

Adequate School Facilities Bond Resolution

Johnston County Board of Education

A RESOLUTION OF THE JOHNSTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION REQUESTING THE ISSUANCE BY THE JOHNSTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR \$285,000,000 IN GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS NECESSARY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE COST OF PROVIDING ADEQUATE PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE JOHNSTON COUNTY VOTERS IN 2024.

Whereas, the Johnston County Board of Education (“Board of Education”) deems it necessary and essential that \$285,000,000 of such bonds be issued to provide funds for remodeling, enlarging, and reconstructing school buildings, as well as providing necessary utilities, design services, and furnishings for these items.

Whereas, the Board of Education finds it necessary to provide high-quality school facilities to promote and bolster student learning along with retaining and recruiting excellent teachers; and,

Whereas, Johnston County Public Schools is one of the most significant contributors to the quality of life of our citizens, the largest employer in the county, and is a vital part of each of the communities that make up Johnston County, and,

Whereas, the success of Johnston County Public Schools is one of the major driving forces behind Johnston County’s success with economic development and plays a significant factor when people decide to relocate to our County, and,

Whereas, Johnston County continues to be the fastest growing county in the state for the past several years; and the ninth fastest growing county in the nation, with a population increase of 18,779 residents from 2020-2022 and,

Whereas, the most recent Land Use Study conducted by the NCSU Operations Research and Education Lab (OREd) and Numerix LLC tracked 176 developments consisting of 19,081 approved and expected residential parcels, and,

Whereas, the student population in 23 out of 44 schools is at or exceeds capacity, and these capacity woes are accommodated by 167 mobile trailer units consisting of 186 classrooms,

Whereas, Johnston County Public Schools is recommending the following immediate needs to be addressed by this referendum:

- Reconstruct Clayton High School
- Build-outs at Corinth Holders Elementary School, McGees Crossroads Elementary School, Thanksgiving Elementary School, and Wilson's Mills Elementary School
- Renovations to Cleveland Elementary School, Cooper Academy, Corinth Holders Elementary School, East Clayton Elementary School, Four Oaks Elementary School, Innovation Academy, North Johnston High School, Princeton Middle/High, Riverwood Elementary School, Riverwood Middle School, Selma Elementary School, Smithfield Middle School, Smithfield-Selma Senior High School, South Johnston High School, West Clayton Elementary School, West Johnston High School, Wilson's Mills Elementary School; and,

Whereas, North Carolina General Statute 115C-503 authorizes a local board of education to petition the local board of county commissioners for an election to ascertain the will of the voters as to whether bonds for school facilities purposes may be issued; and,

This resolution was duly considered and approved by the Johnston County Board of Education at its meeting on March 12, 2024.

Johnston County Board of Education

Chairman

Johnston County Public Schools

Superintendent