

# Mecklenburg County

600 East Fourth Street  
Charlotte, NC 28202



## Meeting Agenda

Thursday, January 8, 2026

4:00 PM

Members of the public can access and view the meeting on the Government Channel or online at: <https://watch.mecknc.gov>

Valerie C. Woodard  
3205 Freedom Drive, Charlotte  
**BOCC - Special Meeting**

*Chair Mark Jerrell, District 4  
Vice Chair Leigh Altman, At-Large  
Commissioner Arthur Griffin, At-Large  
Commissioner Yvette Townsend-Ingram, At-Large  
Commissioner Elaine Powell, District 1  
Commissioner Vilma D. Leake, District 2  
Commissioner George Dunlap, District 3  
Commissioner Laura J. Meier, District 5  
Commissioner Susan Rodriguez-McDowell, District 6*

**BOCC - Special Meeting - Valerie C. Woodard Auditorium****CALL TO ORDER**

*Mecklenburg County Mission:*

*"To serve Mecklenburg County residents by helping improve their lives and community."*

*Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners Community Vision*

*"Mecklenburg County will be a community of pride and choice for people to live, learn, work and recreate."*

*FY 2026-2027 Board Budget Priorities*

- ~ Economic Development
- ~ Education
- ~ Environmental Stewardship
- ~ Health Equity and Wellness
- ~ Services for Seniors
- ~ Workforce Development
- ~ Reducing Racial Disparities

26-0011      Joint Meeting Between Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education

Attachments: [2026 Joint Meeting Agenda \(1\).pdf](#)

[1 - QLC Update\\_BOCC\\_BOE\\_Joint Meeting\\_MB\\_CHv1.pdf](#)

[2 - CMS SY24-25 Academic Outcomes Beth Thompson.pdf](#)

[3 - Budget Landscape BOE\\_BOCC 1.8.26. V4.pdf](#)

[4 - CMS Budget Landscape Kelly Klutz.pdf](#)

[5 - CMS 2023 Bond Update Tim Ivey.pdf](#)

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Upcoming meetings of the Board:*

*Budget/Public Policy Workshop, if needed, Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 2:30 p.m.*

*Regular Meeting (to include 1st Budget Public Hearing), \*Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.*

*BOCC Annual Retreat, Wed-Fri, January 28-30, 2026, CPCC Harris Conference Center, 3216 CPCC Harris Campus Drive, time is TBD*

*Special Accommodations:*

*Anyone needing special accommodations when attending this meeting and/or if this information is needed in an alternative format, please contact the Clerk to the Board. The Clerk is located at 600 East Fourth Street, in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center, 11th floor, (980-314-2939) or E-mail: clerk@mecknc.gov. We request at least 72-hours' notice prior to the meeting to make the appropriate arrangements.*

*The Board reserves the right to deviate from the agenda.*

*Mecklenburg County Vision:*

*"To be the best local government service provider."*

*Mecklenburg County Mission:*

*"To serve Mecklenburg County residents by helping improve their lives and community."*



# Mecklenburg County

600 East Fourth Street  
Charlotte, NC 28202

## Legislation Text

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File #: 26-0011

Meeting Date: 1/8/2026

File Type: Agenda Item

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### **Joint Meeting Between Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education**

#### **ACTION:**

**Hold Joint Meeting Between Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education**

**See attached agenda**

**Staff Contact:** Kristine M. Smith, Clerk to the Board

**Presentation:** Yes

#### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION:**

A joint meeting will be held between the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education to discuss matters of mutual interest to take any action as may be deemed appropriate.

#### **PROCUREMENT BACKGROUND:**

N/A

#### **POLICY IMPACT:**

N/A

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

N/A



## Board of Education - Board of County Commissioners

### Joint Meeting

**January 8, 2026**

**4:00pm - 7:00pm**

**Valerie C. Woodard Center**

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter
4:00 (15 min)	Call to Order Welcome & Introductions	Chair Jerrell Chair Sneed
4:15 (10 min)	Statement of Objectives Review of Agenda	Chair Jerrell Chair Sneed
4:25 (45 min)	Better Together Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools & Mecklenburg County Collaboration  Mecklenburg County Community Collaborative – Quality of Life Indicators	Michael Bryant Crystal Hill  Michael Griswold
5:10 (30 min)	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools SY24-25 Academic Outcomes	Beth Thompson
5:40 (30 min)	Mecklenburg County Budget Landscape	Adrian Cox
6:10 (30 min)	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Budget Landscape 2023 Bond Update	Kelly Kluttz Tim Ivey
6:40 (5 min)	Closing	Chair Sneed Chair Jerrell



# Quality of Life Collaborative (QLC)

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**BOCC – BOE Joint Meeting**

January 8, 2026

# Quality of Life Collaborative (QLC)

## *Better Together*

- QLC was co-hosted by CMS Superintendent Dr. Crystal Hill, City Manager Marcus Jones, and County Manager Mike Bryant
- Convened 35+ public, private, and nonprofit organizations around Quality of Life Indicators
- Quality of life issues are complex, interconnected, and require coordinated cross-sector action
- Identified shared focus areas and strategies to improve Quality of Life in Charlotte-Mecklenburg



# QLC Participants

Organizations		
Advocate Health	Bank of America	Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC)
Charlotte Center City Partners	Charlotte Regional Business Alliance	Charlotte Works
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS)	City of Charlotte	Crisis Assistance Ministry
District Attorney's Office	Faith Memorial Missionary Baptist Church	Foundation For The Carolinas
Inlivian	Knight Foundation	Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Mecklenburg County Government	Novant Health	Nourish Up
Roof Above	Town of Cornelius	Town of Davidson
Town of Huntersville	Town of Matthews	Town of Mint Hill
UNC Charlotte's Urban Institute	United Way of Greater Charlotte	



## Additional partner engagement:

Participants recommended expanded engagement with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department (CMPD) Chief Patterson

# QLC Focus Areas

**Pathways for All Ages That Lead to Sustainable Wages**

**The Value of the Education Profession**

**Support, Resources, Compensation, and Incentives for Educators**

**Mental Health Services for All**

**Safe and Affordable Housing**

**Neighborhood-Based Community Court**

**Accessible and Rapid Transportation Across the County**

Recommend consolidation of both Focus Areas to reduce overlap



# The Value of the Education Profession

## Focus Area Participants

- Beth Thompson, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS)
- Dr. Kandi Deitemeyer, Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC)
- Melia James, Town of Matthews
- Joe Bost, UNC Charlotte

### Draft Strategy

- 1 Frame educators as community and economic-capacity builders
- 2 Promote educators as respected high-skill professionals

# Support, Resources, Compensation, and Incentives for Educators

## Focus Area Participants

- Dr. Crystal Hill, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools
- Adrian Cox, Mecklenburg County Government
- Pastor Dennis Williams, Faith Memorial Missionary Baptist Church
- Lauren Woodruff, Bank of America
- Dr. Monica Allen, City of Charlotte

### Draft Strategy

- 1 Establish a housing program for educators that addresses the continuum of housing needs through both rental and downpayment programs
- 2 Establish a marketing and communications strategy that clearly articulates the value educators bring to the community



# QLC Feedback

## *Collaborative Cards*

- Strong support for cross-sector collaboration
- Build on momentum with quick, visible wins
- Clear roles, structured strategy, and transparent communication with regular updates
- Positive energy and commitment to excellence

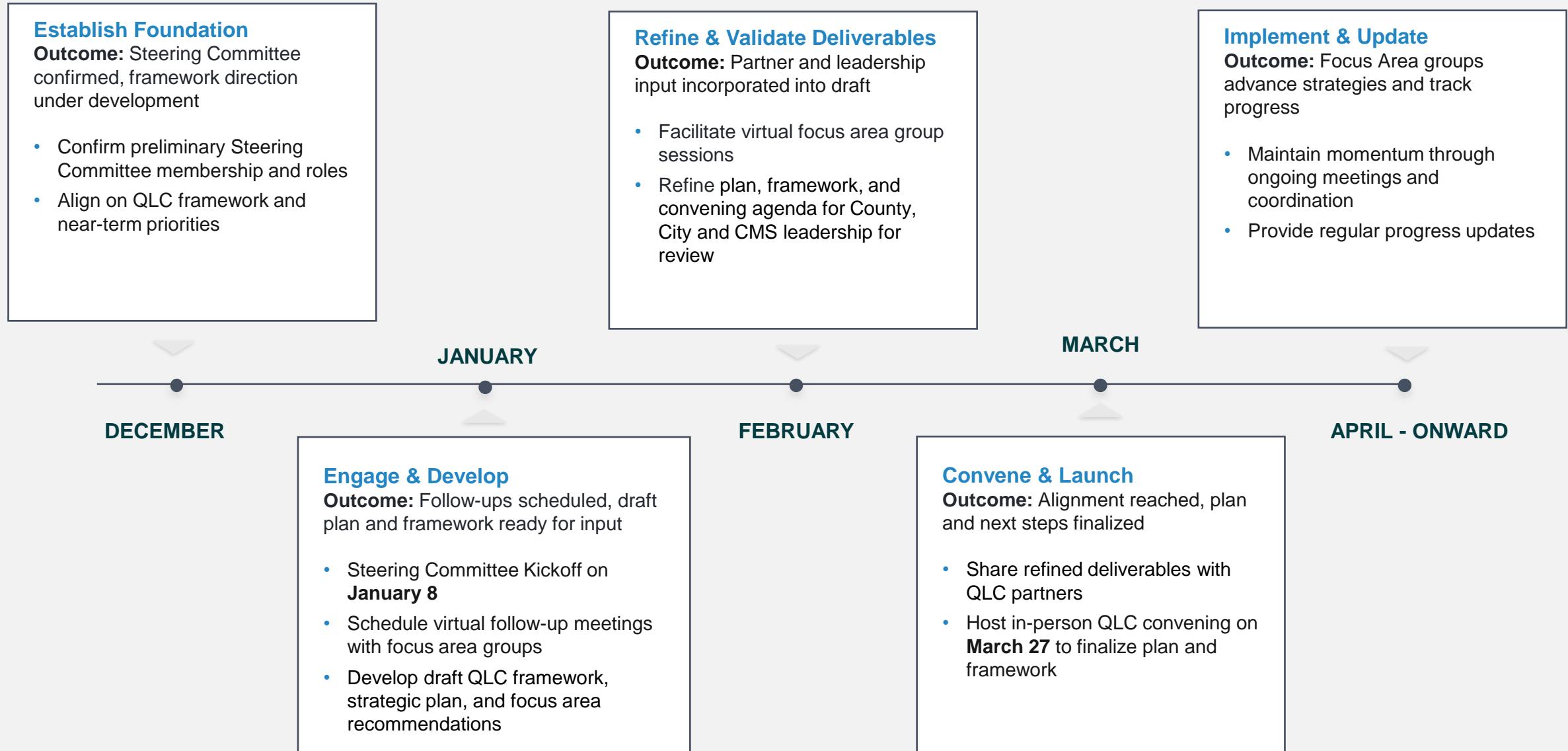
# Next Steps

1. Stand up QLC operating framework to carry strategic planning work forward and sustain collaboration
  - Confirm preliminary QLC Steering Committee
2. Conduct February virtual focus area group follow-ups
  - Share draft framework and strategic plan for partner input
3. Align with leadership on deliverables and in-person convening design (*County, City, CMS*)
4. Host convening on March 27 to finalize framework, plan, and next steps with QLC partners

## Preliminary Steering Committee Members

Name	Organization
Michael Griswold	Mecklenburg County
Dr. Monica Allen	City of Charlotte
Beth Thompson	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS)
Dr. Lori Thomas	UNC Charlotte Urban Institute
Lauren Woodruff	Bank of America

# QLC Timeline





Better Together



# Examples of Q.O.L. Collaborative Initiatives

**Identify opportunities to swap land and facilities to address gaps in service delivery**

**Improve coordination of youth workforce development programs**

**Enhance collaboration for summer youth programs**

**Explore options to increase teacher pay to a livable wage**



# How are teacher salaries determined

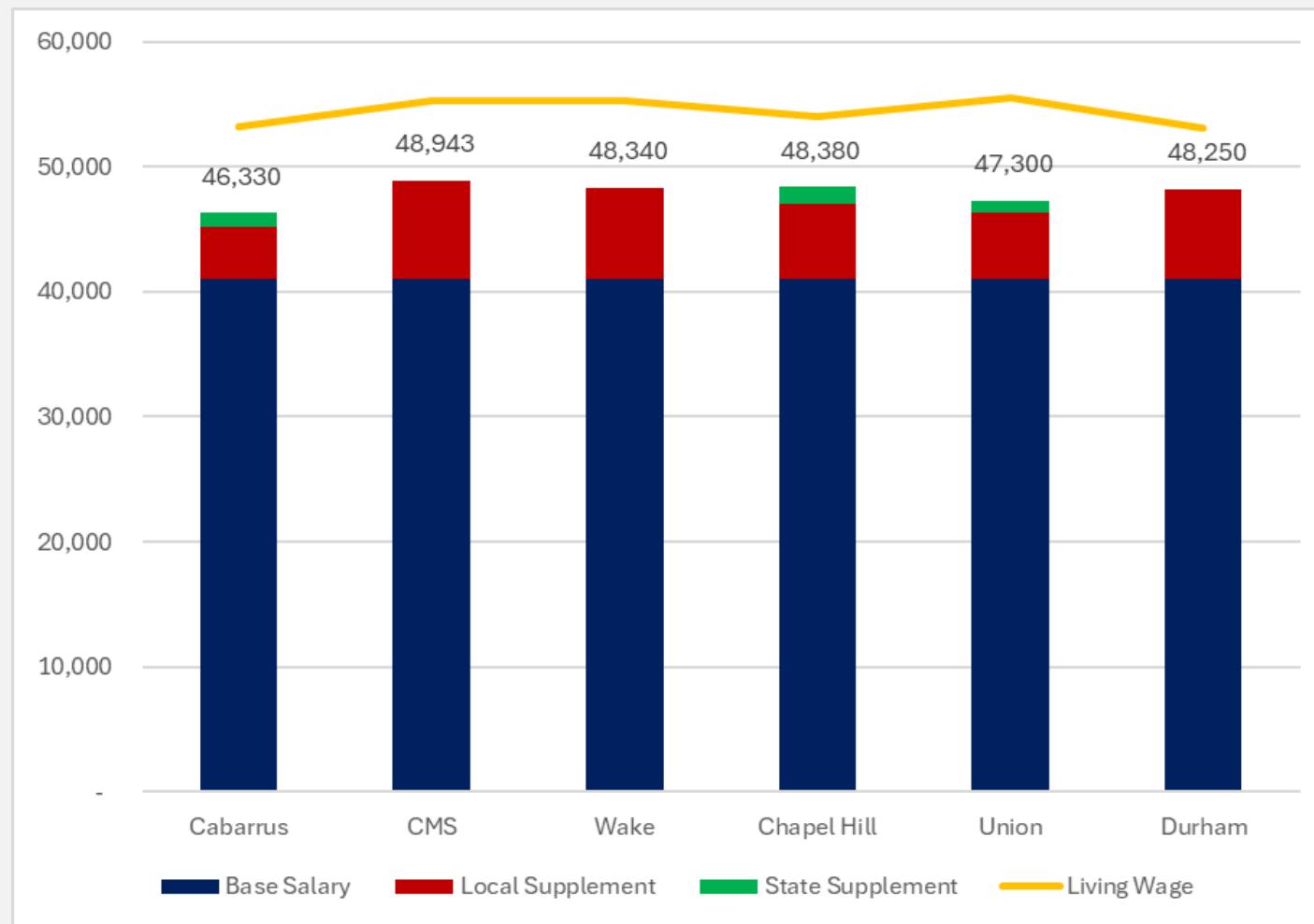
All teachers in North Carolina earn a **state determined and funded** base salary based on the North Carolina Teacher Salary Scale.

All teachers in North Carolina earn a **state determined and funded** teacher supplement in addition to their base salary except teachers who work in Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Wake County, Guilford County, New Hanover, Buncombe, Asheville City, Forsyth and Durham County.

Overwhelming majority of teachers in North Carolina earn a **locally determined supplement** funded by the local board of county commissioners.

Some teachers in North Carolina earn **an additional local supplement** as determined by districts that may have taxing authority or local government.

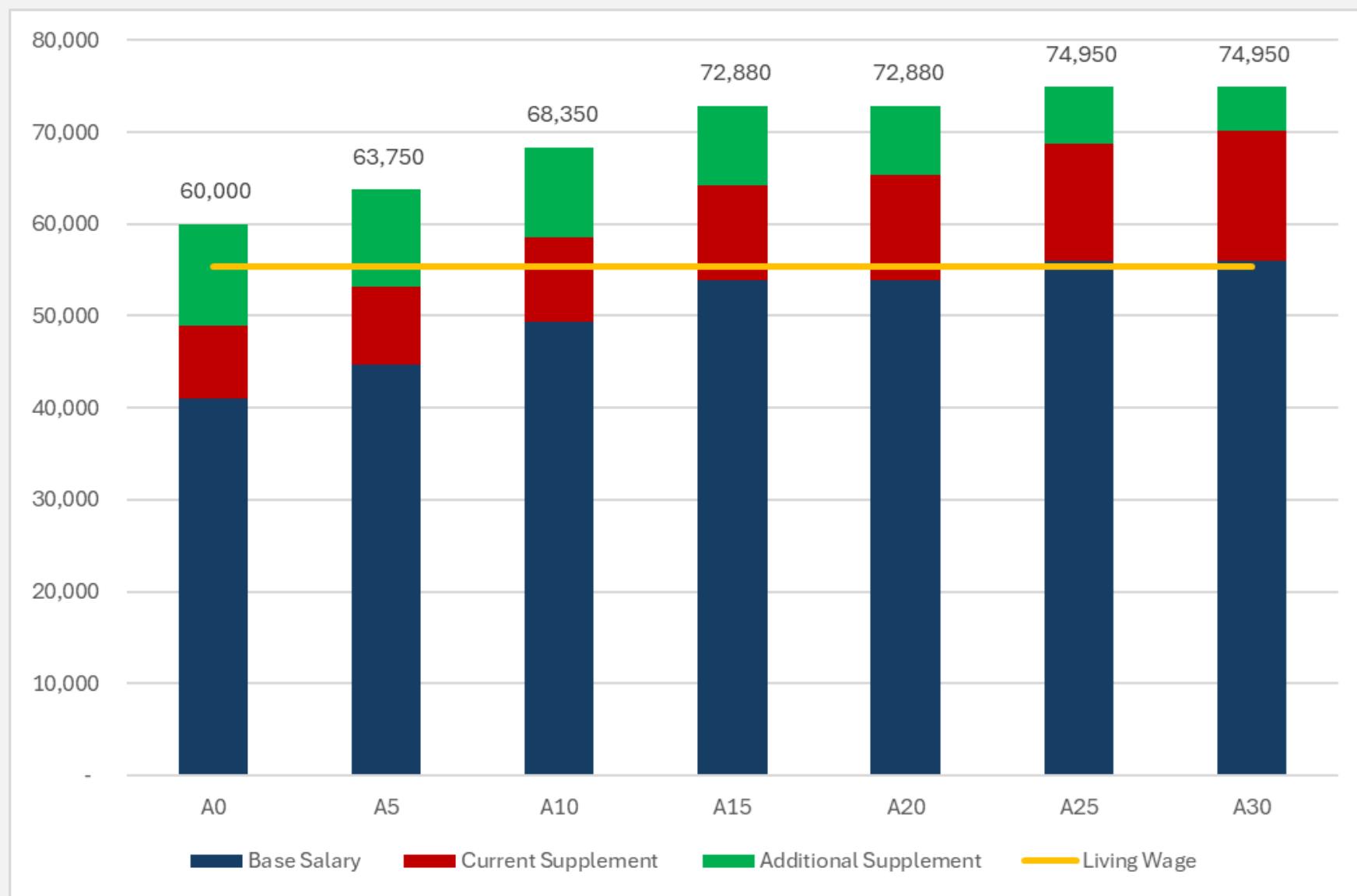
# FY2026 Beginning Teacher Wages vs Living Wage



Living Wage by County	
Cabarrus	53,269
CMS	55,307
Wake	55,286
Chapel Hill	53,976
Union	55,474
Durham	53,144

\*Living wage total is based on 1 person working, no children working 2080 hours a year. Rates can be found at [MIT Living Wage Calculator](https://livingwage.mit.edu/)

# Multi-Year Goal: Align Teacher Pay Above Living Wage



Living Wage for  
Mecklenburg  
County is  
\$ 55,307

\*Living wage total is based on 1 person working, no children working 2080 hours a year. Rates can be found at [MIT Living Wage Calculator](https://livingwage.mit.edu)

A large, stylized graphic of the letters 'Q' and 'A' in white and dark blue on a teal background. The 'Q' is a white circle with a blue semi-circle on the left side. The 'A' is a white triangle with a blue triangle on the right side. A dark blue ampersand (&) is positioned between the two letters, partially overlapping them.

Q & A



# Quality of Life Collaborative (QLC)

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**BOCC – BOE Joint Meeting**

January 8, 2026

# Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

## Academic Outcomes FY24-25

Beth Thompson, Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer

*Endless possibilities*



## Accessing Data

2024-25 End of Year Data  
State Website



2024-25 End of Year Data  
CMS Website



2025-26 Goal Monitoring  
CMS Website



# 2025-26 Monitoring Reports on District Goals

## Goal 1: K-2 Literacy

August 2025	September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026
Goal 4 4.1 + 4.2 (Interim) (2024-25 Projection)	Goal 2 (All) 3-5 Annual Target (EOY) (2024-25 Actual)	Goal 3 (All MS) Annual Target (EOY) (2024-25 Actual)	Goal 4 (All) Annual Target (EOY) (2024-25 Actual)	Goal 1 1.1 (Interim) (2025-26 Benchmark 1)	Goal 1 1.2 & 1.3 (Interim) (2025-26 Benchmark 1)
Goal 1 (All) Annual Target (EOY) (2024-25 Actual)	Goal 2 (All) 6-8 Annual Target (EOY) (2024-25 Actual)	Goal 3 (All HS) Annual Target (EOY) (2024-25 Actual)			Goal 2 2.1 (Interim) (2025-26 Benchmark 1)

## Goal 2: 3-8 Literacy

## Goal 3: Math I

## Goal 4: Post-Secondary Readiness

February 2026	March 2026	April 2026	May 2026	June 2026	July 2026
Goal 2 2.2 (Interim) (2025-26 Benchmark 1)	Goal 3 3.2 (Interim) (2025-26 Benchmark 1)	Goal 1 1.1 (Interim) (2025-26 Benchmark 2)	Goal 2 2.1 (Interim) (2025-26 Benchmark 2)	Goal 3 3.1 (Interim) (2025-26 Benchmark 2)	
Goal 3 3.1 (Interim) (2025-26 Benchmark 1)	Goal 4 4.1 + 4.2 (Interim) (2025-26 Semester 1)	Goal 1 1.2 & 1.3 (Interim) (2025-26 Benchmark 2)	Goal 2 2.2 (Interim) (2025-26 Benchmark 2)	Goal 3 3.2 (Interim) (2025-26 Benchmark 2)	

# North Carolina State Accountability Model

School Performance Grades Elementary/Middle Schools	School Performance Grades High Schools	Participation
EOG Scores: Reading, Math*	EOC Scores: English II, HS Math, Biology*	
EOC Scores: Math 1*	Graduation Rate	
EOG Scores: Science (Grades 5 & 8)*	ACT/ACT WorkKeys	
English Learner Progress	Math Course Rigor	
Growth (Reading, Math & Science)	English Learner Progress	
	Growth (English & Math)	

\* Grade Level Proficiency (Level 3, 4 or 5)

# 2024-25 Headline Results: Grade Level Proficiency

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools  
**outperformed North Carolina  
in overall grade level proficiency**  
with significant increases in  
Reading Grades 3-8 (+5.2%)  
Math Grades 3-8 (+4.6%)  
Math III (+8.2%)

## 2024-25 Headline Results: Growth

**156 (89.1%)**

Charlotte-Mecklenburg  
schools **met or exceeded growth,**  
**highest number and percent in**  
Charlotte-Mecklenburg  
Schools history

## 2024-25 Headline Results: Growth

**115 (65.7%)**

Charlotte-Mecklenburg  
schools **exceeding growth,**  
**highest number and percent in**  
Charlotte-Mecklenburg  
Schools history

## 2024-25 Headline Results: Growth Compared to NC Districts

**#10 of 115**

public school districts in North Carolina  
for % of schools meeting or exceeding growth,  
**highest ranking** in Charlotte-Mecklenburg  
Schools history

# 2024-25 State Accountability Model: Exceeded Growth

Albemarle Road Elementary*	East Mecklenburg High School*
Albemarle Road Middle**	Eastover Elementary*
Allenbrook Elementary*	Eastway Middle**
Ardrey Kell High School****	Elizabeth Lane Elementary*
Ashley Park PreK-8 School*	Elizabeth Traditional Elementary**
Bailey Middle****	Elon Park Elementary*
Bain Elementary*	Endhaven Elementary*
Ballantyne Elementary*	Governors' Village STEM (Lower)*
Barnette Elementary*	Governors' Village STEM (Upper)**
Berwick Elementary*	Grand Oak Elementary*
Berryhill Elementary*	Hawk Ridge Elementary****
Beverly Woods Elementary*	Hickory Grove Elementary**
Briarwood Elementary*	Highland Creek Elementary*
Carmel Middle *	Highland Mill Montessori*
Central Piedmont Early College**	Highland Renaissance Academy****
Chantilly Montessori**	Huntersville Elementary*
Charlotte East Language Academy*	Idlewild Elementary**
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Virtual**	Independence High School***
Collinswood Language Academy*	Jay M. Robinson Middle****
Community House Middle****	Joseph W. Grier Academy*
Cornelius Elementary*	Kennedy Middle**
Cotswoold IB Elementary*	Knights View Elementary*
Coulwood STEM Academy****	Lake Wylie Elementary*
Croft Community School**	Lebanon Road Elementary**
Crown Point Elementary*	Long Creek Elementary*
Davidson K-5 School**	Mallard Creek Elementary**
Devonshire Elementary*	Mallard Creek High*
Dilworth Elementary: Latta Campus*	Marie G. Davis*
Druid Hills Academy**	

Martin Luther King Jr. Middle*	Montclaire Elementary*
Matthews Elementary***	Mountain Island Lake Academy*
McClintock Middle**	Myers Park High****
McKee Road Elementary*	Myers Park Traditional Elementary*
Mint Hill Elementary*	North Mecklenburg High School***
Mint Hill Middle*	Northridge Middle School*
Montclaire Elementary*	Northwest School of the Arts*
Mountain Island Lake Academy*	Oaklawn Language Academy*
Mint Hill Middle*	Olde Providence Elementary*
Montclaire Elementary*	Olympic High School**
Mountain Island Lake Academy*	Palisades High School***
Myers Park High****	Palisades Park Elementary****
Myers Park Traditional Elementary*	Parkside Elementary*
North Mecklenburg High School***	Paw Creek Elementary*****
Northridge Middle School*	Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology*
Northwest School of the Arts*	Piedmont IB Middle*
Oaklawn Language Academy*	Pineville Elementary***
Olde Providence Elementary*	Pinewood Elementary**
Olympic High School**	Polo Ridge Elementary*
Palisades High School***	Providence High School****
Palisades Park Elementary****	Providence Spring Elementary*
Parkside Elementary*	Rama Road Elementary*
Paw Creek Elementary*****	

Rea Farms STEAM Academy****	Reedy Creek Elementary*
Reidy Creek Elementary*	Reid Park Academy*
Renaissance West STEAM Academy****	River Gate Elementary*
River Gate Elementary*	Sedgefield Middle*
Sedgefield Middle*	Selwyn Elementary*
Selwyn Elementary*	Shamrock Gardens Elementary*
Smithfield Elementary*	South Academy of International Languages*
South Academy of International Languages*	South Charlotte Middle**
South Charlotte Middle**	Starmount Academy of Excellence*
Starmount Academy of Excellence*	Statesville Road Elementary*
Statesville Road Elementary*	Steele Creek Elementary***
Steele Creek Elementary***	Sterling Elementary***
Sterling Elementary***	Thomasboro Academy*
Thomasboro Academy*	Tuckaseegee Elementary**
Tuckaseegee Elementary**	University Park Creative Arts Elementary*
University Park Creative Arts Elementary*	Walter G. Byers School*
Walter G. Byers School*	West Charlotte High***
West Charlotte High***	Westerly Hills Academy****
Westerly Hills Academy****	Whitewater Academy****
Whitewater Academy****	Whitewater Middle*
Whitewater Middle*	William Amos Hough High*
William Amos Hough High*	Wilson STEM Academy*
Wilson STEM Academy*	Winding Springs Elementary*
Winding Springs Elementary*	Windsor Park Elementary*
Windsor Park Elementary*	Winget Park Elementary**
Winget Park Elementary**	Winterfield Elementary****

\* Exceeded growth in 2024-25  
 \*\* Exceeded growth in 2023-24 and 2024-25 (the last two years)  
 \*\*\* Exceeded growth in 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 (the last three years)  
 \*\*\*\* Exceeded growth in 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24, and 2024-25 (the last four years)

## 2024-25 Headline Results: School Performance Grades

**123 (70%)**

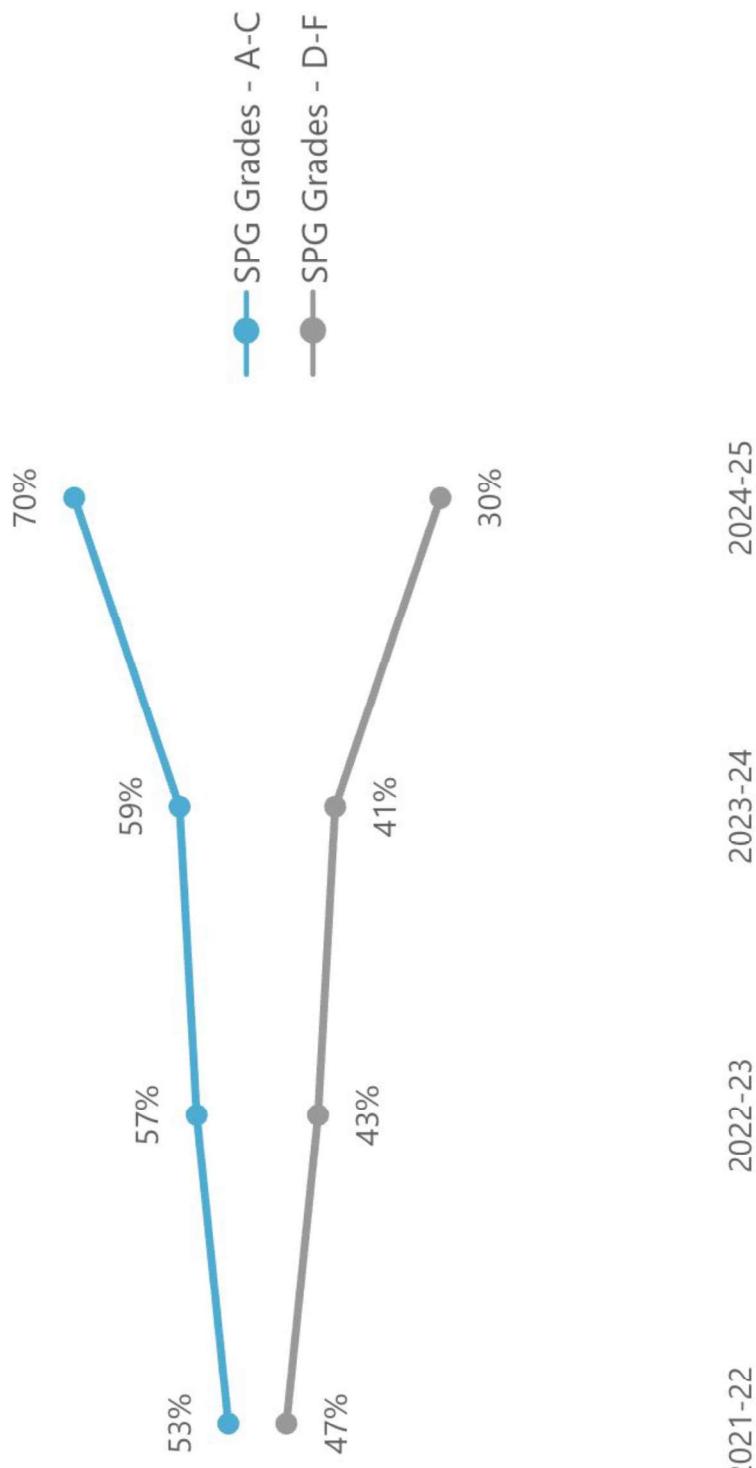
Charlotte-Mecklenburg schools earned a school performance grade of A, B or C, an **increase of 21** from 2023-24 and the **largest single year increase** in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools history

# 2024-25 Headline Results: School Performance Grades

55

Charlotte-Mecklenburg schools  
improved school letter grades; the  
largest single year increase in  
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools  
history

# 2024-25 State School Accountability: School Performance Grades



# 2024-25 Headline Results: School Designations

31

schools no longer have a state low performing designation,  
**largest single year decrease in number of schools with the low performing designation in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools history**

# 2024-25 District Growth (EVAS) Overview

	2018-2019	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-24	2024-25
Reading	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds 26.60
Math	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds 17.32
Science - 5th	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds 11.21
Science - 8th	Does Not Meet	Does Not Meet	Meets	Meets	Exceeds 4.63
English II	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds 7.44
Math I	Exceeds	Meets	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds 6.07
Math III	Does Not Meet	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds 2.07
Biology	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds 7.25

# 2024-25 District Growth (EVAS) Overview

		2023-2024										2024 - 2025												
		Reading					Math					Science					Reading					Math		
		EOG	EOC	Overall	EOG	EOC	Overall	EOG	EOC	Overall	EOG	EOC	Overall	EOG	EOC	Overall	EOG	EOC	Overall	EOG	EOC	Overall	EOG	
Asian	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Asian	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds		
Black	Meets	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Black	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds		
Hispanic	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Hispanic	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds		
Multiracial	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets	Multiracial	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds									
White	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Does Not Meet	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	White	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds		
Alg	Does Not Meet	Meets	Does Not Meet	Does Not Meet	Exceeds	Does Not Meet	Exceeds	Does Not Meet	Exceeds	Alg	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds		
EDS	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	EDS	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds		
ML	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	ML	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds		
SWD	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds	SWD	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds											

Alg: Academically and Intellectually Gifted  
 EDS: Economically Disadvantaged  
 ML: Multilingual Learners  
 SWD: Students with Disabilities

# 2024-25 Early Literacy At or Above Benchmark



## 2024-25 Advanced Placement (AP) Exams

**11,000** students  
**2.7%** increase  
**22,000** exams  
**5-year high**

**75%**  
scored 3 or higher  
on exams  
**9%**  
increase  
**16,000**  
scored 3, 4 or 5  
on exams

**\$49,000**  
value add in  
college credits  
**\$14.2M**  
in tuition  
savings

BOCC / BOE

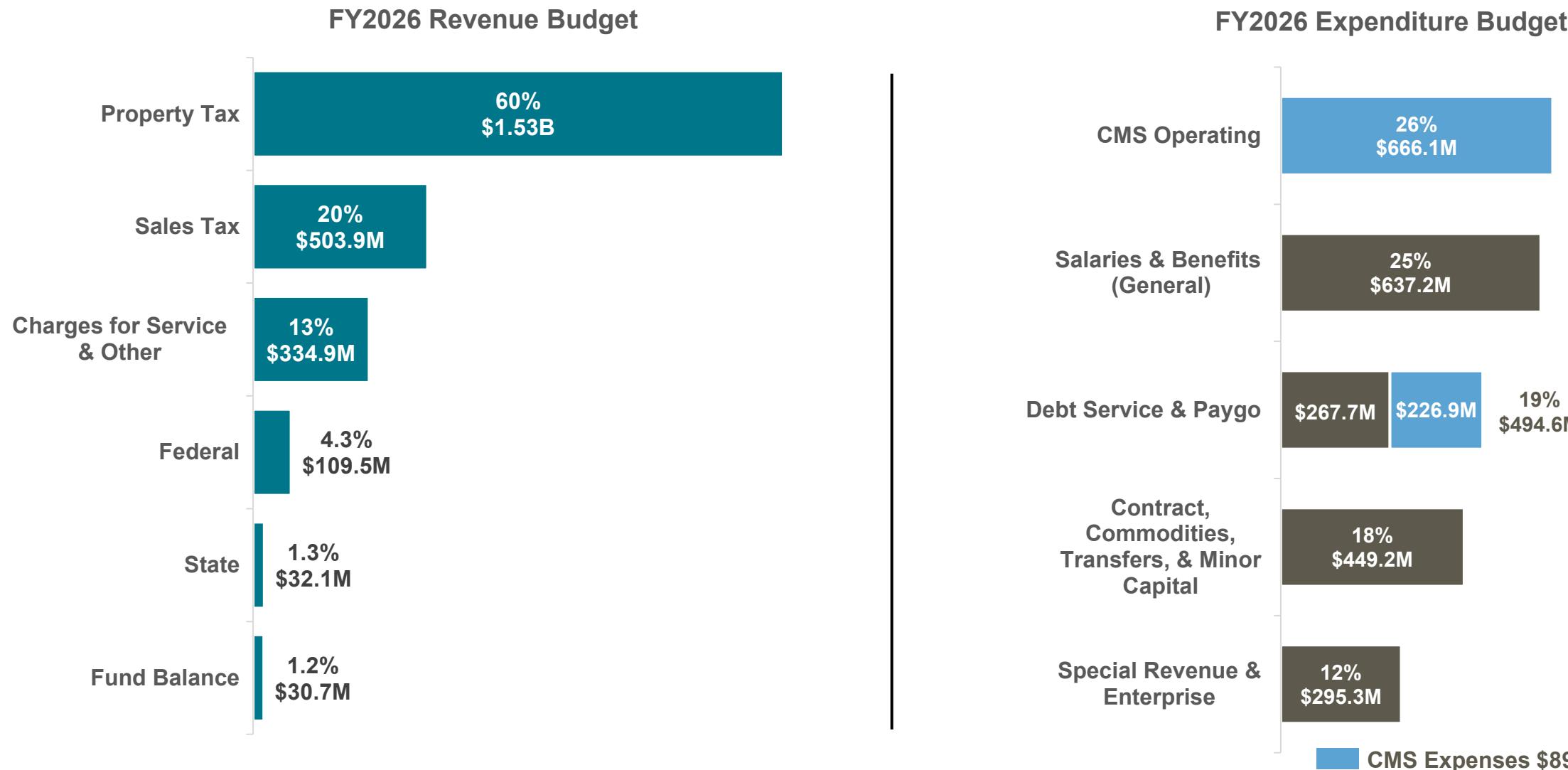
FY2027

Landscape

1/8/2026

# Total County Budget

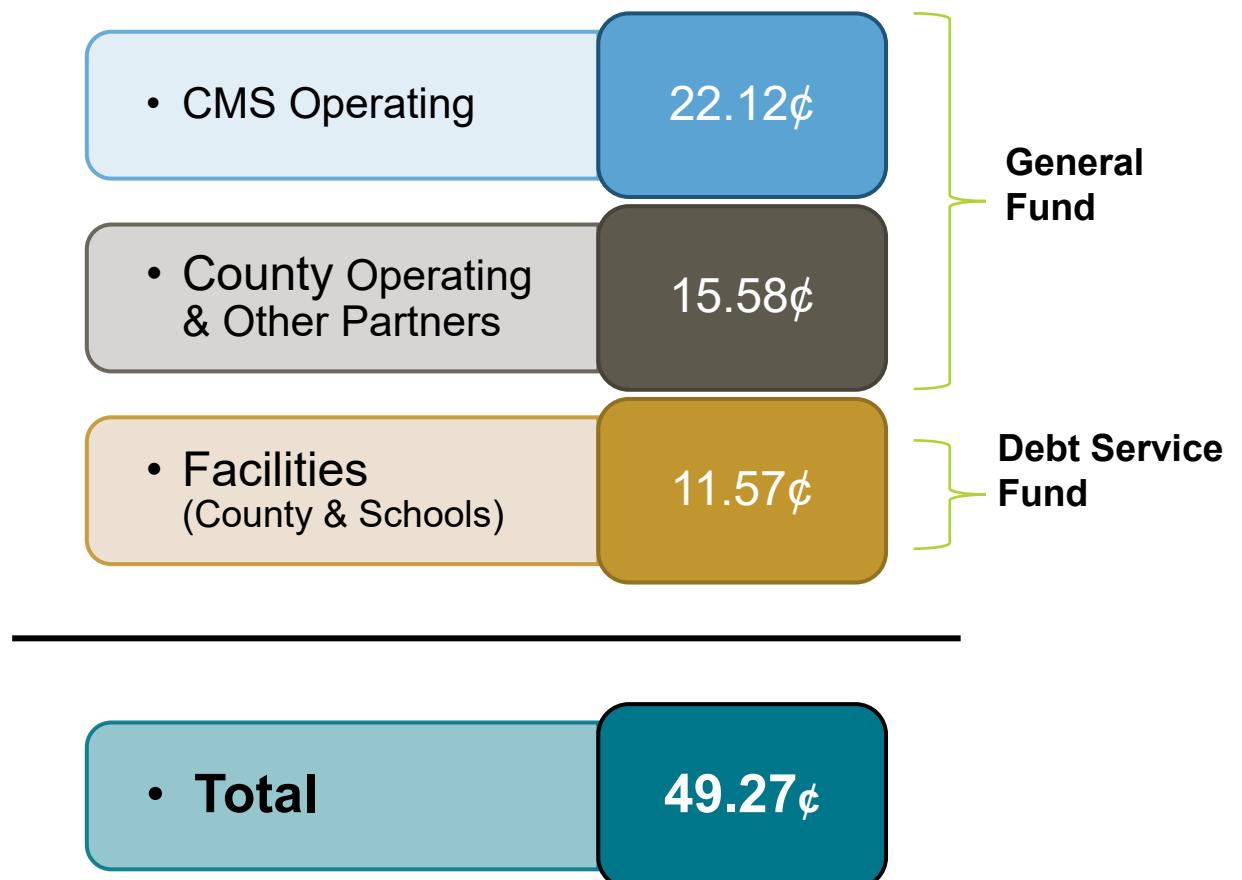
FY2026 Operating Budget \$2.5B



# Property Tax

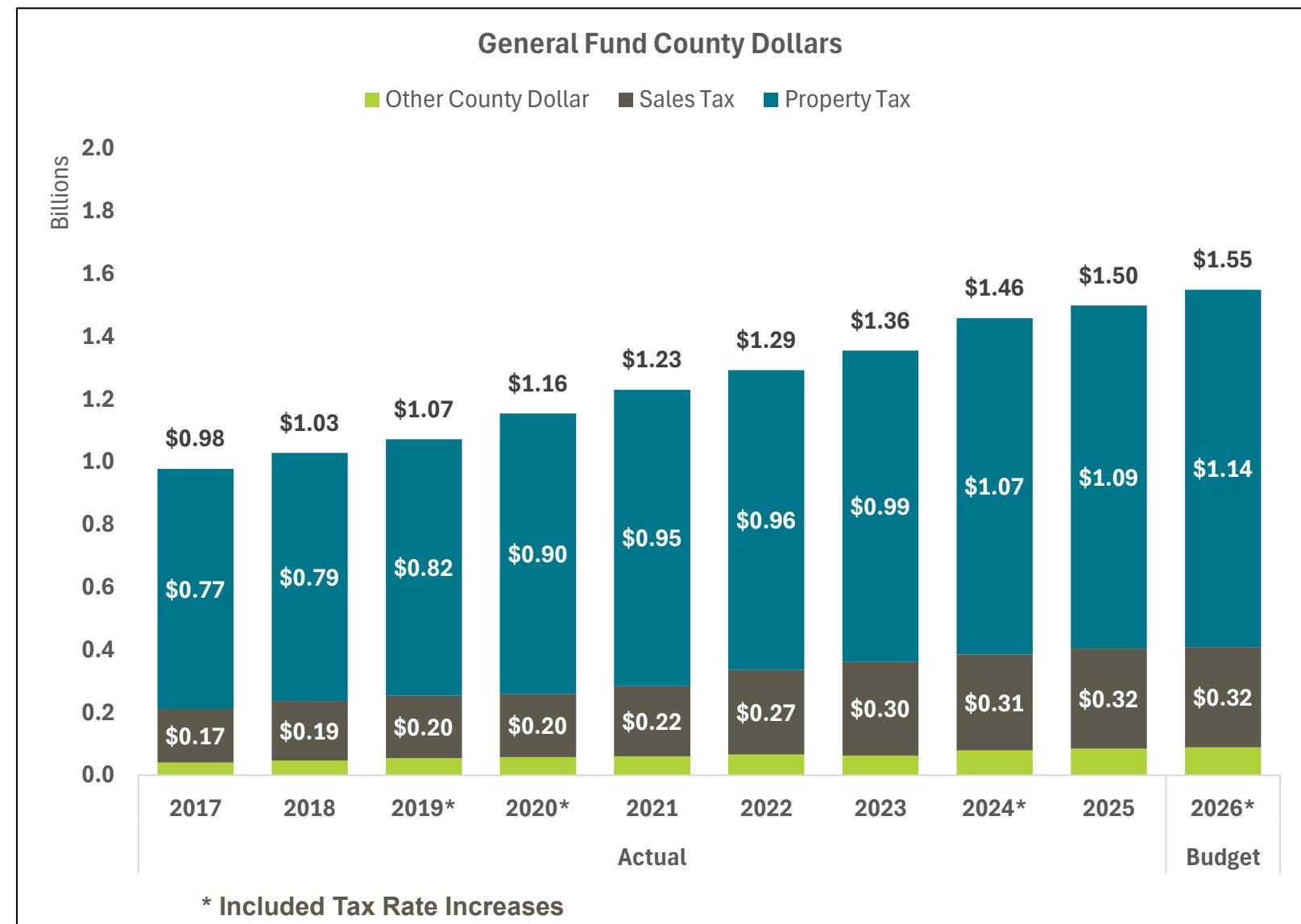
- The County Tax Rate is **49.27¢**  
(37.70¢ General & 11.57¢ Debt Service)
- **60%** of Total Revenue
- Average growth excluding property tax increases has been **\$33M** or **2.9%**

## How Property Taxes Are Used



# General Fund County Dollars

- County Dollars
  - Property taxes, sales tax, and other discretionary funds
- FY26 estimated County Dollar growth excluding impacts of fund balance or tax rate increases is **\$55.7M (3.8%)**
- Actual Annual growth since 2017 averages **3.4%**
  - Excluding:
    - Tax increases
    - Interest on investments
    - COVID surge in sales tax
    - Other one-time outliers



# Conceptual Budget Outlook

## Revenue

Expenses	<b>County Dollar Revenue Estimate</b> Based on average growth (3% - 4%)	<b>\$46.5M - \$62.0M</b>
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<b>Funding to CMS</b> Same percent as FY2026 (4.4%)	<b>\$29.3M</b>
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<b>Increase County Salaries</b> Same percent as FY2026 (5.5%)	<b>\$28.3M</b>
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<b>Baseline County Salaries &amp; Benefits</b> Preliminary estimates	<b>\$15.6M</b>
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<b>Reduction in Reimbursement for SNAP Administration</b> Decrease from 50% to 25% of costs beginning 10/01/2026	<b>\$7.8M</b>
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## Gap

<b>Funding to CPCC</b> Same percent as FY2026 (3.6%)	<b>\$1.8M</b>
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<b>Budget Gap</b>	<b>(\$36.3M - \$20.8M)</b>
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These are not official budget estimates for FY2027  
Estimates will be shared at the annual retreat

# Other Potential Costs On The Horizon

- New Main Library (6 months)
- Other CIP Operating Costs
- Facility Based Crisis Center (year-one)
- Other Contractual Increases & Utilities
- Temporary Relocation of Staff for Wilson Center Upgrades
- Growing Jail Population
- Other Impacts of Iryna's Law
- Other Impacts of Federal Budget
- MEDIC Emergency Response Study Recommendations

# County Expenses Due to A Void in State Funding

FY2026	
CMS - Operating Support	\$ 429,674,870
CPCC Supplemental Wages & Benefits	10,340,239
Court Support	8,484,502
District Attorney:	\$4,301,012
Public Defender:	\$2,159,036
Trial Court Administrator:	\$1,421,334
Clerk of Court:	\$603,120
Behavioral Health Support	18,376,066
Scrap Tire Disposal	675,244
NC Pre-K Supplement	1,600,000
Foster Care (Raise the Age Impact)	737,000
State/County Special Assistance Program	3,646,544
In-Home Aide Services	3,121,201
Adult Day Care Services	3,457,690
Gun Permit & Sex Offender Registration	1,910,861
Juvenile Detention	2,215,983
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$484,240,200</b>

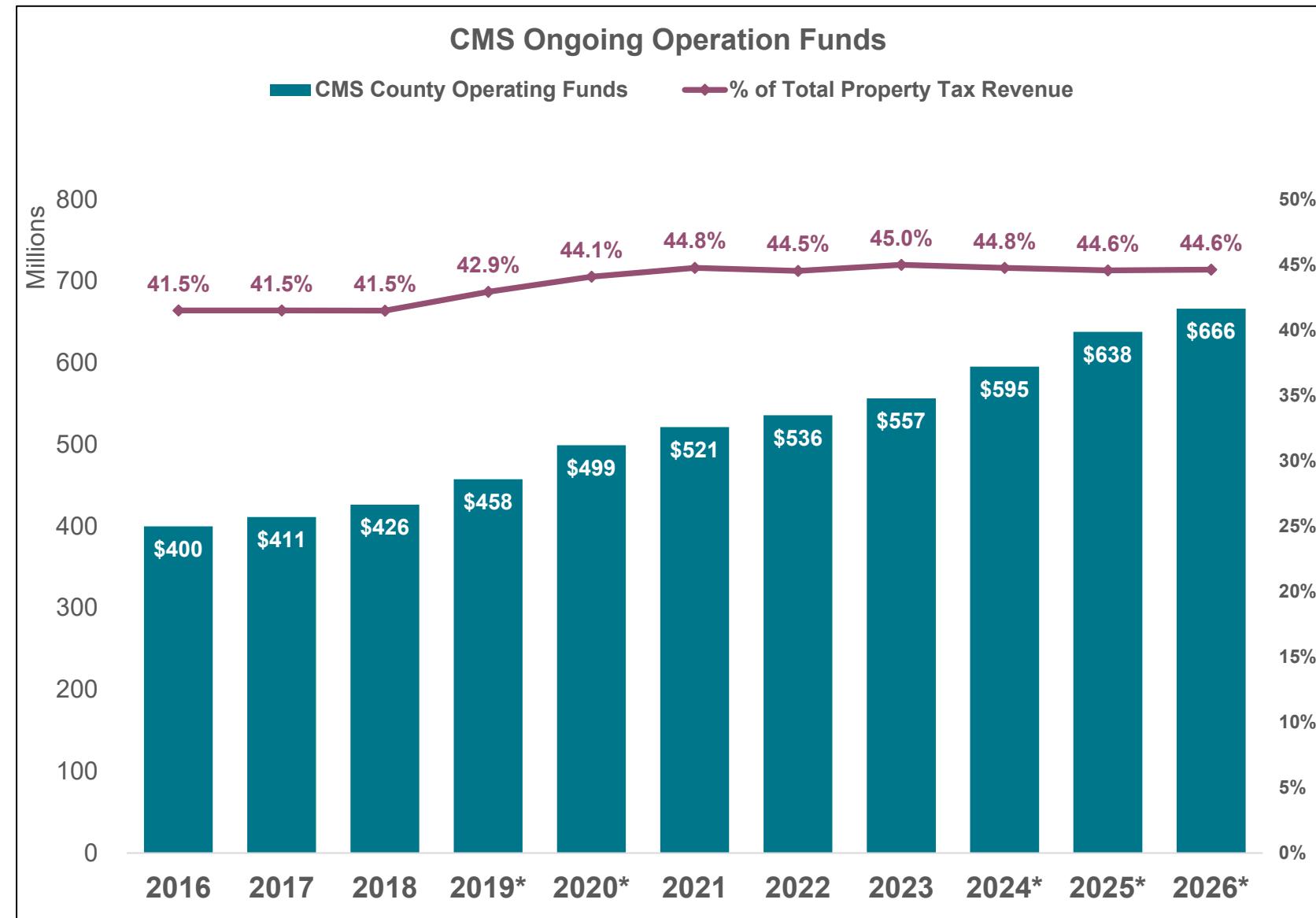
**\$484M** of funding in FY2026 that is needed due to mandates or a lack of sufficient funding from the State

**16.08¢** of the Property Tax Rate

**\$2.99B** over 7 years since FY2020

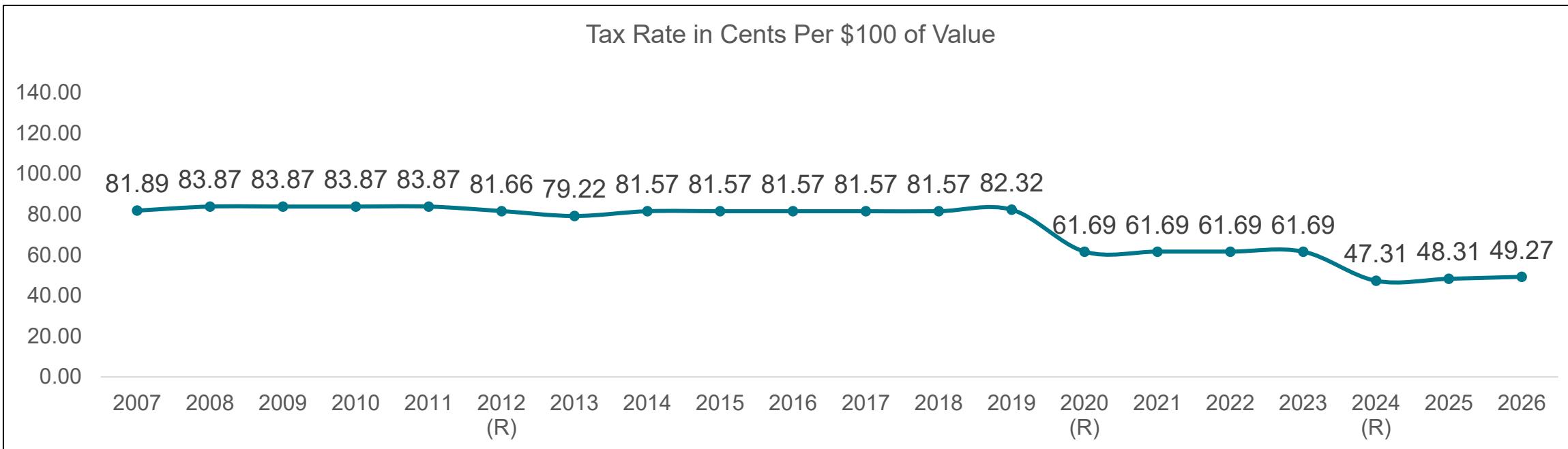
# CMS Ongoing County Operating Funds

- Ongoing County operating funding to CMS has increased an average of **5.3%** annually over the last 10 years
- County funding has equaled **45%** of total property tax since FY2021

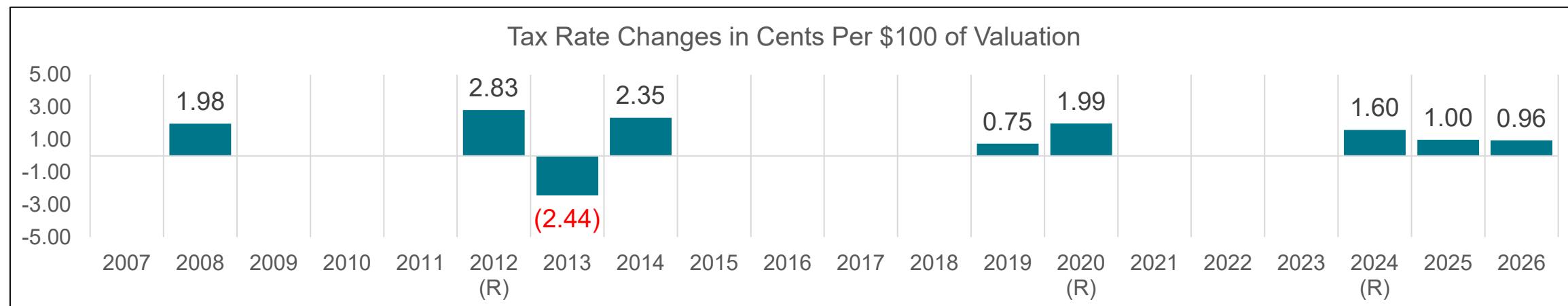


# Change in Tax Rate

Tax Rate in Cents Per \$100 of Value



Tax Rate Changes in Cents Per \$100 of Valuation



(R) – Budget impacted by revaluation, change in tax rate is reflected as the change from the revenue neutral Actual Rate Change (FY2012 **-2.21** | FY2020 **-20.63** | FY2024 **-14.38**). Next revaluation in 2027 will impact FY2028.

# Property & Sales Tax Impact

## County Property Tax



\$377,300  
(median)

County Property Tax  
49.27 ¢/ \$100 Value

\$1,859  
Or  
\$37.73 / Tax Rate ¢

Planned Future Tax  
Rate Increases for  
Debt

2027: 0¢  
2028: 2¢ (1¢ CMS)  
2029: 1¢ (All CMS)

## State, County & City Sales Tax

Based on Household Income of \$122K



Estimated  
Taxable Sales

\$21,855

FY2026  
Current Rate  
7.25 ¢/\$

\$1,584

FY2027  
Rate With New  
Transit Sale Tax  
8.25 ¢/\$

\$1,803

FY2027  
Increase

\$218 (12%)

## Household Impact 2027 - 2029

2027 Transit Sales Tax	\$218.00
2028 2¢ Property Tax	\$75.46
2029 1¢ Property Tax	\$37.73
<b>Total Annual Increase</b>	<b>\$331.19</b>

# FY2027 Budget - Key Dates

Date	Activity
<b>Jan. 8</b>	Board of Education & Board of Commissioners joint meeting
<b>Jan. 21</b>	Public hearing #1
<b>Jan. 28-30</b>	Board of Commissioners Annual Retreat
<b>May 6</b>	CMS presents its budget request to the Board of Commissioners
<b>May 12</b>	Central piedmont present its budget request to the Board of Commissioners
<b>May 14</b>	Presentation of Manager's FY2027 Recommended Budget
<b>May 20</b>	Detailed overview of the Manager's FY2027 Recommended Budget
<b>May 21</b>	Public hearing #2
<b>May 28</b>	Board of Commissioners take straw votes to adjust the Recommended Budget
<b>June 2</b>	Board of Commissioners scheduled to adopt the FY2027 Budget



# Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

## Budget Landscape

Kelly Kluttz, Chief Finance Officer

*Endless possibilities*



# Enrollment: Past, Present, & Future

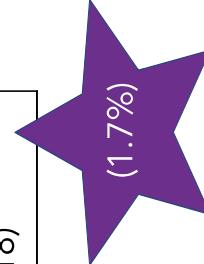
Two independent studies tell the same story:

- Enrollment was expected to decline beginning in the early 2020s
- Both studies show CMS reaching a low point mid-decade
- Significant enrollment growth resumes towards the end of the decade
- These trends were predicted a year or more ago; this decline is not a surprise
- Similar demographic changes are occurring across North Carolina
- Required birth rate for stable enrollment is 2.1 per female, current rate is 1.63
  - This gap means fewer students over time

K-12 Enrollment Changes	~ Number of Students	Period of time
Decreases 3.1%	~4,500 students	between 2023-24 and 2028-29
Increases 6.8%	~9,400 students	between 2028-29 and 2033-34

# Current Enrollment & Funding

Fiscal Year	Best of First 2 Months Average Daily Membership (ADM)
2019-20	147,206
2020-21	139,839
2021-22	140,706
2022-23	141,434
2023-24	141,105
2024-25	141,894
2025-26	139,476 reduction (2,418)



Note: NC State Average Enrollment Decline for 2025-26 is (1.76)

# Operating Funds

State (55.8%)	Sound Basic Education	State determines spending Primarily enrollment driven <u>GS115C-47(1); GS115C-408</u>
Federal (6.1%)	Supplemental	Federal determines spending rules
Local (34.4%)	Sound Basic Education (Good → Great)	General Statutes define basic funding structure <u>GS115C-426; GS115C-408</u>

# FY2027 Budget Landscape

(high level estimates!)

**Teacher Supplement Increase**  
(\$8.7M)

**Charter School Pass-Through**  
(\$8 - \$10M)

**State Pay and Benefit Adjustments**  
(\$10M)

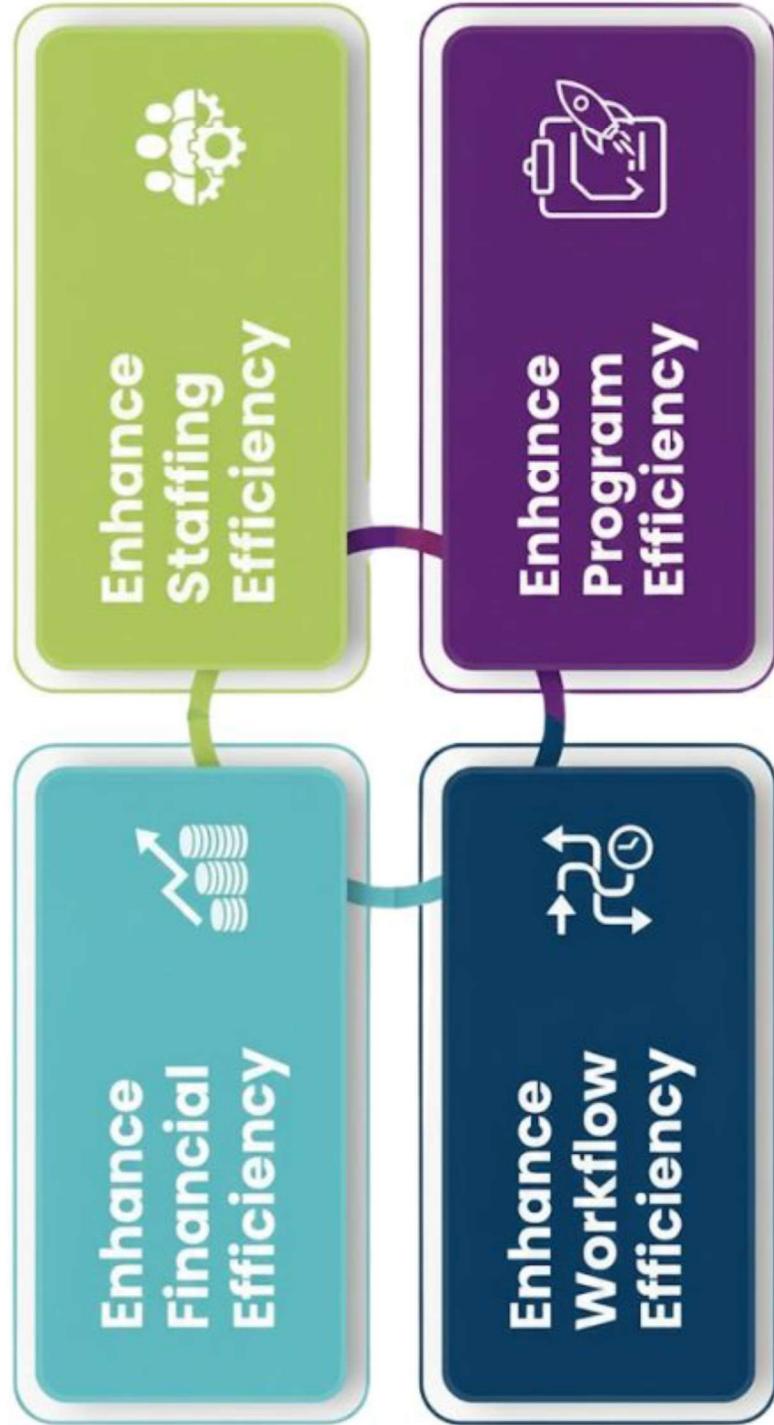
**Student Device Refresh - Year 3**  
(\$6M)

**Compensation Study - Phase III**  
(\$2M)

**Opening of New Schools**  
(\$2.5M)

**Utility Rate Increases**  
(\$2.8M)

# FY2027 Budget: Enhancing Excellence



# Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

## Bond 2023

Tim Ivey, Chief Operations Officer

*Endless possibilities*

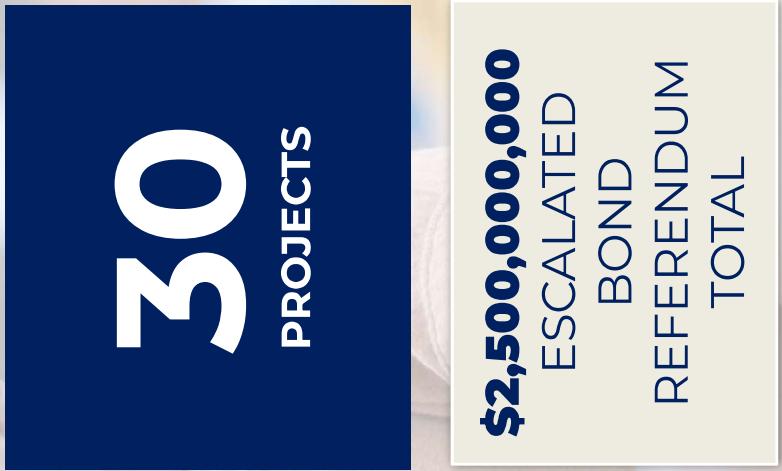




## 2023 Bond Program

Albemarle Road Middle School	Marie G. Davis Montessori Upfit
Allenbrook Elementary School	Matthews Elementary School
Berryhill School	New Elementary School on Park Road
Billingsville Montessori Upfit	New Middle School #1 South
Beverly Woods Elementary School	New Middle School #2 North
Cochrane Collegiate Academy/iMeck (Design Only)	New Middle School #3 Southwest
Cornelius Elementary School	Northwest School of the Arts
Cotswold Elementary School	North Mecklenburg High School
Coulwood STEM Academy	Second Ward Medical Magnet High School
Dilworth Latta Elementary School	Sedgfield Montessori
East Mecklenburg High School	South Charlotte Middle School (Design Only)
Elbert Edwin Waddell High School	South Mecklenburg High School
(Design Only)	Steele Creek Elementary School
First Ward Creative Arts Academy	University Park Creative Arts School
Garinger High School	Villa Heights Elementary School (Design only)
Harding University High School	Wilson STEM Academy
Huntersville Elementary School	West Regional Athletic Complex (Design only)
J.T. Williams Secondary Montessori	

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS





# 2023 Bond Dashboard

[cmsbondconstruction.com](http://cmsbondconstruction.com)



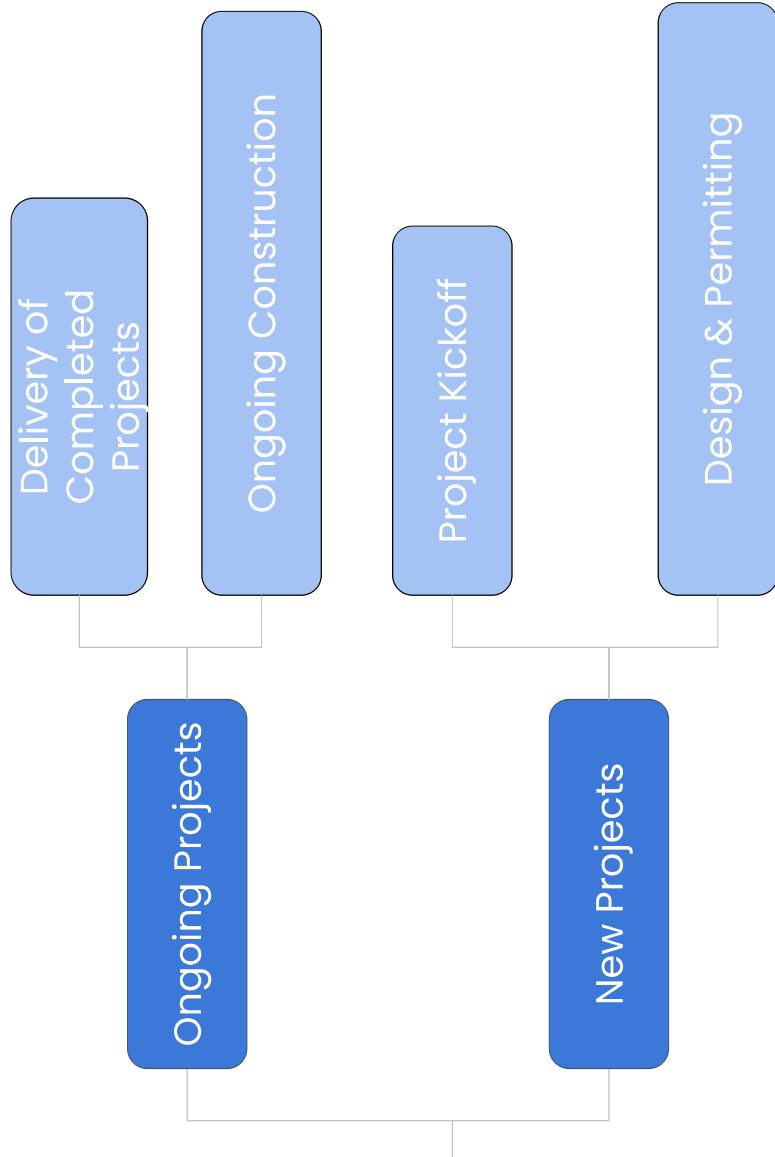
# Project Execution Process



## Project Order Considerations

- Cash Flow
- Capacity
- Condition
- Logistics
- Stewardship

Annual Capital Ordinance Adoption





## 2023 Bond Program

### Projected Completion Timelines for Projects Approved in the 2025 and 2026 Annual Capital Ordinances

#### August 2025

Sedgefield Montessori

#### August 2027

Billingsville Montessori  
Cotswold ES

#### August 2026

First Ward Creative Arts MS

Marie G. Davis Montessori

New MS #1 South

Northwest School of the Arts

New ES on Park Road

Huntersville ES

Second Ward Medical HS  
New MS #2 North

North Mecklenburg HS



## DESIGN



Berryhill School

Beverly Woods Elementary School

Dilworth Latta Elementary School

Huntersville Elementary School

New Middle School #2 North

New Second Ward Medical Magnet High School

## CONSTRUCTION



Billingsville Montessori Upfit

Cotswold Elementary School

First Ward Creative Arts Academy

Marie G. Davis Montessori Upfit

New Elementary School on Park Road

New Middle School #1 South

Northwest School of the Arts

North Mecklenburg High School

Sedgefield Montessori

South Mecklenburg High School

## NOT STARTED



Albemarle Road Middle School

Allenbrook Elementary School

Cochrane Collegiate Academy/iMeck

Cornelius Elementary School

Coulwood STEM Academy

East Mecklenburg High School

Elbert Edwin Waddell High School

Garinger High School

Harding University High School

J.T. Williams Secondary Montessori

Matthews Elementary School

South Charlotte Middle School

New Middle School #3 Southwest

Steele Creek Elementary School

University Park Creative Arts School

Villa Heights Elementary School

Wilson STEM Academy

West Regional Athletic Complex

## PROJECT STATUS

## 2023 Bond Program



## 2023 Bond Program

# Building for Excellence, Together

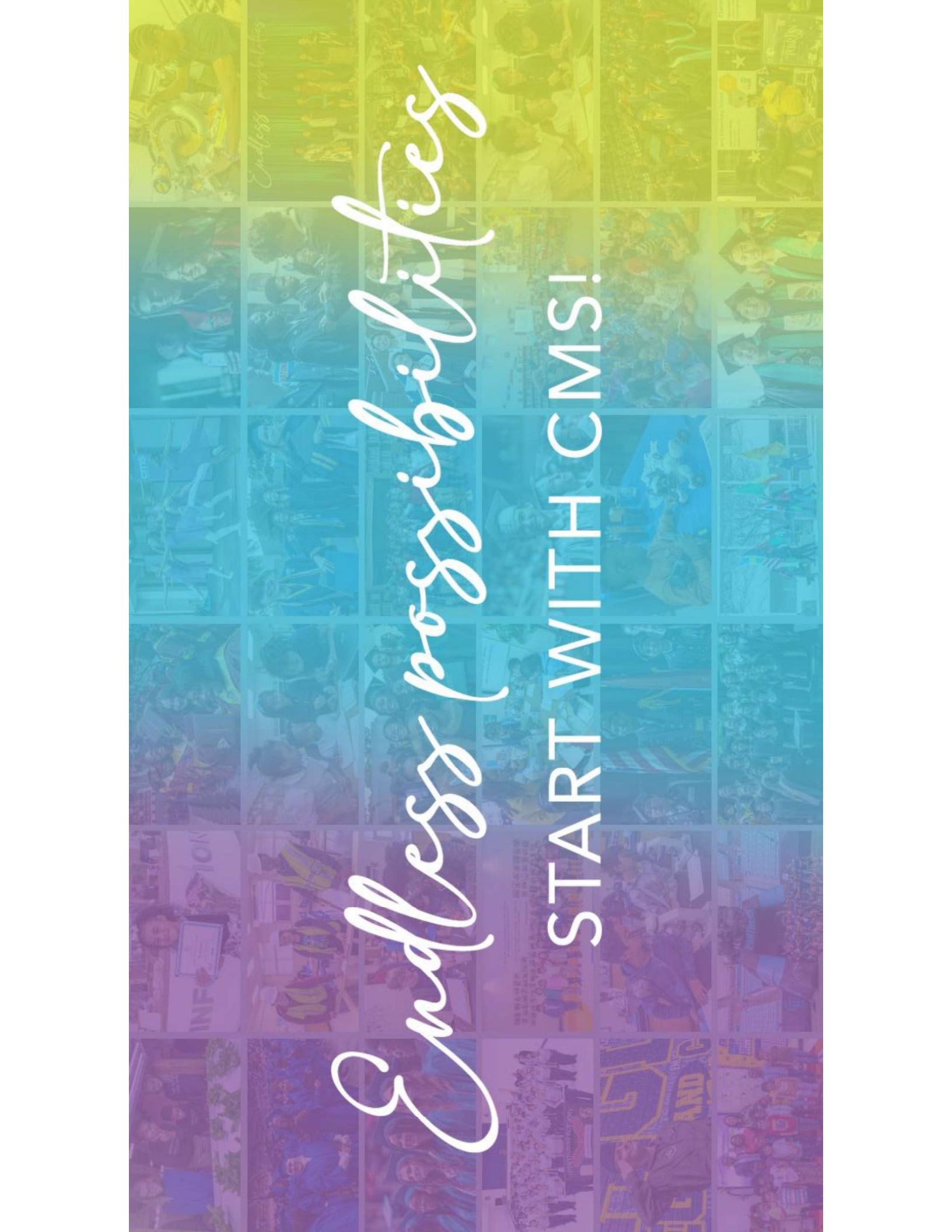


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START WITH CMS!

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