506 Jeffersonville Street Tazewell, VA 24651-5396 Phone (276) 988-5511 Fax (276) 988-1976 www.tcpsva.org



School Board Members Irene Mullins, Chair Erik Robinson, Vice-Chair Chris Moir Donna Whittington David Woodard

October 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

Dear Senator Hashmi and Delegate Rasoul,

In fulfillment of the reporting requirements established under House Bill 2278 (2025), Tazewell County Public Schools respectfully submits its Report on Accessibility Findings and Recommendations.

The Division Contact for this report is:

Eugene Parkhurst Supervisor of Grounds and Maintenance Tazewell County Public Schools 506 Jeffersonville St. Tazewell, VA 24651

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Stacy, Ed.D. Division Superintendent

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Tazewell County Public Schools – HB2278 Accessibility Report Executive Summary

In accordance with the requirements of Virginia House Bill 2278 (2025), Tazewell County Public Schools (TCPS) conducted a comprehensive review of the physical accessibility of all school buildings and grounds for individuals with disabilities. This review addresses the mandated areas: (i) physical accessibility challenges in school buildings and grounds (ii) challenges in access to programming and student supports (iii) plans to eliminate any identified barriers (iv) ways in which state agencies can as ist in advancing accessibility improvements.

This report affirms the following:

- 1. TCPS facilities were constructed in compliance with the building codes and regulations in effect at the time of construction.
- All subsequent renovations additions and facility modifications have been completed in accordance with the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) and the 2010 ADA standards for Accessible Design applicable at the time of each project.
- 3. TCPS annually reviews facilities and grounds for issues and improvements.

Methodology of Review

Tazewell Count Public Schools (TCP) conducted a comprehensive review of all school buildings, including grounds and athletic facilities. Our review was guided by the methodology prescribed in the U.S. Government Accountability Office's June 2020 report K-12 Education: School Districts Need Better Information to Improve Physical Accessibility of School Facilities (GAO-20-448) as recommended by the legislation. This review included engaging school administration, Special Education Department and the Supervisor of Maintenance & Grounds. The review focused on two primary regulatory standards:

- Current Accessibility Codes and Standards:
 TCPS assessed all facilities with regard to current Virginia Con truction Code (VCC),
 Virginia Existing Building Code (VEBC), and referenced ICC A117.1 accessibility
 provision, and the 2010 ADA Standards for Acce sible Design. The review asse sed
 compliance for any alterations or new construction undertaken since the original
 construction date.
- 2. Original Construction Codes and Ongoing Maintenance Requirements: TCPS confirms that each school building and its original structural components were constructed in accordance with *Virginia USBC* and other applicable state and federal codes in effect at the time of construction.

Summary of Findings

TCPS affirms that our facilities comply with the relevant building codes and standards in effect at the time of their original construction. All subsequent alterations or additions have been

Tazewell County Public Schools – HB2278 Accessibility Report

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completed in adherence to the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards for Accessible Design in effect at the time the work was completed. Consistent with the intent of HB 2278 to look beyond historical compliance, this assessment examines current building and grounds conditions to ascertain and identify opportunities for future improvements.

Proactive Action Plan

TCPS continues efforts to enhance and improve accessibility through Capital Improvement Planning. Each year TCPS evaluates buildings and grounds with consideration of accessibility challenges and any barriers that may limit or hinder individuals with disabilities from fully participating in school activities. This review allows TCPS to prioritize improvements and to plan accordingly.

Annual Capital Improvement Plan Inputs

- Administrator Requests (site-level feedback and observations)
- Security and Safety Reviews (circulation egress, and operational constraints)
- Facilities Evaluations: (facility condition and barrier observations)
- Capital Needs (facility lifecycle, cost considerations)

Screening & Prioritization

All projects identified through the annual reviews are prioritized based on safety issues, accessibility, stakeholder impact, and funding. Cost estimates are developed to advise decision making and facilitate budget planning.

Conclusion

TCP is committed to creating safe and accessible learning environments for our students, staff, faculty and community members. This report confirms our compliance with applicable codes and provides an outline for continued improvement. In order to fully achie e the goals of HB 2278 (2025) and continue to ensure equitable access for all individuals TCPS respectfully requests targeted funding from the Virginia General Assembly. TCP looks forward to working with the VDOE and the VGA to continue to advance accessibility initiaties and ensure our buildings and grounds continue to be inclusive and compliant for the needs of everyone.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Stacy, Ed D Division Superintendent