COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2120
RICHMOND, VA 23218-2120

December 1, 2025

The Honorable L. Louise Lucas
Chair, Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee
General Assembly Building, Room 1404
201 North 9th Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Senator Ghazala F. Hashmi
Chair, Senate Education and Health Committee
General Assembly Building, Room 616
201 North 9th Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Delegate Luke E. Torian
Chair, House Appropriations Committee
General Assembly Building, Room 1223
201 North 9th Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Delegate Sam Rasoul
Chair, House Education Committee
General Assembly Building, Room 910
201 North 9th Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Chairs Lucas, Torian, Hashmi, and Rasoul:

The School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP) was established by Governor Youngkin and the General Assembly during the 2022 Special Session I of the General Assembly and initially funded for the 2022-2024 biennium. The Board of Education (Board) awards SCAP competitive grants to local school boards and regional Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs that demonstrate poor building conditions, commitment, and need so that they may fund the construction, expansion, or modernization of their public school buildings.

Funding for the program was continued for the 2024-2026 biennium during the 2025 General Assembly Session through the 2025 Appropriation Act (i.e., Chapter 725, Item 125, Paragraph C.42.d). $250 million in funding is appropriated for the program in FY 2025 and $110 million in funding is appropriated for the program in FY 2026 from the School Construction Fund which is resourced by gaming revenues.

Appropriation Act language also requires the Board to submit a report by December 1 each year with an executive summary of this program, including details on projects funded each year and any necessary legislative or budget recommendations to improve the program. This letter is intended to meet this reporting requirement.

The Board has adopted guidelines for the SCAP to govern the program during the 2024-2026 biennium. The revised guidelines include updates and additions to the twelve competitive scoring criteria used to award grant funding to school projects submitted by school divisions.

Several proposed modifications to the criteria are intended to make grant funding available to more school divisions statewide given the amount of program funding available relative to the level of school facilities needs that exist statewide. Several of the changes were in response to comments and requests received from school divisions and local governments. *A full list of modifications is found in Appendix A.*

In addition, HB 462 and SB 474 (Chapters 388 and 389) passed during the 2024 Session making regional CTE programs eligible to receive grants under the program effective July 1, 2024. This program modification was also incorporated in the proposed revisions for the Board's consideration in the proposed modifications to the program guidelines for future grant application periods. The most recent updated guidelines also allow for school-based CTE program renovations or construction projects and to provide funding to school divisions that leverage innovative space renovations or construction to better serve students with updated learning environments. This was a top priority for rural and remote superintendents and governing board members, as transportation to a regional CTE model was a barrier to access for many students.

Since the inception of these funds, **$522.6 million has been awarded to school divisions and regional CTE centers through June 30, 2025.** The FY 2025 awards are outlined in the attachment to this letter. To date, $258.8 million has been expended from the School Construction Fund, through June 30, 2025, for school division drawdowns of their grant funds for costs on their awarded school projects.

In the spring of 2025, $80M in SCAP awards were approved by the Board of Education. See listing of awards below. The SCAP grant funding for FY 2025 of $170 million is available for award through an open application process conducted by the Department in November 2025. Department staff will begin reviewing the submitted applications against the Board's criteria and guidelines and will take recommendations for funding eligible projects to the Board in December 2025. This will complete the full allocation of the $250 million in appropriated funds for this program. In spring 2026, the Department will have an additional application period to award the remaining $110 million in additional funding available to support school construction projects in Virginia's school divisions.

The Board has no further recommendations to make currently related to the program. On behalf of the Board, thank you for your continued support of this critical school facilities funding program and for your support of Virginia public education.

Sincerely,

Grace Turner Creasey

Grace Turner Creasey, M. Ed.
President

Enclosure

c: The Honorable Emily Anne Gullickson
Superintendent of Public Instruction

The Honorable Aimee Rogstad Guidera
Virginia Secretary of Education

School Division/ Div. #	School Name/ Sch. #	Scoring Criteria Total (Rank Ordered	Total Project Cost	Grant Award Pct. (based on Composite Index or Fiscal Stress Designation)	Recommended School Project Grant Award Amount (% X Total Project Cost)
Danville City (108)	Danville Public School Virtual Academy at Glennwood	91	$ 11,640,445.00	30	$ 3,492,134.00
Franklin City (135)	J.P. King Career and Technical Academy	86	$ 9,450,000.00	30	$ 2,835,000.00
Richmond City (123)	Woodville Elementary	85	$ 62,000,000.00	20	$ 12,400,000.00
Lunenburg County (055)	Central High	83	$ 55,000,000.00	30	$ 16,500,000.00
Lynchburg City (115)	E.C. Glass High	78	$ 4,500,000.00	30	$ 1,350,000.00
Newport News City (117)	Menchville High	76	$ 16,000,000.00	30	$ 4,800,000.00
Mecklenburg County (058)	Chase City Elementary	71	$ 38,000,000.00	20	$ 7,600,000.00
Pittsylvania County (071)	John L. Hurt Elementary	70	$ 8,228,000.00	30	$ 2,468,400.00
Waynesboro City (130)	Waynesboro High	67	$ 42,250,000.00	20	$ 8,450,000.00
Massanutten Tech Center (304)	Massanutten Tech Center	67	$ 65,000,000.00	10	$ 6,500,000.00
Petersburg City (120)	Petersburg High	66	$ 91,385,000.00	30	$ 13,604,466.00
	SCAP Total Project Cost and Award Amount		**$ 403,453,445.00**		**$ 80,000,000.00**

Appendix A.

The modifications made by the Board to the SCAP guidelines for 2024-2026 include the following:

1. School divisions and regional CTE programs may apply for up to three school projects during each open application period with awards going to the highest scoring project from each division first due to increased level of funding for the program and to enable more schools or regional CTE programs to receive funding.
2. The total project cost eligible to receive a grant award must be a minimum of $500 thousand for an individual school-based project, and $1 million for similar equipment replacement or upgrade project at multiple schools.
3. Adjustment to the points score for poor building conditions to enable some schools and divisions that were short of qualifying points previously to potentially qualify for funding consideration.
4. Increase in possible total score for the Identified Student Percentage (ISP) to enable some divisions that were short of qualifying points previously to potentially qualify for funding consideration.
5. Adjustment to the points awarded for the Local Composite Index to enable some divisions that were short of qualifying points previously to potentially qualify for funding consideration.
6. Added school-based CTE programs to be eligible to score points if they meet criteria 7. Language added to encouraging divisions to explore CTE program specific funding sources, the use of in-kind business partnership support, and/or other sources to support funding needs.
7. Adjustment to the points awarded for the Fiscal Stress Designation, Poverty Percentage, and condition of all buildings to enable some divisions that were short of qualifying points previously to potentially qualify for funding consideration.
8. Lowered the total awarded points for Debt Capacity because only two school divisions were eligible to receive the highest points, allowing for the increase in points awarded in the ISP criteria.
9. Required reporting on the status of a funded project, every 6 months for the duration of the project. Reports to include funding sources, percentage of SCAP allocation used, status of overall project (percent complete), and anticipated completion date.
10. Added language requiring schools funded by the SCAP grant to be scheduled to remain open for at least five more years including in locations where decreasing enrollment may result in school consolidation or closings.
11. Added language encouraging innovative and creative use of underutilized space, flexible learning models such as school-within-school concepts or public microschools and considering consolidation of under capacity school as a means to best use available resources.
12. Provided divisions the opportunity to earn points if they are renovating space or leveraging flexible models after school consolidations and closures.
13. Changed the Quarterly Reimbursement dates to align with the end of the VDOE fiscal year.
14. Added a reminder that all projects must be submitted into the School Building Construction and Renovation (SBCR) application located in VDOE's Single Sign-On Web Systems (SSWS)

portal and have a project number assigned prior to construction to be in compliance with Code of Virginia §22.1-140.