

October 24, 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,

In accordance with the requirements set forth in Virginia House Bill 2278, the York County School Division has completed a review of accessibility challenges within our public elementary and secondary school facilities and programs. This review was conducted in collaboration with school administrators, facilities staff, special education professionals, and community stakeholders.

Summary of Findings

1. Physical Accessibility Challenges

Some buildings present limitations in:

- Auditorium and gymnasium seating
- Playground and athletic field seating access
- Stage access

2. Programmatic Accessibility Barriers

- Difficulty hiring sign language interpreters and captioning services forcing reliance on contracted services due to critical shortage area

3. Remediation Efforts and Plans

- Ensuring digital learning platforms have ADA accessibility features
- Staff training initiatives focused on inclusive instructional practices
- Continual review of division electronic material to ensure ADA compliance

4. Collaboration with State Agencies

Identified opportunities to partner with:

- Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) for funding and technical guidance
- Virginia Board for People with Disabilities for stakeholder engagement
- Department of General Services for facility assessments and compliance audits

- Virginia Department of Elections accessibility audits

5. Code Compliance and Historical Context

- All facilities were originally constructed in compliance with building codes at the time
- Renovations since 2010 have followed the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) and 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
- Renovations since 1991 have followed the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) and 1991 ADA Standards for Accessible Design

6. Methodology Used

- The review followed the framework from the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) Report GAO-20-448, including:
 - Stakeholder consultation
 - Facility walkthroughs
 - Program access audits

We respectfully submit this report to fulfill the reporting requirement of HB2278. York County School Division remains committed to fostering an inclusive and accessible educational environment for all students and community members.

Should you require any additional information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,



James Carroll, Ed.D.
Interim Division Superintendent