

# WESTMORELAND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*Vision: To provide an exemplary learning environment that empowers ALL students to find their voices and make meaningful contributions to the world.*

Ralph Fallin, Chair  
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Catherine R. Rice, Ed.S.  
Superintendent

October 31, 2025

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

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

Dear Senator Hashmi and Delegate Rasoul:

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

Sincerely,

*Catherine Rice*

Catherine R. Rice, Ed.S.  
Superintendent

**Virginia HB 2278 (2025 Session)**  
*Westmoreland County Public Schools*

**Purpose:** To ensure school divisions assess and report on accessibility barriers in school buildings and grounds, access to programming, and the progress on eliminating these challenges.

**Westmoreland High School**

Area	Barriers Identified	Proposed Resolutions/Actions Steps
Physical Accessibility	Original construction 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None identified at this time.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None identified at this time.</li></ul>
Programming & Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None identified at this time</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to offer inclusive classes with collaborative teaching as a service delivery model.</li></ul>

**Montross Middle School**

Area	Barriers Identified	Proposed Resolutions/Actions Steps
Physical Accessibility	Original construction 1950. Bathrooms renovated 2022. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inadequate/missing braille/tactile signs identifying rooms.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Procure vendor and replace all signs throughout the school by the start of the 26-27 school year.</li></ul>
Programming & Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None identified at this time</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to offer inclusive classes with collaborative teaching as a service delivery model.</li></ul>

### Cople Elementary School

Area	Barriers Identified	Proposed Resolutions/Actions Steps
Physical Accessibility	<p>Original construction 1977</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restrooms lack the required 60-inch turning radius and clear floor space for wheelchair users;</li> <li>• Bathroom fixtures do not meet ADA-required knee and toe clearance specifications;</li> <li>• Grab bars within toilet stalls are improperly sized or positioned, rendering them non-compliant;</li> <li>• Doorways lack the necessary maneuvering clearance for accessible entry and exit;</li> <li>• Door hardware (e.g., knobs, latches) is not operable with one hand or without tight grasping;</li> <li>• Inadequate/missing braille/tactile signs identifying rooms.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renovate older bathrooms to bring them into compliance with current ADA construction requirements at such a time that adequate revenue for this capital project is available.</li> <li>• Procure vendor and replace all signs throughout the school by the start of the 26-27 school year.</li> </ul>
Programming & Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None at this time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to offer inclusive classes with collaborative teaching as a service delivery model.</li> </ul>

### Washington District Elementary School

Area	Barriers Identified	Proposed Resolutions/Actions Steps
Physical Accessibility	<p>Original construction 1990</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restrooms lack the required 60-inch turning radius and clear floor space for wheelchair users;</li> <li>• Bathroom fixtures do not meet ADA-required knee and toe clearance specifications;</li> <li>• Grab bars within toilet stalls are improperly sized or positioned, rendering them non-compliant;</li> <li>• Stall doorways lack the necessary maneuvering clearance for accessible entry and exit;</li> <li>• Stall door hardware (e.g., knobs, latches) is not operable with one hand or without tight grasping;</li> <li>• Inadequate/missing braille/tactile signs identifying rooms.</li> <li>• Gymnasium stage does not have a ramp for accessing the front of the stage.</li> <li>• Some exits have steps and do not have ramps</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renovate older bathrooms to bring them into compliance with current ADA standards at such a time that adequate revenue for this capital project is available.</li> <li>• Procure vendor and replace all signs throughout the school by the start of the 26-27 school year.</li> <li>• Install a wheelchair lift for the stage. This is included in the Capital Improvement Plan for 2025-2026.</li> <li>• Add ramps to bring remaining exits into compliance with current ADA standards at such a time that adequate revenue for this capital project is available.</li> </ul>
Programming & Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None at this time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to offer inclusive classes with collaborative teaching as a service delivery model.</li> </ul>