



**Martinsville City
Public Schools**
Empowering Success One Learner At A Time

Mailing: PO Box 5548, Martinsville, VA 24115; Physical: 746 Indian Trail, Martinsville, VA 24112

October 27, 2025

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

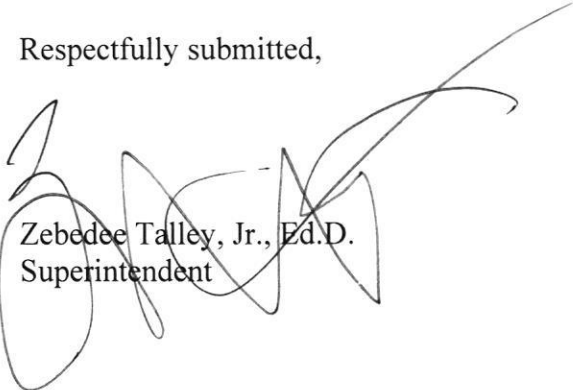
The Honorable Sam Rasoul, Chair
House Education Committee
201 North 9th Street
Virginia General Assembly Building
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Senator Hashmi and Delegate Rasoul,

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

The Division Contact for this report is:
Travis Clemons, Executive Director of Administrative Services
Martinsville City Public Schools
PO Box 5548
Martinsville, VA 24115

Respectfully submitted,



Zebedee Talley, Jr., Ed.D.
Superintendent

Martinsville City Public Schools-HB 2278 Accessibility Report

Executive Summary

In accordance with Virginia House Bill 2278 (2025), Martinsville City Public Schools (MCPS) completed a comprehensive review of the physical accessibility of all school buildings and grounds for individuals with disabilities. As required, this review addresses: (i) physical accessibility challenges in school buildings and grounds; (ii) challenges in access to programming and supports; (iii) the plan to eliminate barriers; and (iv) how state agencies can assist.

This report affirms that:

1. MCPS facilities were constructed in compliance with the building codes in effect at the time of their original 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; and
3. MCPS has annual processes that support our commitment to ongoing review and improvement.

Methodology of Review

MCPS conducted a comprehensive, facility-by-facility review of all schools, including grounds and athletic facilities. Our 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. We also consulted with key stakeholders, including our Special Education Department, design professionals, facilities staff, and local building officials, to ensure a thorough assessment and to determine compliance with two key sets of regulations:

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. We 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: We 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

Based on our review, MCPS affirms that our facilities comply with the relevant building codes from their respective construction dates. Furthermore, all subsequent alterations or additions have been completed in adherence to the Virginia USBC and ADA standards in effect at the time of the work.

Consistent with HB2278's purpose to look beyond historical compliance and consider current conditions, our facilities were constructed according to the standards in effect at the time, and subsequent alterations are intended to comply with applicable code and ADA requirements. This planning review documents potential opportunities to enhance further accessibility for students, staff, families, and visitors.

Proactive Action Plan

MCPS continues to seek funding to commission an updated comprehensive facility study. Regarding the CIP: Ongoing and continued efforts to improve accessibility are a key consideration in existing processes for annual Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) development. Each year, the CIP process evaluates facilities, including consideration of accessibility challenges and barriers affecting individuals with disabilities' ability to participate in school activities and programs fully. This process informs CIP planning and prioritizes projects for funding recommendations.

Annual Capital Improvement Plan Inputs

- Administrator requests (program access concerns and site-level observations)
- Facilities Department evaluations (facility condition and barrier observations)
- Capital needs (lifecycle, scope bundling, and cost considerations)
- Security evaluations (circulation, egress, and operational constraints)

Screening & Prioritization

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

MCPS reviews and updates this planning framework annually within the CIP cycle to reflect current conditions, stakeholder input, and available resources.

Conclusion

Martinsville City Public Schools is committed to providing learning environments that are safe, inclusive, and accessible. This report confirms our compliance with applicable codes and outlines a strategic plan for continued improvement. To achieve the goals of HB2278 and ensure access for all, MCPS respectfully requests targeted funding from the Virginia General Assembly. Sustainable progress requires resources to accompany new mandates and avoid the creation of unfunded obligations. We look forward to partnering with state agencies to advance accessibility across all public schools.