



CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOLS

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October 30, 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,

Charlottesville City Schools respectfully submits its Report on Accessibility Findings and Recommendations as required by House Bill 2278 (2025), Chapter 566, Enactment Clause 1.

The attached report details our comprehensive review, which utilized the methodology of the U.S. Government Accountability Office's June 2020 report (GAO-20-448), as recommended by the legislation.

The Division Contact for this report is:

Kim Powell, Chief Operations Officer
Charlottesville City Schools
1562 Dairy Road
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Royal A. Gurley, Jr.", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Royal A. Gurley, Jr., Ed.D.
Superintendent



Charlottesville City Schools-HB2278 Accessibility Report

Executive Summary

In accordance with Virginia House Bill 2278 (2025), Charlottesville City Schools (CCS) completed a comprehensive review of the physical accessibility of all school buildings and grounds for individuals with disabilities. In conjunction with the present-day review, CCS is able to consult a comprehensive Site Accessibility Evaluation completed in September 2024 by Precision Infrastructure Management. The study reports cover all Charlottesville City Schools. As required, this review addresses: (i) physical accessibility challenges in school buildings and grounds; (ii) challenges in access to programming and support; (iii) the plan to eliminate barriers; and (iv) how state agencies can assist.

This report affirms that:

- CCS facilities were constructed in compliance with the building codes in effect at the time of their original construction.
- All subsequent new construction, renovations and additions meet current accessibility standards, including the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) and the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design; and
- CCS has annual processes that support our commitment to ongoing review and improvement.

Methodology of Review

A comprehensive, facility-by-facility review of all schools has been conducted, including grounds and athletic facilities. The review was guided by the methodology of the U.S. Government Accountability Office's June 2020 report (GAO-20-448), *"K-12 EDUCATION: School Districts Need Better Information to Improve Physical Accessibility of School Facilities,"* as recommended by the legislation. In addition to the comprehensive Site Accessibility Evaluations completed in September 2024 by Precision Infrastructure Management:

1. **Current Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC), including the Virginia Construction Code (VCC), the Virginia Existing Building Code (VEBC), and referenced ICC A117.1—as well as the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.** The City of Charlottesville assessed all facilities against current accessibility requirements for any alterations or new construction undertaken since their original build date.
2. **Original Construction Codes and the Virginia Maintenance Code (VMC), as applicable:** The City of Charlottesville confirmed that each school building and its original components were constructed in compliance with the Virginia USBC and other applicable state and federal codes in effect at the time of construction.

Summary of Findings

After a thorough review, CCS confirms that our facilities meet the building codes that applied at the time of their original construction. In addition, all later new construction, renovations or additions have been carried out in accordance with the Virginia USBC and ADA standards in place at the time of each project.

Aligned with HB2278's intent to assess present conditions rather than only historical compliance, we recognize that our buildings were designed to meet the requirements that were current at their construction

dates, and that subsequent improvements have aimed to satisfy applicable code and ADA provisions. This planning assessment also identifies opportunities to further strengthen accessibility for students, staff, families, and visitors.

Proactive Accessibility Action Plan

Charlottesville City Schools integrates ongoing accessibility improvements into its annual Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) process. Each year, this process assesses facilities with a focus on removing barriers that limit participation in school programs and activities for individuals with disabilities. The findings guide CIP planning and help prioritize projects for funding recommendations.

Inputs to the Annual CIP

- **Administrator Feedback:** Program access concerns and site-specific observations
- **Facilities Department Assessments:** Building conditions and barrier identification
- **Capital Needs:** Lifecycle planning, project bundling, and cost analysis
- **Security Considerations:** Circulation, egress, and operational constraints

Screening & Prioritization

- Evaluate safety, accessibility, impact on students and staff, feasibility, and funding alignment
- Develop preliminary project scopes and order-of-magnitude cost estimates for CIP review

CCS updates this planning framework annually as part of the CIP cycle to incorporate current conditions, stakeholder feedback, and available resources.

Conclusion

Charlottesville City Schools remains dedicated to fostering safe, inclusive, and accessible learning and extracurricular environments for all students, staff and visitors. This report verifies our adherence to all relevant codes and presents a clear plan for ongoing improvements. To fulfill the objectives of HB2278 and guarantee access for all, CCS respectfully seeks targeted support from the Virginia General Assembly. Sustainable advancement depends on pairing new requirements with the resources needed to meet them, avoiding unfunded mandates. We welcome the opportunity to collaborate with state agencies to enhance accessibility throughout every public school in the Commonwealth of Virginia.