



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 Senator Hashmi and Delegate Rasoul:

Please accept our Accessibility Findings and Recommendations Report to the Virginia General Assembly as required under House Bill 2278 (2025).

The point of contact for this report is David Lyon, Executive Director of Finance and Operations.

Respectfully,

Melissas Saunders, ED.D.
Superintendent
Manassas Park City Schools

100 Park Central Plaza, Suite 300

Manassas Park, Virginia 20111

Office 703.335.8850 | Fax 703.361.4583 | www.mpark.net

Executive Summary

In accordance with Virginia House Bill 2278 (2025), Manassas Park City Schools (MPCS) completed a comprehensive review of the physical accessibility of all school buildings and grounds. This review addresses:

1. identification of physical accessibility challenges within school facilities and grounds;
2. barriers to access for educational programming and student support;
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. All MPCS facilities were constructed in compliance with the building codes in effect at the time of their original construction.
2. All subsequent renovations and additions have been designed and completed in accordance with current accessibility standards, including the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) and the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.
3. MPCS maintains review processes to ensure continuous improvement in accessibility and inclusion.

Manassas Park City Schools (MPCS) is committed to creating safe, inclusive, and accessible learning environments for all students, staff, and visitors. This report provides a summary of findings, identifies areas for continued improvement, and outlines how MPCS will move forward with planning and prioritization efforts related to accessibility and inclusion across both campuses.

Methodology of Review

Manassas Park City Schools conducted a comprehensive evaluation of all school buildings, including associated grounds and athletic facilities. Information was gathered from key stakeholders, such as the special education department, administrators, and facilities staff.

Summary of Findings

Accessibility challenges were noted at nearly every school in MPCS. These findings will guide future planning and help inform budget development and project prioritization in upcoming years. Areas for Improvement:

1. Facility Accessibility
 - a. Some entrances and doorways may not fully meet modern accessibility standards, particularly regarding width and automated door access.
2. Certain public-facing areas, such as offices and reception spaces, may require modifications

to improve ease of access.

3. Elementary playgrounds present opportunities to enhance inclusivity and add features that better serve students with diverse needs.

Proactive Action Plan

MPCS will use the results of this review to guide a phased approach to accessibility enhancements. The Division will work to integrate these needs into future budget planning cycles and particularly the capital improvement plan (CIP) development.

1. Increasing automatic or push-button doors at primary entrances in each facility.
2. Reviewing doorway widths and accessibility in public-facing spaces.
3. Assessing playgrounds for inclusive equipment opportunities.

These recommendations will be refined as part of ongoing planning efforts and incorporated into long-term facility and operations planning.

Conclusion

The accessibility study for Manassas Park City Schools highlights both challenges and opportunities to enhance access for students, staff, families, and visitors. Manassas Park City Schools is dedicated to fostering safe, inclusive, and accessible learning environments. The division intends to address the identified gaps by integrating improvements with ongoing capital projects and future renovations. To fulfill the spirit of House Bill 2278 and ensure equitable access for all, Manassas Park City Schools respectfully seeks funding from the Virginia General Assembly to achieve lasting progress in this area and is eager to collaborate with state agencies to advance accessibility initiatives in Virginia public schools.