Tax referendum. This additional time would allow both boards to more fully develop the capital plan, engage the community, and clearly communicate the need, proposed projects, and financial implications. CCPS will also have the results of the division's SCAP grant submission, which will further inform our planning.

November 2027 remains another possible option; however, the School Board perspective views this as the least favorable timeline given the urgency of our facility and capacity needs.

3. Addressing Elementary School Capacity:
There appeared to be shared recognition of the need to address growing elementary school capacity concerns. The primary options discussed included construction of a new elementary school or a significant expansion of Madison Elementary School. We appreciate the Board of Supervisors' willingness to continue exploring these options with us as we work toward a long-term solution.

The School Board appreciates the progress made during our July 29 discussion and remains committed to working collaboratively with the Board of Supervisors to move these priorities forward. As a next step, we would like to establish our next joint meeting so that both boards can continue discussions and begin developing actionable timelines around these items.

To that end, we would like to offer the following dates for consideration:

- Sept. 29 5:30-7:30pm @ Lewis & Clark
- Sept. 30 5:30-7:30pm @ Lewis & Clark

Thank you again for your partnership and commitment to working together on behalf of Caroline County's students, families, and community. We look forward to hearing from you on which date works best.

Sincerely,

Lydell Fortune
School Board Chair

CAROLINE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Michael Hubbard, Ed.D.
Bowling Green

Lydell Fortune J.D
Mattaponi

JoWanda Rollins-Fells, Ph.D.
Reedy Church

Shawn Kelley
Madison

Calvin Taylor, Sr.
Port Royal

Allison Sears
Western Caroline

Sarah Calveric, Ph. D
Superintendent

16261 Richmond Turnpike
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Office (804) 633-5088
Fax (804) 633-5563

September 8, 2026

Dear Chairman Forehand and Members of the Caroline County Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Caroline County School Board, I am writing to request a follow-up joint meeting to discuss sustainable funding strategies for Caroline County's growing school capacity and facility needs.

With the County's FY25 audit now complete, the School Board would like to discuss its request to reappropriate the school division's FY25 year-end funds for the purchase and temporary installation of learning cottages at Lewis and Clark Elementary School. A joint meeting would also provide an opportunity to discuss the timing, process, priority projects, and next steps associated with a potential 1% sales tax referendum for school construction and renovation.

This discussion is particularly timely following the Virginia Board of Education's August 27 approval of all three CCPS School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP) applications, totaling nearly **$14.7 million**:

- **$9.85 million** for a new elementary school;
- **$3.11 million** for expansion and deferred maintenance at Caroline Middle School; and
- **$1.77 million** for deferred maintenance at Madison Elementary School.

These awards provide an important opportunity to reduce local costs while addressing enrollment growth, program capacity, and critical facility needs. Upon receipt of VDOE's official award notice, the grants will be presented to the School Board for adoption and will require continued coordination with the Board of Supervisors regarding budget appropriation, project planning, and local funding.

To maintain momentum, we suggest the following topics for the joint meeting:

1. Timing of a potential special election and 1% sales tax referendum;
2. Projected sales tax revenue and its potential application to school capital projects;
3. Coordination of approximately $14.7 million in SCAP funding with potential sales tax revenue;
4. Current capital priorities, including Lewis and Clark trailer needs, a new elementary school, Caroline Middle School expansion and deferred maintenance, and Madison Elementary School deferred maintenance;
5. Roles and responsibilities of each governing body in the referendum process; and
6. A timeline for next steps, including necessary coordination with constitutional officers and the Virginia Department of Elections.

The combination of nearly **$14.7 million in state construction funding** and the potential for an additional **$4–5 million annually** from a voter-approved 1% sales tax presents an important opportunity for collaborative, fiscally responsible short- and long-term capital planning.

The School Board is available **Tuesday, September 29, 2026, or Tuesday, October 6, 2026, from 5:30–7:30 p.m.** We are prepared to coordinate with County staff on the agenda and supporting materials.

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to addressing the needs of our schools and community.

Sincerely,

Sarah B Calveri

CAROLINE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Michael Hubbard, Ed. D
Bowling Green

Lydell Fortune J.D
Mattaponi

JoWanda Rollins-Fells, Ph. D
Reedy Church

Shawn Kelley
Madison

Calvin Taylor, Sr.
Port Royal

Allison Sears
Western Caroline

Sarah Calveric, Ph. D
Superintendent

16261 Richmond Turnpike
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Office (804) 633-5088
Fax (804) 633-5563

October 12, 2026

Dear Chair Forehand,

I am writing on behalf of the Caroline County School Board to follow up on recent discussions among representatives of our boards regarding school capital projects and related matters.

At our recent work session, School Board members discussed the issues raised and expressed a willingness to continue working collaboratively with the Board of Supervisors to address the division's immediate and long-term facilities needs, including exploring the addition of a gymnasium and other potential improvements at Bowling Green Elementary School.

While the specific scope and details of individual projects will require further discussion and consideration by both boards, we believe the recent conversations provide a constructive foundation for moving forward. Accordingly, the School Board respectfully requests that our two boards schedule a joint meeting at the earliest mutually convenient opportunity to discuss the proposed capital projects framework, related funding matters, and potential next steps.

We also remain hopeful that the Board of Supervisors can promptly consider the outstanding request to return reversion funds, given the immediate facilities needs those funds are intended to support. We look forward to your response and to continuing our work together in the best interests of Caroline County's students and community.

Sincerely,

Lydell Fortune

Mr. Lydell Fortune
Chair, Caroline County School Board

CAROLINE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Michael Hubbard, Ed. D
Bowling Green

Lydell Fortune J.D
Mattaponi

JoWanda Rollins-Fells, Ph. D
Reedy Church

Shawn Kelley
Madison

Calvin Taylor, Sr.
Port Royal

Allison Sears
Western Caroline

Sarah Calveric, Ph. D
Superintendent

16261 Richmond Turnpike
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Office (804) 633-5088
Fax (804) 633-5563

October 22, 2026

Dear Chair Forehand and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Caroline County School Board, I am writing to restate our continued request for the reappropriation of the audit verified FY25 reversion funds ($980,002). These funds are essential to addressing immediate school capacity needs at Lewis and Clark Elementary School (LCES), where continued enrollment growth has placed significant strain on instructional spaces and school operations.

Current Average Daily Membership (ADM) figures further underscore the urgency of this request. According to the September 2026 School Board Report, CCPS reported an ADM of 4,318 students, exceeding the FY27 budgeted ADM of 4,250 by 68 students. Lewis and Clark Elementary School alone accounted for 43 of these additional students, further intensifying existing space constraints and placing increased demands on instructional programming and essential student services. This continued growth reinforces the immediate need for additional learning spaces to meet the division's current operational demands.

While CCPS has been unable to financially operationalize this "bridge" plan for the 2026-2027 school year, the window for securing modular classrooms in time for the '27–'28 year continues to narrow. Recent discussions with two modular providers indicate that increased demand associated with data center development projects has pushed manufacturing timelines into late April or May 2027, making timely action increasingly critical. Additionally, both providers have identified concerns regarding projected steel cost increases of approximately 50% by January 1, 2027. These developments underscore the importance of timely action. Further delays in the reappropriation of these funds risk additional costs, extended installation timelines, and continued overcrowding that directly impacts students and staff. Prompt action is necessary to preserve the division's ability to respond in a fiscally responsible manner to this persistent and growing capacity challenge.

In response to the Board of Supervisors' request to "build something" at Bowling Green Elementary School (BGES), the School Board reaffirms its commitment to a gymnasium and four additional office/intervention spaces, both identified in the division's Capital Improvement Plan process. A gymnasium addresses critical issues of equity, safety, and student opportunity by providing comparable facilities, eliminating the need for students to travel outdoors for physical education, freeing the community center gym for Parks and Recreation, and expanding opportunities for performing arts and community events. The four additional office/intervention spaces will support growing needs for school counseling, mental health services, and specialized student interventions. Together, these improvements represent necessary, long-term investments in student well-being and educational opportunity.

Finally, we must reiterate the importance of scheduling a joint meeting between the Board of Supervisors and School Board prior to the Board of Supervisors' Thursday, November 12, 2026 meeting. Several significant matters require timely discussion, shared understanding, and coordinated action, including:

- Reappropriation of the $980,002 FY25 reversion funds;
- BGES gymnasium construction and additional office/intervention spaces;
- The $14.7 million in School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP) grant awards;
- The proposed 1% local sales and use tax referendum (process, timeline, and projects);
- Other pressing facility, financial, and long-range planning priorities.

These matters are time-sensitive, interconnected, and too consequential to allow further delays in coordinated discussion and decision-making. Collaboration must be accompanied by timely action, clear communication, and a shared commitment to meeting the needs of our growing school community and programmatic needs. As such, CCPS looks forward to hosting our next joint meeting at the Lewis and Clark ES library. Please review the available dates and let us know which date best aligns with Board of Supervisor availability.

Nov. 3, 2026 or Nov. 10, 2026

Respectfully,

Lydell Fortune
Chair, Caroline County School Board

CAROLINE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Michael Hubbard, Ed. D
Bowling Green

Lydell Fortune J.D
Mattaponi

JoWanda Rollins-Fells, Ph. D
Reedy Church

Shawn Kelley
Madison

Calvin Taylor, Sr.
Port Royal

Allison Sears
Western Caroline

Sarah Calveric, Ph. D
Superintendent

16261 Richmond Turnpike
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Office (804) 633-5088
Fax (804) 633-5563

November 6, 2026

Dear Chair Forehand and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Caroline County School Board, I am writing to renew our request that the reappropriation of CCPS' audit-verified FY25 reversion funds, totaling **$980,002**, be placed on the **November 12, 2026, Board of Supervisors meeting agenda for discussion and action**. Despite our previous requests, we have been unsuccessful in securing an agenda item addressing this matter. These funds are essential to meeting immediate capacity needs at Lewis and Clark Elementary School (LCES), where continued enrollment and programmatic growth is placing significant strain on instructional spaces and school operations.

The reappropriation of these funds would support modular classrooms as an interim solution while long-term capacity solutions are implemented. It's important to reemphasize the window for securing modular classrooms for the 2027–2028 school year continues to narrow. As outlined in our October 22 letter, discussions with providers identified extended manufacturing timelines and anticipated material cost increases. Further delays will increase costs and postpone site work, procurement and installation, which would ultimately prolong overcrowding for students and staff.

The School Board also reaffirms its support for a gymnasium and four additional office/intervention spaces at Bowling Green Elementary School, as identified through the division's Capital Improvement Plan process. These improvements would address needs related to safety, equitable access to facilities, student support services, and educational opportunities.

We continue to welcome a joint meeting between the Board of Supervisors and the School Board to discuss these priorities, BGES improvements, the $14.7 million in School Construction Assistance Program grant awards, and the proposed 1% local sales and use tax referendum. A joint discussion would support shared understanding, decision making, and coordinated planning.

We respectfully request a written response from the Board Chair or County Administrator confirming whether this item will be included on the November 12, 2026, agenda. If it will not be included, please provide the reason and identify the next available opportunity for Board consideration with dates for a meeting included. A timely response before the meeting will allow CCPS to prepare appropriately and communicate next steps to our school community.

Thank you for your attention to this renewed request. We remain committed to working collaboratively to address the needs of Caroline County's students, families, and staff.

Respectfully,

Lydell Fortune
Chair, Caroline County School Board