



Frederick County Public Schools

Superintendent of Schools

George C. Hummer, Ed.D.
hummerg@fcpsk12.net

October 31, 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 Senate Hashmi and Delegate Rasoul,

Frederick County Public Schools respectfully submits its Report on Accessibility Findings and Recommendations as required by HB 2278.

The Division Contact for this report is:

Mr. Ben Thompson
Assistant Superintendent of Administration
Frederick County Public Schools
1415 Amherst Rd.
Winchester, VA 22601
540-662-3889
thompsob@fcpsk12.net

Sincerely

Dr. George C. Hummer
Superintendent
Frederick County Public Schools



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Frederick County Public Schools – HB2278 Accessibility Report

Executive Summary

In accordance with the requirements of Virginia House Bill 2278 (2025), Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) has completed a review of the physical accessibility of all school facilities, including buildings and associated grounds.

The report affirms the following:

1. All Frederick County Public Schools buildings have been constructed to ADA standards and codes applicable to the time of construction.
2. All subsequent renovations and additions meet current accessibility standards, including the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) and the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design applicable at the time of each project.
3. FCPS maintains an established annual process to support FCPS' commitment to the ongoing review and improvement of all FCPS buildings.

Methodology of Review

FCPS conducts reviews of all school buildings, including associated grounds and athletic facilities, through a biannual Facility Safety and Quality Review (FSQR), which includes assessing all facilities for accessibility. The FSQR inspection gives an opportunity for site staff to inform the FSQR team of any staff or public input that would relate to accessibility challenges that may need to be reviewed and addressed. The last FSQR was completed in May 2025 and the second FSQR for this year is currently being conducted. FCPS also maintains open lines of communication with all staff and stakeholders wherein concerns with accessibility can be identified throughout the year, not just during the FSQR period.

This method of review allows for continued improvement and progress towards accessibility of all FCPS school buildings and athletic facilities.

The recently completed review focused on two primary areas of regulatory standards

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. FCPS 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: FCPS 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, FCPS confirms that our facilities meet the building codes that applied at the time of their original construction. FCPS further confirms that any FCPS buildings that have undergone capital renovations and/or modifications were built according to plans that were reviewed, approved, and inspected by the Frederick County Inspections Department and were constructed to match the ADA standards and building codes that were applicable to the time of construction. Upon completion of construction, all capital renovations receive final inspections and occupancy permits from the Frederick County Inspections Department.

FSQR reviews are utilized to identify opportunities to further strengthen accessibility for students, staff, families, and visitors.

Proactive Accessibility Action Plan

FCPS integrates ongoing accessibility improvements into the annual Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) process in conjunction with the Frederick County Government. The findings of the FSQR reviews help guide the CIP planning and prioritizing projects for funding recommendations.

Additional inputs to the Annual CIP include the following:

1. Administrator requests – program access concerns and site level observations
2. Facilities department evaluations – facility condition and barrier observations
3. Capital needs – lifestyle planning, project bundling, and cost analysis
4. Security considerations – ingress, egress and operational constraints

Screening and Prioritization

- Consider safety, accessibility, student/staff impact, feasibility, and funding alignment.
- Develop planning-level scopes and order-of-magnitude costs for CIP consideration.

FCPS review and update this planning framework annually within the CIP cycle to reflect current conditions, stakeholder input, and available resources.

Conclusion

Frederick County Public Schools is committed to fostering a learning environment that is secure, welcoming, and accessible for everyone - students, staff, and visitors alike. This report verifies our compliance with all applicable codes and outlines a strategic approach for ongoing improvement. To achieve the goals of HB2278 and guarantee access for all, FCPS respectfully requests targeted funding from the Virginia General Assembly. Sustained improvements and progress require resources to accompany new mandates, preventing the burden of unfunded obligations. We appreciate the opportunity and look forward to collaborating with state agencies to advance accessibility throughout all public schools in the Commonwealth of Virginia.