



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 10/17/2023

New Business

Department: Strategic Partnerships

Presenter(s): Rachael Sawyer Nygaard

Contact(s): Rachael Sawyer Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director

Subject: School Consolidation Feasibility Study

Brief Summary: The North Carolina General Assembly has passed legislation that mandates the Asheville City and Buncombe County school systems jointly study the feasibility of a merger (House Bill 142).

The Asheville City Board of Education & Buncombe County Board of Education have voted to designate Buncombe County Government as the lead entity for the study.

As the lead entity, Buncombe County would coordinate the project, with collaboration from the school systems, and contract with a 3rd party firm for the study. Buncombe County is forming a project team to design and issue a competitive solicitation for a firm to conduct the study. Funds for the project have not yet been identified, and additional board action would be required to enter into a contract with the selected firm.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action: Accept the role of lead entity to manage the School Consolidation Feasibility Study project and direct staff to solicit a firm to complete the study