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October 10, 2025

The Honorable Ghazala Hashmi, Chair
Senate Education and Health Committee
201 North 9th Street
Virginia General Assembly Building
Richmond, VA 23219

The Honorable Sam Rasoul, Chair
House Education Committee
201 North 9th Street
Virginia General Assembly Building
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Senator Hashmi and Delegate Rasoul,

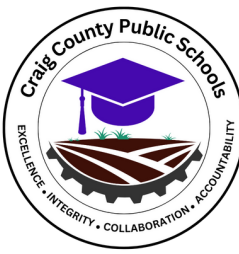
In fulfillment of the reporting requirements established under House Bill 2278 (2025), Craig County Public Schools respectfully submits this Report on Accessibility Findings and Recommendations to the Virginia General Assembly. This report reflects the division's comprehensive review of facility accessibility and outlines actionable steps to promote equitable access across all schools and programs.

The Division Contact for this report is:

Heather Duncan
Assistant Superintendent of Operations
Craig County Public Schools
6 Allegheny Circle
New Castle, VA 24147

Sincerely,

Jason A. Wheeler, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Craig County Public Schools



October 10, 2025

Craig County Public Schools - HB2278 Accessibility Report

Executive Summary

In accordance with the requirements of Virginia House Bill 2278 (2025), Craig County Public Schools (CCPS) conducted a comprehensive review of the physical accessibility of all school facilities, including buildings and associated grounds. This review addresses the following mandated areas:

1. identification of physical accessibility challenges within school facilities and grounds;
2. barriers to access for educational programming and student supports;
3. the division's plan to eliminate identified barriers; and
4. ways in which state agencies may provide assistance to school divisions in advancing accessibility improvements.

This report affirms the following:

1. Code Compliance: All CCPS facilities were originally constructed in compliance with the building codes and regulations in effect at the time of construction.
2. Accessibility Standards: All subsequent renovations, additions, and facility modifications have been completed in accordance with the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) and the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design applicable at the time of each project.
3. Ongoing Review and Improvement: CCPS maintains established annual review processes to monitor facility conditions and ensure continuous progress toward full accessibility and equitable access for all students, staff, families, and community members.

Methodology of Review

Craig County Public Schools (CCPS) conducted a comprehensive evaluation of all school buildings, including associated grounds and athletic facilities. This review followed the methodology outlined in the U.S. Government Accountability Office's June 2020 report, *K-12 Education: School Districts Need Better Information to Improve Physical Accessibility of School Facilities (GAO-20-448)*, as recommended by the legislation.

In conducting this analysis, CCPS engaged key stakeholders—including representatives from the Special Education Department, facilities and maintenance staff, and school administrators—to ensure a thorough and informed assessment of facility compliance. The review focused on two primary areas of regulatory standards:

1. Current Accessibility Codes and Standards:
CCPS evaluated all facilities in relation to the current *Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC)*, including the *Virginia Construction Code (VCC)*, *Virginia Existing Building Code (VEBC)*, and referenced *ICC A117.1* accessibility provisions, as well as the *2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design*. This assessment examined compliance for all alterations and new construction undertaken since each facility's original construction date.

2. Original Construction Codes and Ongoing Maintenance Requirements:

The division verified that each school building and its original structural components were constructed in accordance with the *Virginia USBC* and other applicable state and federal codes in effect at the time of construction. In addition, compliance with the *Virginia Maintenance Code (VMC)* was reviewed to ensure continued safety, accessibility, and functionality of existing facilities.

Summary of Findings

Craig County Public Schools (CCPS) affirms that all division facilities were constructed in accordance with the building codes and standards in effect at the time of their original construction. All subsequent renovations, additions, and modifications have been designed and executed in compliance with the applicable editions of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards for Accessible Design in effect at the time of each project.

Consistent with the intent of House Bill 2278 to evaluate facilities beyond historical compliance, this review examines current site and building conditions to identify opportunities for continued improvement in accessibility and inclusivity. CCPS remains committed to maintaining safe, compliant, and equitable learning environments that uphold both state regulatory standards and the values of the Craig County community.

Proactive Action Plan

Craig County Public Schools (CCPS) incorporates ongoing and proactive efforts to enhance accessibility into its annual Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) development process. Each year, the CIP process includes a comprehensive evaluation of all facilities, with specific consideration of accessibility challenges and barriers that may limit individuals with disabilities from fully participating in school programs, services, and activities. This structured review informs CIP planning and ensures that accessibility improvements are prioritized within funding recommendations and long-term infrastructure goals.

Annual Capital Improvement Plan Inputs

The CIP development process integrates data and input from multiple sources to ensure a comprehensive and equitable evaluation of facility needs, including:

- Administrator Input: Site-level feedback and program access concerns identified by school and division administrators.
- Facilities Department Evaluations: Assessments of building conditions and identification of physical or operational barriers.
- Capital Needs: Consideration of facility lifecycle, project scope bundling, and cost efficiency to optimize available resources.
- Security and Safety Reviews: Evaluation of circulation patterns, egress routes, and operational constraints to align with safety and accessibility standards.

Screening and Prioritization

Projects identified through the CIP process are screened and prioritized based on factors including safety, accessibility, student and staff impact, project feasibility, and alignment with available funding. Planning-level scopes and preliminary cost estimates are developed to inform decision-making and support transparent budget planning.

Continuous Review and Improvement

CCPS reviews and updates its CIP planning framework annually to reflect current facility conditions, stakeholder feedback, and resource availability. This ongoing cycle of assessment and improvement ensures that accessibility remains an integral and sustained focus within the division's long-term capital and operational planning.

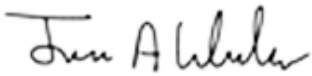
Conclusion

Craig County Public Schools (CCPS) is committed to creating safe and accessible learning environments. This report confirms our compliance with applicable codes and outlines plans for continued improvement.

To fully realize the objectives of House Bill 2278 (2025) and ensure equitable access for all individuals, CCPS respectfully requests consideration of targeted funding from the Virginia General Assembly. Sustainable and measurable progress toward enhanced accessibility requires that new mandates be accompanied by dedicated financial resources to prevent the creation of unfunded obligations for local school divisions.

CCPS looks forward to continued collaboration with the Virginia Department of Education, the Virginia Disability Commission, and other state agencies to advance accessibility initiatives and ensure that all public school facilities across the Commonwealth provide inclusive, compliant, and welcoming environments for every student, staff member, and community member.

Sincerely,



Jason A. Wheeler, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Craig County Public Schools