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DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT
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10/30/2025

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

Subject: Compliance with HB 2278 – Review of Accessibility Challenges

Dear Senator Hashmi and Delegate Rasoul,

In accordance with the requirements of Virginia House Bill 2278 (2025 Regular Session),

- review the extent to which challenges exist in access to programming and supports for individuals with disabilities in public elementary and secondary schools in the division;
- review whether plans or options are in place to address and eliminate such administrative, physical, or programmatic barriers;
- consider how state agencies can assist local schools to address and eliminate such challenges and barriers while fully complying with all applicable state and federal laws;
- report its findings and any associated recommendations to the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2025.

To the best of our knowledge and based on the recent reviews conducted by our Safety Audit Committee and the Special Education Department, Norton City Schools is meeting the standards and expectations established in HB 2278. We confirm that our division has reviewed and continues to assess accessibility of buildings and grounds, programming supports, and plans for barrier elimination.

Ongoing assessments aligned with HB 2278 will be incorporated into our division's **Comprehensive and Strategic Planning Meetings** to ensure sustained compliance, continuous improvement, and documented reflection of findings, recommendations, and next-steps. The results of these assessments will inform our strategic initiatives, budget planning for infrastructure and supports, and coordination among our departments.

We remain committed to providing an inclusive, accessible, and equitable educational environment for all students and staff.

Sincerely,

Gina J. Wohlford, Ph.D.
Division Superintendent