



NEWS RELEASE

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Superintendent Unveils Recommended Budget for 2020-2021

Dr. Connelly's recommended budget focuses on moving forward with The Cumberland Commitment

Fayetteville, N.C. – The superintendent's recommended budget for the 2020-2021 school year was shared with the Cumberland County Board of Education during Tuesday's virtual board meeting.

After carefully examining current expenditures, repurposing more than \$1.5 million and deferring more than \$4.9 million worth of identified needs, Cumberland County Schools (CCS) Superintendent Dr. Marvin Connelly, Jr. recommended that the Board ask for an increase of \$4.2 million in local funding from the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners. Of this request, \$1,360,796 is due to legislative impact (projected increases that are out of the district's control), \$912,000 is targeted to support low-performing schools and \$1,093,875 is earmarked to support a local supplement increase for teachers, assistant principals, principals, and classified staff. The total budget request is \$84.7 million, which is an increase of 5.21 percent over last year's local expense appropriation.

"We remain steadfast in our commitment to implementing *The Cumberland Commitment: Strategic Plan 2024* and providing a safe, positive and rigorous learning environment that will prepare lifelong learners to reach their maximum potential," said Dr. Connelly. "While this budget request does not reflect the totality of our needs, it is a responsible and reasonable request given the potential financial impact of COVID-19 on our county."

Dr. Connelly led a collaborative budget preparation process, gathering feedback from district leaders and members of strategic plan implementation teams, which are made up of diverse internal and external stakeholders. District departments created budget business cases to describe, in detail, the needs throughout the school system.

Board members will review the superintendent's budget request, receive input from the public, make any necessary adjustments and submit a budget request to Cumberland County Commissioners in May.

To learn more about the district's budget process and review the superintendent's recommended budget in detail, visit www.budget.ccs.k12.nc.us.

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