

School Consolidation Feasibility Study

Presented by

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Overview

- North Carolina General Assembly has passed legislation that mandates that the Asheville City and Buncombe County school systems jointly study the feasibility of a merger (House Bill 142)
- Asheville City Board of Education & Buncombe County Board of Education have voted to designate Buncombe County Government as the lead entity for the project
- Requested board 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

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2023

SESSION LAW 2023-128

GGAINST STUDENTS
SECTION L(a) G.S. 14-27-32 reads as rewritten:
\$14-27-32. Sexual activity with a student.
If a defendant, who is a teacher, school administrator, stu (a) If a definidant who is a teacher, school administrator, student teacher, school satery officer, or coach, at any age, or who is other school personned, and who is at least four years older than the victim engages in vagation; and teacher and a territor and extend at early that extends the student and such as well as a student, and extends a student and extends the student of a late of the school, but before the victim creates he all a shoot, but the effect that it is sufficed. Called G some except whem the deriednant is a lateral to the destination is understand in which the school are remodered assigned or volunteers.









Asheville City Schools (ACS)

9 schools

3,990 students

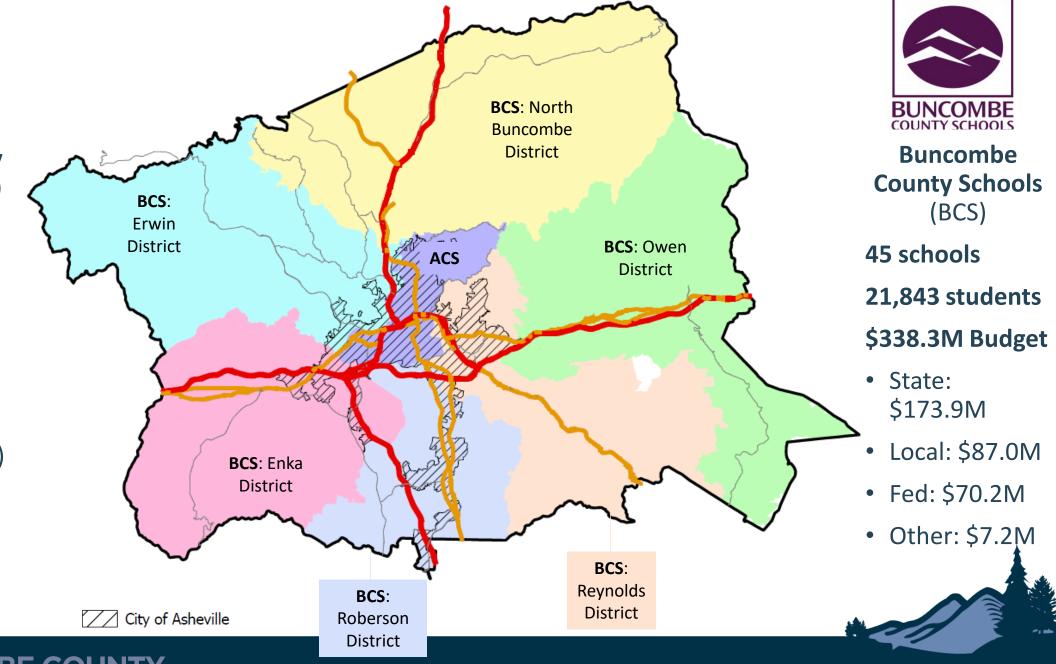
\$79.3M Budget

• State: \$31.9M

Local: \$30.1M (\$14.2M supplemental)

• Fed: \$9.2M

• Other: \$8.1M



Solicitation

- Competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) to identify a firm to conduct the study, including elements such as:
 - Academic analysis (student enrollment & attributes, educational outcomes)
 - Operational analysis (governance, personnel, facilities, transportation, food service, instructional and programmatic offerings)
 - Financial analysis and review of fiscal effects
 - Community impacts
 - -Stakeholder and public engagement
 - Overall findings



Project Team

Buncombe County departments:

- -Communications and Public Engagement (CAPE)
- -Budget
- -Finance
- Intergovernmental Relations
- -Strategy & Innovation
- -Strategic Partnerships

Community partners:

- -Asheville City Schools
- Buncombe County Schools
- -Community representative(s),
 e.g. associations of educators,
 parent organizations, youth serving organizations



Roles

Project Team	 Design solicitation and review criteria Review submissions, recommend vendor
Buncombe County	 Coordinate project Issue solicitation Select firm Identify funding Issue and oversee contract
School Systems	 Jointly contribute to the study, including data & input to inform the study
The Community	 Provide input to inform the study

Timeline

Oct 2023:

Develop scope of work Nov-Dec 2023:

• RFP open

Jan-Feb 2024:

Review submissions

Mar 2024:

Approve vendor & appropriate budget

Apr-Dec 2024:

Feasibility study Feb 2025:

 Report to General Assembly

Community Engagement

"The Buncombe County Board of Education and the Asheville City Board of Education shall **report findings and recommendations** to the standing committees of the General Assembly hearing election matters **no later than February 15, 2025**."

Request for Board 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

