

Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item



Agenda Item: G

Date: March 27, 2014

Title	First Review of Request for Approval of an Innovative Program Opening Prior to Labor Day for Pittsylvania County Public Schools STEM Academy and Academy for Engineering and Technology (AET)		
Presenter	Ms. Anne D. Wescott, Assistant Superintendent for Policy and Communications Mr. James E. McDaniel, Superintendent, Pittsylvania County Public Schools		
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Purpose of Presentation:

Action required by state or federal law or regulation.

Previous Review or Action:

No previous review or action.

Action Requested:

Action will be requested at a future meeting. Specify anticipated date below:

Date: April 24, 2014

Action: Final review

Alignment with Board of Education Goals: Please indicate (X) all that apply:

	Goal 1: Accountability for Student Learning
	Goal 2: Rigorous Standards to Promote College and Career Readiness
	Goal 3: Expanded Opportunities to Learn
	Goal 4: Nurturing Young Learners
	Goal 5: Highly Qualified and Effective Educators
X	Goal 6: Sound Policies for Student Success
	Goal 7: Safe and Secure Schools
	Other Priority or Initiative. Specify:

Goal 6: The review of the request to waive the requirement that the school year would begin prior to Labor Day, pursuant to § 22.1-79.1 of the *Code of Virginia* relates to the goal that the Board will provide leadership in the development and implementation of state and federal laws and regulations in ways that provide sound policies for student success.

Background Information and Statutory Authority:

Section 22.1-79.1 of the *Code of Virginia* prohibits local school boards from adopting school calendars that require schools to open prior to Labor Day unless a waiver is granted by the Board for "good cause." The conditions under which the Board may grant such waivers are outlined in the *Code*. The provision that permits the Board to approve a waiver for an experimental or innovative program may be found in § 22.1-79.1 as follows:

§ 22.1-79.1. Opening of the school year; approvals for certain alternative schedules.

- A. Each local school board shall set the school calendar so that the first day students are required to attend school shall be after Labor Day. The Board of Education may waive this requirement based on a school board certifying that it meets one of the good cause requirements of subsection B.
- B. For purposes of this section, "good cause" means:
 - 1. A school division has been closed an average of eight days per year during any five of the last 10 years because of severe weather conditions, energy shortages, power failures, or other emergency situations;
 - 2. A school division is providing, in the school year for which the waiver is sought, an instructional program or programs in one or more of its elementary or middle or high schools, excluding Virtual Virginia, which are dependent on and provided in one or more elementary or middle or high schools of another school division that qualifies for such waiver. However, any waiver granted by the Board of Education pursuant to this subdivision shall only apply to the opening date for those schools where such dependent programs are provided;
 - 3. A school division is providing its students, in the school year for which the waiver is sought, with an experimental or innovative program which requires an earlier opening date than that established in subsection A of this section and which has been approved by the Department of Education pursuant to the regulations of the Board of Education establishing standards for accrediting public schools. However, any waiver or extension of the school year granted by the Board of Education pursuant to this subdivision or its standards for accrediting public schools for such an experimental or innovative program shall only apply to the opening date for those schools where such experimental or innovative programs are offered generally to the student body of the school. For the purposes of this subdivision, experimental or innovative programs shall include instructional programs that are offered on a year-round basis by the school division in one or more of its elementary or middle or high schools; or
 - 4. A school division is entirely surrounded by a school division that has an opening date prior to Labor Day in the school year for which the waiver is sought. Such school division may open schools on the same opening date as the surrounding school division....

For the 2013-2014 school year, 57 school divisions have a waiver for weather-related reasons, six have dependent programs, ten are entirely surrounded by a school division that has an opening date prior to Labor Day, three school divisions have one or more schools with waivers because they are year-round schools, and two school divisions have waivers for innovative or experimental programs that are not year-round schools. Pittsylvania County Public Schools has had a weather-related waiver for many years.

However, some of the school divisions that have a weather-related waiver, including Pittsylvania County, may be in jeopardy of losing their waivers. The 2012 General Assembly added language in the Appropriation Act to maintain current waivers, and the 2013 General Assembly extended the waiver through the 2013-2014 school year. The Governor's 2014-2016 Budget Bill – which was not approved by the General Assembly prior to adjournment sine die on March 8, 2014, and will be the subject of a Special

Session of the General Assembly that will convene on March 24, 2014, – would extend the waiver for two additional years. Item 136.A.17 of HB 30 and SB 30 provides:

To provide additional flexibility, notwithstanding the provisions of § 22.1-79.1 of the Code of Virginia, any school division that was granted a waiver regarding the opening date of the school year for the 2011-12 school year under the good cause requirements shall continue to be granted a waiver for the 2014-15 school year and the 2015-16 school year.

Summary of Important Issues:

Pittsylvania County Schools is basing its waiver request on two innovative programs – the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Academy and the Academy for Engineering and Technology (AET). Stated goals of the STEM Academy include:

- Implement a rigorous core curriculum;
- Introduce innovative technologies;
- Support opportunities for distance learning;
- Define college and career readiness performance expectations;
- Inspire exploration and study;
- Encourage problem-based instruction and learning;
- Provide an ever-growing, well-trained regional work force; and
- Promote students’ engagement and higher-level thinking by providing a technology-rich learning environment designed to promote 21st century skills.

Elementary Schools (10) and Middle Schools (4)

In its waiver request, Pittsylvania County Public Schools (PCS) does not include a proposed school year calendar but indicates an opening date of August 11, 2014. PCS describes a central Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Academy that the school system will open in the fall of 2014 and indicates that the Academy will begin serving all students in grades five, seven and nine, with the intention that at least one grade level will be added each year until all grades are participating. This central STEM Academy, which PCS describes as an innovative program, will serve all 18 elementary, middle and high schools in Pittsylvania County. A STEM Mobile Learning Lab will offer activities outside the Academy site.

PCS indicates that Danville Community College will provide professors in the science and technology department to teach and work with students at the elementary and middle school level (in addition to what is now provided at the high school level.) The waiver request states that it will be “essential to begin all schools prior to Labor Day to utilize the teachers and students, already on a pre-Labor Day schedule, in the elementary and middle school setting.” PCS further indicates that buses are shared between all middle and high schools and, in some regions of the county, elementary schools, and that the cost and burden to run separate calendars would be “insurmountable” for the division with respect to transportation.

Finally, while PSC’s stated goal is to expand participation in the STEM program by one grade per year, during the 2014-2015 school year applicable to this waiver request, only fifth-, seventh- and ninth-grade students will be eligible to participate.

High Schools (4)

In its waiver request, PCS includes a letter of support from the vice president of academic and student services at Danville Community College (DCC). According to the letter, in the Fall 2013 semester, 821 students were enrolled through DCC in 77 dual enrollment classes at the four Pittsylvania County high schools and the Pittsylvania County Career and Technical Education Center (CTEC). In addition, a new DCC program – Precision Machining – is being taught at the CTEC. In its letter, DCC indicates that a “close following of the college semester schedules, that includes a pre-Labor Day beginning, facilitates grade processing for dual enrollment students.” In August 2013, PCS will begin the Academy for Engineering and Technology (AET) with numerous regional partners, including DCC and Virginia State University, that open prior to Labor Day. In the letter of support, DCC indicates that it is “essential that the PCS schedule follow the academic calendar of the post-secondary partners for the courses to have the necessary content and contact hours.”

A copy of the complete package submitted by Pittsylvania County Public Schools is attached.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education accept this proposal for first review.

Impact on Resources: The impact on resources is not expected to be significant.

Timetable for Further Review/Action: The final review of this request is expected to be presented to the Board on April 24, 2014.

**Guidelines for Considering and Approving Requests
for Pre-Labor Day Openings
Approved by the Board of Education on March 28, 2013**

Statutory Authority

Section [22.1-79.1](#) of the *Code of Virginia* governs the conditions under which the Board of Education may grant a waiver to a local school board to open school prior to Labor Day.

§ [22.1-79.1](#). Opening of the school year; approvals for certain alternative schedules.

A. Each local school board shall set the school calendar so that the first day students are required to attend school shall be after Labor Day. The Board of Education may waive this requirement based on a school board certifying that it meets one of the good cause requirements of subsection B.

B. For purposes of this section, "good cause" means:

1. A school division has been closed an average of eight days per year during any five of the last 10 years because of severe weather conditions, energy shortages, power failures, or other emergency situations;

2. A school division is providing, in the school year for which the waiver is sought, an instructional program or programs in one or more of its elementary or middle or high schools, excluding Virtual Virginia, which are dependent on and provided in one or more elementary or middle or high schools of another school division that qualifies for such waiver. However, any waiver granted by the Board of Education pursuant to this subdivision shall only apply to the opening date for those schools where such dependent programs are provided;

3. A school division is providing its students, in the school year for which the waiver is sought, with an experimental or innovative program which requires an earlier opening date than that established in subsection A of this section and which has been approved by the Department of Education pursuant to the regulations of the Board of Education establishing standards for accrediting public schools. However, any waiver or extension of the school year granted by the Board of Education pursuant to this subdivision or its standards for accrediting public schools for such an experimental or innovative program shall only apply to the opening date for those schools where such experimental or innovative programs are offered generally to the student body of the school. For the purposes of this subdivision, experimental or innovative programs shall include instructional programs that are offered on a year-round basis by the school division in one or more of its elementary or middle or high schools; or

4. A school division is entirely surrounded by a school division that has an opening date prior to Labor Day in the school year for which the waiver is sought. Such school division may open schools on the same opening date as the surrounding school division....

The Board of Education will consider the following guidelines in approving requests of local school boards to open one or more schools prior to Labor Day.

Waiver by Superintendent on Board's Behalf

The Board of Education delegates to the Superintendent of Public Instruction the authority to approve, on its behalf, a local school board's request for a waiver to open all schools in the division prior to Labor Day if the school division meets one of the following good cause requirements of subsection § 22.1-79.1 B.

- The school division has been closed an average of eight days per year during any five of the last 10 years because of severe weather conditions, energy shortages, power failures, or other emergency situations. (§ 22.1-79.1 B. 1)
- The school division is entirely surrounded by a school division that has an opening date prior to Labor Day in the school year for which the waiver is sought. Such school division may open schools on the same opening date as the surrounding school division. (§ 22.1-79.1 B. 4)

Waiver by Board of Education Action

The Board of Education will consider a local school board's request for a waiver to open one or more schools in its division prior to Labor Day if one of the following good cause requirements of subsection § 22.1-79.1.B. are met. The Board will not provide advisory opinions or hypothetical waivers. The local school board must certify that if granted a waiver, the division intends to provide the program in the school year for which the waiver is being sought.

- The school division is providing an instructional program or programs in the schools for which the waiver is requested, excluding *Virtual Virginia*, which are dependent on and provided in one or more schools of another school division that qualifies for a waiver to open prior to Labor Day. Any waiver granted by the Board of Education pursuant to this provision shall *only* apply to the opening date for those schools where such dependent programs are provided. (§ 22.1-79.1 B. 2)
- The school division is providing its students with an experimental or innovative program, which *requires* the school to open prior to Labor Day. Any waiver granted by the Board of Education pursuant to this provision shall *only* apply to the opening date for those schools where such experimental or innovative programs are offered generally to the student body of the school. (§ 22.1-79.1 B. 3)

Experimental and Innovative Program Considerations

- In accordance with § 22.1-79.1 of the Code of Virginia, experimental or innovative programs shall include instructional programs which are offered on a year-round basis by a school division in one or more of its elementary, middle, or high schools.
- An *experimental program* is defined, for purposes of a waiver, as a program which is operated under controlled circumstances and which is designed to test and to establish, by objective

measures, the positive cognitive effect of an educational theory. The experimental program must be offered generally to the student body of the school.

- An *innovative program* is defined, for purposes of a waiver, as an educational program that implements creative, original, or new ideas or methods and are likely to result in better outcomes for student participants. The innovative program must be offered generally to the student body of the school.
- Any experimental or innovative program must ensure parental and community involvement.

Application for Waiver

1. The initial request for a waiver to approve an experimental or innovative program, including a year-round school program, shall be submitted to the Board of Education for approval. Once the initial approval is granted by the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction is hereby delegated authority to continue to approve the waiver in subsequent years, unless the Board places conditions or time limits on its approval, or unless the Superintendent determines that the conditions under which the approval was granted to the local school board are changed.
2. The local school board shall submit annually to the Superintendent of Public Instruction certification of eligibility for a waiver of the “good cause” requirements of § 22.1-79.1, *Code of Virginia*. Such certification shall be made in a manner prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. School divisions must maintain evidence that such “good cause” conditions have been met.
3. To request approval of a waiver for weather-related or other emergency conditions, the local school board shall submit information annually indicating that the school division has been closed for an average of eight days per year in any five of the past ten years because of severe weather conditions, energy shortages, power failures, or other emergency conditions.
4. To request initial approval of a waiver to open before Labor Day by a school division that is completely surrounded by another school division that has been approved for a waiver, the school division shall submit the request to the Superintendent of Public Instruction by letter signed by the superintendent and the chairman of the local school board. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall determine that the school division is completely surrounded by another school division, and that the other school division has been granted a waiver to open before Labor Day. Once the initial waiver is granted, the local school board shall submit information annually to the Superintendent of Public Instruction indicating that the conditions under which a waiver was granted have not changed.
5. To request approval of a waiver for a dependent program, the local school board shall submit information annually indicating that each school for which a waiver is requested provides an instructional program, excluding Virtual Virginia, which is dependent upon a school in another division that qualifies for a waiver.
6. To request initial approval of a waiver for a pre-Labor Day opening for an experimental or innovative program, the local school division shall submit such request to the Board of Education on a form prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction at least 180 calendar days prior to the expected implementation date. Such a request shall set forth a thorough

explanation of the experimental or innovative program as well as the specific reasons that would compel a pre-Labor Day opening. The Department is available throughout the application process to provide technical assistance to the applicant. The following procedures apply to the initial application for experimental or innovative programs:

- a. The experimental or innovative program must be approved by the Board pursuant to its *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* at 8 VAC 20-131-290. The request must include:
 - 1) The names of the participating schools and the school division requesting the waiver.
 - 2) The purpose and objectives of the experimental/innovative/year-round program:
Describe how the school meets the definition of experimental or innovative or year-round school and its goals and objectives. Include the title of the program or activity, a program description, the rationale for the program, the number and names of all schools involved, the names of any other organizations, including colleges, universities, and other postsecondary organizations and community organizations that are involved in the program, the grades served, the names of any other school divisions involved in the program, and other relevant information.
 - 3) An explanation of the necessity for opening prior to Labor Day, including the proposed school year calendar's opening and closing dates as well as a general description of the school calendar and duration of the waiver. This explanation must show that this request meets the "good cause" requirements of §22.1-79.1. B.3, *Code of Virginia*.
 - 4) Anticipated outcomes, including an explanation as to why it is believed the program will be a success.
 - 5) Number of students affected, including demographic information describing the students who will be attending and the community the school serves.
 - 6) Evaluation procedures including mechanisms for measuring goals and objectives, and analysis of data, to determine how this program will support an expected increase in proficiency in student academic achievement and any achievement gap.
 - 7) Other anticipated outcomes.
 - 8) Any other information that will support the request for a Pre-Labor Day waiver.

Each pre-Labor Day waiver request must be approved by the local school board and signed and dated by the chairman of the school board and the school superintendent and forwarded to Superintendent of Public Instruction.

- b. Any waiver or extension of the school year granted by the Board pursuant to the experimental or innovative program provisions contained in § 22.1-79.1 of the *Code of Virginia*, or the Board's *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* shall apply only to the opening date for those schools where such experimental or innovative programs are offered generally to the student body of the school.
- c. To request approval of a waiver for a pre-Labor Day opening for an experimental or innovative program subsequent to the Board of Education's initial approval, unless the Board of Education has specified conditions under which the waiver request must go back to the Board for approval, or the Superintendent determines that the conditions under which the initial approval was granted to the local school board have changed, the local school board shall submit information annually to the Superintendent of Public Instruction as part of the pre-Labor Day waiver self-certification process for public schools with pre-Labor Day

waivers. The submission shall include evidence of the results achieved throughout the experimental or innovative program in prior years.

Reports to the Board of Education

- The Board of Education may request that the Superintendent of Public Instruction provide a report to the Board regarding the status of certifications submitted and waivers granted under the above-stated policies. Such report shall be provided in a manner and at a time as agreed to by the Superintendent and the President of the Board and shall include information deemed pertinent by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- Any information required to be submitted to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for a pre-Labor Day waiver shall be submitted to the:

Office of Policy
Virginia Department of Education
P.O. Box 2120
Richmond, VA 23218-2120
Policy@doe.virginia.gov
804-225-2092

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF EDUCATION
P.O. Box 2120
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23218-2120

REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF CERTAIN ACCREDITING STANDARDS
AND/OR APPROVAL
OF AN INNOVATIVE OR EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, (8 VAC 20-131-10 et seq.) set the minimum standards public schools must meet to be accredited by the Board of Education. Accreditation of public schools is required by the Standards of Quality (§§ 22.1-253.13:1 et seq.). The annual accrediting cycle for public schools is July 1 through June 30.

This cover sheet, with the supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Department of Education for review and recommendation to the Board at least 90 days prior to the beginning of an accrediting cycle or the proposed implementation of the program or activity that precipitates the request for the waiver. The types of waivers available and the corresponding section of the standards are indicated below. Please attach additional sheets or information deemed appropriate. (The Board will consider this request in its monthly meeting and school divisions **are required** to appear before the Board **in person or electronically** to explain a waiver request.)

SCHOOL DIVISION Pittsylvania County Schools

TITLE OF PROGRAM/ACTIVITY Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Academy – STEM Academy (K-12) and Academy for Engineering and Technology (AET)(Grades 11-12)

TYPE OF APPROVAL REQUESTED:

- Approval of an Alternative to the Standard School Year and School Day (8 VAC 20-131-150)
- Approval of an Alternative Accreditation Plan (8 VAC 20-131-280.D)
- Approval of an Experimental Program (§ 22.1-79.1 of the *Code of Virginia* and 8 VAC 20-131-290.D)
- Approval of an Innovative Program (§ 22.1-79.1 of the *Code of Virginia* and 8 VAC 20-131-290.D)
- Approval of a Waiver of Other Provision(s) of the Standards (8 VAC 20-131-350)
(Complete Pages 1 and 3 of the application only.)

SCHOOL OR SCHOOLS INVOLVED IN THE PROPOSED PROGRAM/ACTIVITY Brosville Elementary, Chatham Elementary, Chatham Middle, Chatham High, Dan River Middle, Dan River High, Gretna Elementary, Gretna Middle, Gretna High, John Hurt Elementary, Kentuck Elementary, Mt. Airy Elementary, Southside Elementary, Stony Mill Elementary, Tunstall Middle, Tunstall High, Twin Springs Elementary, Union Hall Elementary

January 14, 2014
Date Approved
by the Local School Board

January 30, 2014
Submission Date

Calvin D. Doss
Signature
Chairman of the School Board

G. J. McDaniel
Signature
Division Superintendent

SCHOOL DIVISION

Pittsylvania County Schools

TITLE OF PROGRAM/ACTIVITY

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Academy – STEM Academy K-12 and
Academy for Engineering and Technology (AET for grades 11 and 12)

IF THE PROPOSED PROGRAM IS EXPERIMENTAL OR INNOVATIVE, FOR EACH SCHOOL EXPLAIN HOW THIS IS SO AND PROVIDE A PROGRAM DESCRIPTION, INCLUDING THE TYPE OF PROGRAM, ITS PURPOSE, THE GRADES SERVED, DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION DESCRIBING THE STUDENTS WHO WILL BE ATTENDING, THE RATIONALE FOR THE PROGRAM, THE PROGRAM'S GOALS, EVALUATION PROCEDURES, AND OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION.

Program Description and Purpose:

Pittsylvania County Schools requests a waiver of the post-Labor Day opening of schools requirement. The school system has opened prior to Labor Day since 1997-1998 with the exception of 2003-2004. Four new middle schools were under construction and were not ready to open prior to Labor Day.

In order for students in rural Pittsylvania County to compete nationally, as well as world-wide, and to serve students of poverty, as well as minority students, the county needs an innovative program that focuses on technical and mathematical skills in a solutions-based environment. The Dan River Region is poised to be an economic stronghold in the State if an appropriately educated work force, coupled with more opportunities for post-secondary education, is available to the new industries. Pittsylvania County Schools will open a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Academy in the fall of 2014. The STEM Academy will be housed in Chatham, Virginia, which will provide a central location for the students in our county, the largest in the State. The Pittsylvania County Schools' STEM Academy will allow students to explore the use of technology and apply knowledge in mathematics, science, engineering and technology (as well as English and social sciences) as they work towards solving problems associated with the technological world. The understanding and control of the technology, as related to real-world issues, will allow students the self-confidence and the ability to control and create new technological tools. Research proves that these professions (i.e., scientists, engineers, IT specialists, etc.) are higher-paying positions and lead to better positions in life and better standards of living in society. It is also a well-established fact that having a solid foundation in math, science and technology, coupled with problem-solving and critical thinking, are essential to preparing students for today's high-tech work force. Our students not only need the 'job training' skills, but they must also learn the 'soft skills' such as team work, the perspective of the customer served, and responsibility for their own success. In order to teach these subjects and skills properly, students need to be served in a lab-based environment. The academy will offer problem-based learning opportunities to students at the elementary, middle and high school level. This innovative program will begin with ALL students in grades 5, 7 and 9. Students in these grades will participate in a technology/laboratory program that will use problem-based modules to help develop critical thinking and problem solving skills. It is the intent that at least one grade level will be added each year until every student has the opportunity to participate and learn. The desire to have a central STEM Academy will eliminate the cost of reproducing this lab environment in (18) schools; thereby providing a hard-hitting and cost-effective solution to a very challenging problem in our region. At present, there are no other programs in the Dan River Region that focus solely on STEM learning in an environment that could replicate the work place. (A. Please see the attached list of proposed technology and equipment)

As with any initiative of the school system, a task force, consisting of a collection of K-12 educators, post-secondary educators and community and business leaders, has been working to make the program a reality. The Parent Advisory Council, Teacher Advisory Council and the Minority Advisory Council have all participated in the initiative. These councils met in October and again in January and have voiced support of and a need for an innovative program such as this in the division. An Action Team meeting was held in October to discuss the proposal and develop a plan. The full Task Force was introduced to the project in November. All participants of the councils and task force provided ideas for the academy and Action Teams were organized. Action Team leaders have been meeting to research STEM programs in Virginia, develop curriculum, organize transportation, research technology and equipment, develop budgets and prepare for professional development. A visit was made to Harrisonburg, Virginia to see their in-school STEM program. Plans have been made to attend a STEM Learning Summit at Longwood University in January. In February, the Children's Engineering Conference in Richmond and the Project Lead the Way Conference at Old Dominion University will be attended by teachers and administrative staff. Ideas from these will help as plans for the academy are finalized. (B. Please refer to the attached Action Team Leaders and Action Team Committee Members and timeline)

The STEM Academy will also strengthen the link between high schools and post-secondary education within our school district, and allow us the opportunity to work with other divisions in Region 6 who are also beginning innovative STEM initiatives. Pittsylvania County's STEM Academy will align well with the Precision Machining Program at the Pittsylvania County Career and Technical Education Center as well as the Academy for Engineering and Technology that will begin at The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research in August 2014. The Precision Machining program is a partnership between Danville Community College and the school system. The AET program is a partnership between Danville City Schools, Danville Community College, Virginia State University, The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, New College Institute and Pittsylvania County Schools. The Precision Machining Program was implemented with the help of funds from a Tobacco Commission Grant, the Pittsylvania County Board of Supervisors, and Danville Community College. The Office of Economic Development worked with the division to make the program a reality because the business community believed it was a 'must' for our region.

The division has a long-standing relationship with Danville City and Danville Community College as the divisions share resources for the Piedmont Regional Governor's School for Mathematics, Science and Technology. This partnership will be strengthened as Pittsylvania County Schools works with teachers and professors from these institutions to help create and facilitate the STEM courses and activities for elementary and middle school students. Teachers from the Piedmont Regional Governor's School for Mathematics, Science and Technology will provide inquiry-based labs to students in elementary and middle schools. These modules will help PCS' students focus on specific STEM clusters and will help emphasize career pathways. Danville Community College will provide professors in the science and technology department to teach and work with students at the elementary and middle school level in addition to what is now provided at the high school level. At present our schools have also completed a partnership with Radford University and Carolina Biological to provide the tenants of inquiry-based strategies that promote problem-solving and higher order thinking skills. This hands-on, minds-on science curriculum is offered to improve the instruction for all elementary students. According to the Chairman of the National Science Board, inquiry-based learning is a key component of STEM Education.

The STEM Mobile Learning Lab, provided through The Institute of Advanced Learning and Research, will offer activities at the individual sites for students in K-8 while other students are offered STEM activities at the academy site. Summer camps and other learning opportunities offered by IALR will enhance the STEM initiative. The collaboration with New College Institute will not only provide resources for AET, but will also provide additional STEM programs and activities for the elementary and middle school students of Pittsylvania County. Modules of study will be developed under the guidance of colleges and universities and with input from teachers who understand and are experts in the Virginia Standards of Learning (Samples of module topics included). The modules will be closely correlated with the SOLs in math, science, and technology so as not to deviate from the worth and expectations of the State standards. The difference will be in not merely understanding the edge of the knowledge, but in actually applying, analyzing, and creating new avenues for this knowledge. Students will then have the ability to solve new problems, test solutions and work with others to build the new technologies for future times. Experience, touching, doing, trying and creating are hooks that lead students to a broader array of different ideas and realization of the opportunities for life-long development.

Once the modules are completed, teachers in all schools will receive continuous professional development and support in utilizing the techniques of problem/project-based learning for students. The importance of not only teaching our students, but also training and sustaining teachers in the STEM subjects, is a point of emphasis for our division.

Pittsylvania County is also in the forefront in the opportunities offered at the middle and high school level in career and technical courses needed for entry into advanced programs. In keeping with the focus of helping educate students at a higher level and in a cost-effective manner, Pittsylvania County offers opportunities for Industry Certifications, Dual-Enrollment classes, and Advanced Placement classes. These courses are free of charge to all students and allow the opportunity to pursue post-secondary education or to enter the work force already licensed in a technical area. (C. Please see the savings for fall 2013 costs and Career and Technical Enrollment 2013-2014 attached) These programs were approved and welcomed by our school board and the STEM Academy will place the school system on a path to offer more programs for all students that will funnel into these programs. At the present time, the Director for Career and Technical Education is actively working to begin an Industrial Maintenance Program at the CTEC. This would be another opportunity for students, who receive a better background in STEM related classes through the academy, to enter a program that will provide a career opportunity needed for this area. The school system leaders, board members and administration are all working together to enhance the educational opportunities, inform the community, and establish partnerships with community leaders and businesses.

Martinsville and Henry County are collaborating to begin the STEM Pipeline Project. Many of the partners for this initiative are also partners for the STEM Academy. The same focus on inquiry-based learning and college and career opportunities for all students makes a greater impact for industries and post-secondary institutions in this region. This focus allows the divisions the opportunity to share resources and people as we create STEM programs and modules of study for the students. This sharing is well established at the high school level, but the elementary and middle school students will now become a major component of this partnership. Each

division will utilize professors and teachers who already begin classes prior to Labor Day and serve the high schools. Some of the same teachers and professors will also help with creating lessons and working with the younger students in the STEM Academy. Danville Community College now provides college career coaches to work with ninth graders as they prepare to make academic and career choices. DCC has offered the opportunity for the college career coaches to work with students in grades 6 and 7. The State Academic and Career Plan requires students to formulate a career plan by the end of grade 7. Having these coaches in place and providing advanced instruction at the STEM Academy will make the elementary and middle school students more aware of STEM Career opportunities prior to beginning this process. It will be essential to begin all schools prior to Labor Day to utilize the teachers and students, already on a pre-Labor Day schedule, in the elementary and middle school setting.

This waiver is important to Pittsylvania County and to the school system to enhance partnerships already established and to increase economic development. This issue was well-stated at a local economic and development summit held at the IALR in January.

"Partnerships are everything," Martin Briley, president of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, told a group of about 140 people who attended the day-long economic development summit at the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research. "

U.S. Senator Tim "Kaine and Briley also stressed the importance of higher education attainment, an area where Danville lags behind state and national averages. Just 16.4 percent of city residents — and 13.9 percent of county residents — had a four-year college degree; that's well below the 34.7 percent of all Virginians who hold a bachelor's degree.

But, Kaine said, higher education does not have to be a four-year college — internships, on-the-job training that leads to a certificate and career and technical training programs all deserve to be recognized and counted as legitimate higher education options, he said." (Go DanRiver.com/January 22, 2014)

Pittsylvania County Schools and the Henry County/Martinsville initiatives are all 'headed in the right direction.' The focus is offering all students the opportunity to obtain knowledge and learn skills for 21st Century post-secondary education or employment opportunities. Our region lags behind at present due to a major shift in economics. As a region these issues must be addressed by the schools systems. A waiver to provide the optimum schedule to maximize the impact of instruction and partnerships is a necessity at this time in our division and region.

Grades Served:

All Grade 5 students at 10 elementary schools, grade 7 students at 4 middle schools and grade 9 students at 4 high schools will be served at the STEM Academy. Within 5 years, this number will grow to include ALL students in ALL grades.

Beginning in August 2014, high school junior and seniors, who qualify and apply, will be served in the Academy for Engineering and Technology.

At present, high school junior and seniors, who qualify and apply, are served at IALR for the Piedmont Regional Governor's School for Math and Science and at the Career and Technical Education Center for the Precision Machining program.

Demographics:

Students from all schools will be participants in the STEM Academy. The demographics of each school as well as the free and reduced lunch rate are included.

High Schools	American Indian	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black-Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	White-Non-Hispanic	Native Hawaiian	Total Number of Students	Percentage of Free and Reduced Lunch
Chatham	3	4	162	15	459	0	643	40.50
Dan River	0	2	229	10	411	0	652	53.14
Gretna	0	2	205	6	363	0	576	55.65
Tunstall	1	2	126	39	763	0	931	34.05

Middle Schools	American Indian	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black-Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	White-Non-Hispanic	Native Hawaiian	Total Number of Students	Percentage of Free and Reduced Lunch
Chatham	2	2	102	18	371	0	495	52.47
Dan River	1	1	174	13	347	0	536	61.08
Gretna	1	1	135	6	306	0	449	64.14
Tunstall	2	5	97	31	557	0	692	42.92

Elementary Schools	American Indian	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black-Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	White-Non-Hispanic	Native Hawaiian	Total Number of Students	Percentage of Free and Reduced Lunch
Brosville	0	3	72	17	159	0	251	61.75
Chatham	0	1	97	6	192	0	296	61.49
Gretna	1	4	172	18	395	0	590	68.47
John L. Hurt	2	1	74	1	216	0	294	69.05
Kentuck	1	4	119	11	447	0	582	61.92
Mt. Airy	0	0	105	10	95	0	210	66.67
Southside	1	0	170	13	339	0	523	60.23
Stony Mill	0	1	66	46	382	0	495	59.80
Twin Springs	3	7	123	39	639	0	811	44.28
Union Hall	1	0	70	6	188	0	265	66.42

Rationale:

Pittsylvania County is the largest county in the State and covers 982.89 square miles in Southside Virginia. Our transportation department serves students from the Virginia/North Carolina border on the south side to Campbell County on the north end. This is a distance of 69 miles. The county borders Henry County on the west and extends 65 miles east to Halifax County. The school system operates 192 vehicles every day and covers nearly 2 million miles in a year. Buses are shared between all middle and high schools and in some regions these buses are shared with elementary schools as well. Transportation is provided for our regional Governor's School students to the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research in Danville, Virginia and classes begin prior to Labor Day. The cost and burden to run separate calendars would be insurmountable for the division. (D. Please see the attached transportation information) Pittsylvania County depends on the partnership with Danville City and Danville Community College to run the Governor's School program. Beginning in August 2014, that dependence will also include Virginia State University and New College Institute who help serve the Academy for Engineering and Technology. This program will also be housed at the IALR where the Governor's School now resides. The division will provide transportation for these students as well.

Another factor that has implications for the division relates to the Virginia Code Section 22.1-296 which states that school boards receiving a waiver "pursuant to 22.1-79.1 and setting the calendar so that the first day students are required to attend occurs prior to August 15 shall establish a payment schedule to ensure that all contract personnel are compensated for time worked within the first month of employment." In 2012-2013 Pittsylvania County moved all county employees to a 12 month pay cycle. The reprogramming of the financial management system was costly and time consuming. Should Pittsylvania County not receive a waiver, this payment cycle would have to convert back and 10 month employees would not receive a check in August. This re-programming would once again be costly and time consuming.

Pittsylvania County's Board of Supervisors has funded the school system at the minimum requirement for many years. Pittsylvania County Schools has decreased personnel at the central office level and the school level over the last five years (87 certified and 17 classified positions). This has resulted in cost effectiveness but does not leave ample human resources to help create and implement programs needed for innovative educational practices and teacher development. In the last two years, funds have been provided for the VRS requirement increase and to provide a 2% raise for staff this current year. With the increase in the composite index, funding may not be as generous as in the last two years. The educational system, as developed in Virginia, has high standards that are welcomed by the educational community. The caveat is that high stakes testing has placed restraints on the classroom teacher who wishes to pursue creative and innovative techniques in the classroom. Time is a factor in any institution. Lack of time, coupled with lack of substantial funding, makes the situation difficult. The pre-Labor Day waiver would allow the implementation of a new innovative program and continued utilization of current partnerships and resources in a cost effective manner. The waiver would allow PCS the opportunity to provide advantages reserved for high schools to all students at all levels. This can only be accomplished by following the same schedule as the institutions that assist the division.

PCS' initiative is one that is supported and driven by both State and national leaders. Governor McDonnell began STEM Academies at the high school level in Virginia several years ago. Descriptions of the established academies fit the goal of PCS' and the Henry County/Martinsville STEM Pipeline Project. In Pittsylvania County, these opportunities will now begin at the elementary and middle school level. The quote below explains the connection:

The "Governor's STEM Academies are programs designed to expand options for the general student population to acquire STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) literacy and other critical skills, knowledge and credentials that will prepare them for high-demand, high-wage, and high-skill careers in Virginia. STEM literacy is an interdisciplinary area of study that bridges the four areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. STEM literacy does not simply mean achieving literacy in the individual strands. STEM classrooms shift students toward investigating and questioning the interrelated facets of the world."

Another advantage to the innovative program is the comparison to academic Governor's Schools as stated below:

"The Governor's STEM Academies can be viewed as the practical complement to academic year Governor's Schools."

At the national level, President Obama has also launched a program for more STEM education. This aligns with the Governor's initiative, as well as Pittsylvania County Schools' STEM initiative.

"Reaffirming and strengthening America's role as the world's engine of scientific discovery and technological innovation is essential to meeting the challenges of this century," said President Obama. "That's why I am committed to making the improvement of STEM education over the next decade a national priority."

"Leadership tomorrow depends on how we educate our students today—especially in science, technology, engineering and math."— President Barack Obama, September 16, 2010

Impact: Failure to act at this juncture and offer an innovative program and facilitate an educated work force for this region will keep us in a stagnant position for years to come. Pittsylvania County Schools' STEM Academy will provide ALL students from diverse backgrounds the opportunity for an education that will prepare them for both employment in the 'new industries' of the region and post-secondary education. For the 2013-14 year, 53.59 % of Pittsylvania County students are on free or reduced lunch, 29.62% are minority students, and 48.64% are female students. Of the female students, 30.53% of these are minority females. These are students in need of better educational opportunities that in turn will increase the employment rate of our region. The unemployment rate for the county was 6.3% in October 2013. The Pittsylvania County STEM Academy and the Henry County/Martinsville STEM Pipeline Project extends this opportunity to all students, K-12, and more specifically, will have a concerted effort to impact low-income and underrepresented populations. (Please see the prior graph that indicates the free and reduced lunch percentages.) The impact of a better educated community in the areas of need and opportunity will only raise the employment and tax benefits for the region.

How and Why Approval of this Request Would Benefit Students in Pittsylvania County:

A STEM Academy for students and businesses in the Dan River Region make Southside Virginia more competitive regionally, state-wide and nationally. It will strengthen the link between PCS and post-secondary institutions in the community and State. The creation of a STEM Academy will:

- Implement a rigorous core curriculum
- Introduce innovative technologies
- Support opportunities for distance learning
- Define college and career readiness performance expectations
- Inspire exploration and study
- Encourage problem-based instruction and learning
- Provide an ever-growing, well-trained regional workforce, and
- Promote students' engagement and higher-level thinking by providing a technology-rich learning environment designed to promote 21st Century skills

Examples of modules:

Title	Standard Of Learning Connection	Explanation of Module
Pulling a Vehicle – investigating unbalanced force	5.1 b, c, d, e, f, g, h, I, j, k	This module focuses on force and motion and allows students to develop an understanding of the principle that force applied to an object changes the motion of that object. Students will ensure that a fair test is conducted by constructing identical vehicle using a technical drawing as a guide. Students set up a falling weight system to test and communicate how their vehicles respond to the pull. Students will set up testing equipment and perform repeated trials recording distance travelled with respect to time. Variables will be identified and manipulated accordingly.
Life Safe Buildings	5.7 a, b, c, d, e, f, g	This module focuses on using knowledge of forces and strength of geometric shapes to design and build a life safe structure that is capable of withstanding a catastrophic event such as an earthquake, tomado, or hurricane. Students work cooperatively to design, plan and build the structure within constraints. Students will then design a test to demonstrate that the structure they built meets the building criteria.

The STEM Academy will expand access to science, mathematics, engineering and technology programs for underrepresented populations, and strengthen the work force and economic development of this region. As part of the initiative, Pittsylvania County Schools has applied for a \$2 million grant from the Danville Regional Foundation. The goals for this program are far-reaching. They include academics, working with programs and partnerships already in place and utilizing the leadership of our community and region to work together for better educational attainment and economic opportunity.

Goals of the STEM Academy:

1. STEM education for children of all ages and from diverse backgrounds
 - Connects to Governor's STEM Academies for high school students
 - Connects to Governor's School academic programs for high school students
 - Connects to national STEM Education Initiative
 - Provides opportunity to tour IALR and meet with researchers
 - Connects to PCS's Career and Academic Plan to explore and understand STEM careers
 - Provides a laboratory environment for academic and interrelation skills for elementary, middle and high schools
2. Utilizes, correlates and enhances community programs and systems already in place
 - Precision Machining, Welding and Industrial Maintenance
 - Academy for Engineering and Technology
 - EMT and Nursing
 - Smart Beginnings
 - Broadband internet services
 - Institute for Advanced Learning and Research
 - Danville Community College
 - Averett University
3. Involvement and utilization of state, regional and community leadership
 - Pittsylvania County Board of Supervisors
 - Pittsylvania County School Board
 - Danville Community College
 - Institute for Advanced Learning and Research
 - New College Institute
 - Virginia State University
 - Radford University

- Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce
- Tobacco Commission
- Delegates Danny Marshall and former Delegate Don Merricks
- Office of Economic Development

DOES THE PROGRAM REQUIRE THE SCHOOL OR SCHOOLS REFERENCED IN THIS APPLICATION TO OPEN PRIOR TO LABOR DAY?

X YES NO.

IF YES, EXPLAIN WHY.

In order to work collaboratively with the colleges, universities and institutions involved in the program, it would be necessary to follow a schedule that allows availability to resources and instructors. Dual enrollment classes are linked to Danville Community college which begins first semester in early August. DCC and IALR help operate the academic Governor's school. DCC works with the Precision Machining Program at CTEC. Again, the college opens prior to Labor Day. New College Institute and Virginia State University will offer dual enrollment credit for the AET Program at the IALR, and once again they begin prior to Labor Day. These same institutions will offer resources, people and provide opportunities for the elementary and middle school students. To use Henry County/Martinsville terminology – this is a 'pipeline' from elementary to middle school to the high school and post-secondary opportunities. Considering the size of Pittsylvania County and the limited budget, opening prior to Labor Day is cost-effective, enhances programs and partnerships already established, and will allow the implementation of an original and creative program for the students, K-12.

IF THE PROGRAM IS EXPERIMENTAL, FOR THE SCHOOL OR SCHOOLS REFERENCED IN THIS APPLICATION INCLUDE INFORMATION THAT EXPLAINS WHY THERE IS REASON TO EXPECT THAT THE PROGRAM WILL BE SUCCESSFUL.

The PCS STEM Academy is not an experimental program, but follows the State standards and the Governor's STEM initiative.

DESCRIBE THE ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAM FOR EACH SCHOOL.

During the 2013-2014 academic year, Pittsylvania County has 3 elementary schools, 1 middle school and 1 high school accredited with warning in mathematics. Prior to this year all Pittsylvania County Schools have been fully accredited since 2008. One elementary school and one middle school are in school improvement for not meeting the FAMOs in mathematics. One elementary school and one middle school made the FAMOs by reducing the failure rate by 10% (R10). Two high schools are in school improvement for not meeting the Graduation Completion Index. Math and science scores in grades 5 and 7 are below the state average. Several schools are on the cusp of not meeting the 3-year average in science. PCS students are at the proficient level on the standards of learning assessments, but very few are advanced. The Stanford 10 results indicate that 4th grade students in our division fell 6% in math and 4% in science, grade 6 fell 6% in math and 5% in science in fall 2013. This is not the direction a school system should be going in this new technological age. It is time for the school system to implement a program that can help increase the students' understanding and utilization of mathematics and science standards at an earlier age. This in turn will impact the SOL scores in math and science as well as SAT, Dual Enrollment courses, and AP exams. PCS needs to move forward in the areas of mathematics and science. The STEM Academy, with a concentrated focus on math and science acceleration for all students, will move scores forward, the division forward and most importantly the students forward. Pittsylvania County will expect SAT, Stanford 10 and SOL results to improve in the next 5-10 years. Details of the division as is and the expected increase are included below under evaluation procedures.

SCHOOL DIVISION Pittsylvania County

TITLE OF PROGRAM/ACTIVITY Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Academy – STEM Academy (K-12) and Academy for Engineering and Technology (AET)(Grades 11-12)

IF YOU ARE SEEKING A WAIVER OF A PROVISION OR PROVISIONS OF THE ACCREDITING STANDARDS, STATE THE PROVISION AND THE RATIONALE FOR SEEKING A WAIVER FOR EACH.

Not Applicable

DESCRIBE THE PROCEDURES THAT WILL BE USED TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE WAIVER/PROGRAM/ACTIVITY. (Include information that includes measurable goals, objectives, and student academic achievement that will be expected as a result of the implementation of the program/activity.)

1. **Pittsylvania County Schools would expect SAT scores at the state average within 5 years and 10% above the state average in 10 years.** (E. Please see the attached SAT 5-year score comparison)

School	Math SAT 2010-11	Math SAT 2001-12	Math SAT 2012-13
Chatham	457	467	443
Dan River	432	422	460
Gretna	451	430	451
Tunstall	478	484	496
State Average	509	514	514

2. **Pittsylvania County would expect Stanford 10 scores to increase in math and science by 5% in 5 years and 10% in 10 years.** (F. Please see the attached Stanford 10 3-year comparison)

Stanford 10 Results	2012	2013
Grade 4 Math	60	54
Grade 4 Science	66	62
Grade 6 Math	54	48
Grade 6 Science	59	53

3. **100% of PCS schools fully accredited within 2 years. At present it is 72%.** (G. Please see the attached Statistical Profile for Pittsylvania County Schools)
4. **100% of the school meeting the Federal Annual Measurable Objectives. At present it is 61%. 3 schools met the AMOs, but are identified not meeting FAMOS due to the backsliding rule which would move the division to 77%.** (Please see the attached Statistical Profile for Pittsylvania County Schools)
5. **100% of the high school meeting the Federal Graduation index in 3 years. At present it is 50%.** (Please see the attached Statistical Profile for Pittsylvania County Schools)

6. In order to evaluate the effectiveness of the STEM Academy data over a 5-10-year period, PCS will target the number of students who have the opportunity to participate in the academy and their matriculation to higher level math, science and engineering classes, programs, post-secondary and employment opportunities. (H. Please see the Term Graduate Completion Report and Advanced Academic and CTE Course Enrollment attached)

Pittsylvania County would expect the following results:

	Present	5 years	10 years
Advanced Diploma	47.62%	53.00%	59.00%
AP and Dual Enrollment	1623 Academic 635 CTE	1700 Academic 700 CTE	1800 Academic 900 CTE
Industry Certification	864 licensures	1200 licensures	1400 licensures
Precision Machining	21 students	40 is maximum	40 is maximum unless an additional class is offered
Career and Technical Center	294 students	344 - Increase by 50 students	394 - Increase by 100 students

STEM –related courses are embedded in each of these so enrollments would automatically increase.

(I. Please see the letters of support attached)

Number of students involved in the program
What is the anticipated length of the program or duration of the waiver?

Please see the enrollment data included.

The STEM Academy will open in the Fall of 2014 and will remain a permanent part of Pittsylvania County Schools.

Questions should be directed to the Division of Policy and Communications at (804) 225-2092, or by e-mail to policydata@doe.virginia.gov. This application and supporting documentation must be sent to:

Division of Policy and Communications
Department of Education
P. O. Box 2120
Richmond, VA 23218-2120

Attachment A:

Equipment Listing

In order to equip the academy and preserve the laboratory setting, the following list of anticipated purchases is provided:

- 3-D Printers/Scanners
- Tablets
- Design Software
- Probe ware – motion, force, temperature, photo gate, etc...
- Robotic equipment
- Programing Software
- Audio/video equipment supporting PBL
- Animation Software/Tools
- Data Analysis Software
- Computers
- Simulation Software/hardware
- Interactive Whiteboards/tables

Attachment B:

Pittsylvania County STEM Academy
Timelines

Pittsylvania County STEM Academy
Action Team Leaders and Action Team
Members



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

Timelines

October 2013:

- Action Team Leaders meeting 10-28-13 10:00 a.m. SBO

November 2013

- STEM Academy Taskforce meeting 11-1-13 2:00 p.m. SBO
- Submit Budget request to Danny Marshall 11-1-13 5:00 p.m. Richmond
- Action Team meetings TBD TBD TBD
- Progress Report to School Board 11-12-13 7:00 p.m. SBO
- Announcement to Purchase Property 11-19-13 7:00 p.m. BOS
- Public Relations – Press Releases 11-19-13 7:00 p.m. BOS
- Unveil STEM Academy Logo 11-19-13 7:00 p.m. BOS
- Seek Access to unused wing
(Infrastructure, Renovation) 11-20-13 TBD Carlisle

December 2013

- Action Team meetings TBD TBD TBD
- Progress Report to School Board 12-10-13 7:00 p.m. SBO
- Complete Benchmarking 12-19-13 1:00 p.m. SBO

January 2014

- Partner commitments (letters, support, etc.) 1-2-14 2:00 p.m. SBO
- Benchmarking other divisions 1-2-14 2:00 p.m. SBO
- STEM Academy Taskforce meeting 1-2-14 2:00 p.m. SBO
- Action Team meetings TBD TBD TBD
- Progress Report to School Board 1-14-14 7:00 p.m. SBO
- Submit DRF Grant 1-15-14 TBD DRF
- Budget Committee meeting
(Initiatives, Contingencies) 1-16-14 6:00 p.m. SBO

February 2014

- Progress Report to School Board 2-11-14 7:00 p.m. SBO
- Deadline: Pre-Labor Day Waiver 2-16-14 5:00 p.m. DOE
- Finalize Curriculum 2-17-14 2:00 p.m. SBO
- Plans to reach underrepresented populations 2-17-14 2:00 p.m. SBO
- STEM Academy Taskforce meeting 2-17-14 2:00 p.m. SBO
- Action Team meetings TBD TBD TBD

March 2014

- Determine Personnel needs 3-5-14 5:00 p.m. SBO
- Budget Committee meeting 3-6-14 6:00 p.m. SBO
(Finalize Budget)
- Action Team meetings TBD TBD TBD
- Progress Report to School Board 3-11-14 7:00 p.m. SBO
- Public Hearing on Budget 3-27-14 6:00 p.m. SBO

April 2014

- STEM Academy Taskforce meeting 4-4-14 2:00 p.m. SBO
- Action Team meetings TBD TBD TBD
- Progress Report to School Board 4-8-14 7:00 p.m. SBO

May 2014

- Order Hardware/Equipment 5-1-14 TBD SBO
- Progress Report to School Board 5-13-14 7:00 p.m. SBO
- Access to the New Facility 5-27-14 TBD Academy
- Begin Infrastructure upgrades 5-27-14 TBD Academy
- Begin Physical Plant renovations 5-27-14 TBD Academy

June 2014

- Recommend/Employ/Reassign Staff 6-9-14 TBD TBD
- Progress Report to School Board 6-10-14 7:00 p.m. SBO
- Complete Alternative School relocation 6-30-14 5:00 p.m. Academy
- Plan, coordinate, schedule enrichment trips 6-30-14 TBD Transportation

July 2014

- Progress Report to School Board 7-8-14 7:00 p.m. SBO
- Train Administrative Staff 7-31-14 8:00 a.m. Academy

August 2014

- Train Instructional Staff 8-5-14 8:30 a.m. Academy
- 1st Day of 2014-2015 School Year 8-11-14 8:30 a.m. Division sites
- Progress Report to School Board 8-12-14 7:00 p.m. SBO



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM LEADERS

Physical plant

Mr. Mike Hutson, Director of Maintenance & Facilities
(434) 432-2761, ext. 5043
mike.hutson@pcs.k12.va.us

Infrastructure

Mr. Darrell Wilkerson, Network Manager
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Hardware/equipment

Dr. Jeff Early, Assistant Superintendent for Operations
(434) 432-3823, ext. 5102
jeff.early@pcs.k12.va.us

Grant writing

Mrs. Angela Rigney, Director of Career, Technical & Adult Education
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angela.rigney@pcs.k12.va.us

Personnel

Dr. Lillian D. Holland, Assistant Superintendent for Administration
(434) 432-2761, ext. 5011
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Scheduling of events/transportation

Mrs. Ann Cassada, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services
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Elementary curriculum development

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Middle/secondary curriculum development

Ms. Elizabeth Craig, Director of Middle/Secondary Education
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Custom designs

Mrs. Kimberly Clifton, Webmaster
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Public relations

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Budget/finance

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Training

Ms. Cathy Scolpini, Lead ITRT
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Benchmarking

Mrs. Wanda E. Vaughan, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
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Under-represented populations

Mrs. Brenda Dawson, Director of Assessment & Accountability
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Timelines/Partnerships

Mr. James E. McDaniel, Division Superintendent
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james.mcdaniel@pcs.k12.va.us



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM – PHYSICAL PLANT

<u>Members</u>	<u>Location/School</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Mr. Mike Hutson, Leader	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5043	mike.hutson@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Deborah D. Powell, Principal	Regional Alternative School	(434) 432-8185	deborah.powell@pcs.k12.va.us



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM – INFRASTRUCTURE

<u>Members</u>	<u>Location/School</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Mr. Darrell Wilkerson, Leader	Information Technology Department	(434) 432-3823, ext. 5103	darrell.wilkerson@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Deborah D. Powell, Principal	Regional Alternative School	(434) 432-8185, ext. 2071	deborah.powell@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Brandon Higgins, IT	Information Technology Department	(434) 432-3823, ext. 5104	brandon.higgins@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Rickey W. Parker, IT	Information Technology Department	(434) 250-0873	rickey.parker@pcs.k12.va.us



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM - HARDWARE/EQUIPMENT

<u>Members</u>	<u>Location/School</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Dr. Jeff Early, Leader	Information Technology Department	(434) 432-3823, ext. 5102	jeff.early@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. David Locklear, Teacher	Gretna Middle/Chatham Middle Schools	(434) 250-0938	david.locklear@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Cathy Scolpini, Lead ITRT	Information Technology Department	(434) 432-3823, ext. 5109	cathy.scolpini@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Darrell Wilkerson, IT	Information Technology Department	(434) 432-3823, ext. 5103	darrell.wilkerson@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Brandon Higgins, IT	Information Technology Department	(434) 432-3823, ext. 5104	brandon.higgins@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Rickey W. Parker, IT	Information Technology Department	(434) 250-0873	rickey.parker@pcs.k12.va.us



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM - GRANT WRITING

<u>Members</u>	<u>Location/School</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Ms. Angela Rigney, Leader	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5012	angela.rigney@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Jimmie L. Tickle, Principal	Pittsylvania Career & Technical Center	(434) 432-9416, ext. 2060	jimmie.tickle@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Andrew Nordon, Teacher	Gretna High / Pitts. Career & Tech. Ctr.	(434) 685-3614 or (434) 432-9416	andy.norton@pcs.k12.va.us
Dr. Chris Ezell	Danville Community College	(434) 797-8410	cezell@dcc.vccs.edu



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM – PERSONNEL

<u>Members</u>	<u>Location/School</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Dr. Lillian D. Holland, Leader	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5011	lillian.holland@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Teresa Petty, Director	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5017	teresa.petty@pcs.k12.va.us



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM – SCHEDULING OF EVENTS/TRANSPORTATION

Members	Location/School	Contact	E-mail
Ms. Ann Cassada, Leader	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5004	ann.cassada@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Bobby L. Lovelace, Director	Pittsylvania County Schools Pupil Transportation	(434) 432-8821, ext. 5116	bobby.lovelace@pcs.k12.va.us



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM – ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

<u>Members</u>	<u>Location/School</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Mr. Todd Sease, Leader	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5021	todd.sease@pcs.k12.va.us
Dr. Chris Ezell	Danville Community College	(434) 797-8410	cezell@dcc.vccs.edu
Ms. Cathy Scolpini, Lead ITRT	Information Technology Department	(434) 432-3823, ext. 5109	cathy.scolpini@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Ann Cassada, Assistant Superintendent, Support Services	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5004	ann.cassada@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Kathryn Lowry, Principal	Twin Springs Elementary School	(434) 724-2666, ext. 2162	kathryn.lowry@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Rebecca Varnadore, Student Representative	Gretna High School	(434) 426-8968	
Ms. Jamie Yancey, Teacher	Kentuck Elementary School	(434) 822-8528 (434) 250-1625	jamie.yancey@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Starlette DeVall, Teacher	Brosville Elementary School	(434) 251-6091	starlette.devall@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Cathleen McGarvey, Teacher	Stony Mill Elementary School	(434) 203-3063 (434) 228-7981	cathleen.mcgarvey@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Carolyn M. Harris, Principal	Union Hall Elementary School	(434) 724-7010, ext. 2051	carolyn.harris@pcs.k12.va.us



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM – MIDDLE/SECONDARY CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Members	Location/School	Contact	E-mail
Ms. Elizabeth Craig, Leader	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5019	elizabeth.craig@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Susan Franklin-Smith, ITRT	Gretna Middle/Gretna High/Chatham High		susan.franklin-smith@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Ann Cassada, Assistant Superintendent, Support Services	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5004	ann.cassada@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Cathy Scolpini, Lead ITRT	Information Technology Department	(434) 432-3823, ext. 5109	cathy.scolpini@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Rebecca Varnadore, Student Representative	Gretna High School	(434) 426-8968	
Ms. Cathy Pulliam	Danville Community College	(434) 797-8538	cpulliam@dcc.vccs.edu
Mr. David Locklear, Teacher	Gretna Middle/Chatham Middle Schools	(434) 656-2217 or (434) 250-0938	david.locklear@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Jill Collins, Teacher	Tunstall Middle School	(434) 724-7086 or (434) 250-6880	jill.collins@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Jimmie L. Tickle, Principal	Pittsylvania Career & Technical Center	(434) 432-9416, ext. 2060	jimmie.tickle@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Andrew Nordon, Teacher	Gretna High / Pitts. Career & Tech. Ctr.	(434) 685-3614 or (434) 432-9416	andy.norton@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Rickey W. Parker, IT	Information Technology Department	(434) 250-0873	rickey.parker@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Nathalie Bennett, Teacher	Tunstall Middle School	(434) 685-2029 / 713-5606 or (434) 724-7086	nathalie.bennett@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Patricia Porter, Teacher	Dan River Middle School	(434) 250-1463	patricia.porter@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Randy T. Foster, Principal	Chatham High School	(434) 203-1394	randy.foster@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Daniel Tittiris, Teacher	Tunstall High School	(434) 334-8418 or (434) 685-7879	daniel.tittiris@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Natalie Nicholson, Student Representative	Chatham High School	(434) 709-7179	ngn.400@gmail.com
Ms. Jordan Moorefield, Student Representative	Tunstall High School	(434) 203-7365	jordanmoorefield@gmail.com
Ms. Jamie Hodnett, Student Representative	Dan River High School	(434) 251-5788	jkatherineh@yahoo.com
Ms. Emily S. Reynolds, Principal	Dan River Middle School	(434) 822-6027 or (434) 251-2129	emily.reynolds@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Melissa Cassell, Teacher	Dan River High School	(434) 822-7081	melissa.cassell@pcs.k12.va.us



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM – CUSTOM DESIGNS

Members	Location/School	Contact	E-mail
Ms. Kimberly Clifton, Leader	Information Technology Department	(434) 432-3823, ext. 5108	kim.clifton@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Rickey Parker, IT	Information Technology Department	(434) 250-0873	rickey.parker@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Lowell Sollenberger, School Psychologist	Tunstall Middle School (Base)	(434) 709-2533	lowell.sollenberger@pcs.k12.va.us



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM – PUBLIC RELATIONS

<u>Members</u>	<u>Location/School</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Mr. Lowell Sollenberger, Leader	Tunstall Middle School	(434) 709-2533	lowell.sollenberger@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Rebecca Varnadore, Student Representative	Gretna High School	(434) 429-8969	
Ms. Natalie Nicholson, Student Representative	Chatham High School	(434) 709-7179	ngn.400@gmail.com
Ms. Jordan Moorefield, Student Representative	Tunstall High School	(434) 203-7365	jordanmoorefield@gmail.com
Ms. Jamie Hodnett, Student Representative	Dan River High School	(434) 251-5788	jkatherineh@yahoo.com
Ms. Emily S. Reynolds, Principal	Dan River Middle School	(434) 822-6027 or (434) 251-2129	emily.reynolds@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Jill Collins, Teacher (if teacher is needed)	Tunstall Middle School	(434) 724-7086 or (434) 250-6880	jill.collins@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Dana Silicki	Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR)	(434) 766-6729	dana.silicki@ialr.org



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM- BUDGET/FINANCE

<u>Members</u>	<u>Location/School</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Mrs. Tracey Worley, Leader	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5024	tracey.worley@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Teresa Petty, Director	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5017	teresa.petty@pcs.k12.va.us



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM- TRAINING

<u>Members</u>	<u>Location/School</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Ms. Cathy Scolpini, Leader	Information Technology Department	(434) 432-3823, ext. 5109	cathy.scolpini@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Susan Franklin-Smith, ITRT	Gretna Middle/Gretna High/Chatham High		susan.franklin-smith@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Ann Cassada, Assistant Superintendent, Support Services	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5004	ann.cassada@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Jill Collins, Teacher	Tunstall Middle School	(434) 724-7086 or (434) 250-6880	jill.collins@pcs.k12.va.us
Mrs. Carolyn Harris, Principal	Union Hall Elementary School	(434) 724-7010	carolyn.harris@pcs.k12.va.us



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM - BENCHMARKING

<u>Members</u>	<u>Location/School</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Ms. Wanda E. Vaughan, Leader	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5022	wanda.vaughan@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Teresa Petty, Director	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5017	teresa.petty@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Jill Collins, Teacher	Tunstall Middle School	(434) 62407986 or (434) 250-6880	jill.collins@pcs.k12.va.us
Ms. Cathy Scolpini, Lead ITRT	Information Technology Department	(434) 432-3823, ext. 5109	cathy.scolpini@pcs.k12.va.us



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM – UNDER-REPRESENTED POPULATIONS

<u>Members</u>	<u>Location/School</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Ms. Brenda Dawson, Leader	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5013	brenda.dawson@pcs.k12.va.us
Mr. Randy T. Foster, Principal	Chatham High School	(434) 432-8305 or (434) 203-1394	randy.foster@pcs.k12.va.us



Pittsylvania County STEM Academy

ACTION TEAM – TIMELINES

<u>Members</u>	<u>Location/School</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Mr. James E. McDaniel, Leader	Pittsylvania County Schools	(434) 432-2761, ext. 5001	james.mcdaniel@pcs.k12.va.us

Attachment C:

Danville Community College Tuition
Costs Savings

Career and Technical Education
Enrollment



Danville Community College

Serving Danville Halifax County Pittsylvania County

1008 South Main Street Danville, Virginia 24541-4004
434.797.2222 TTY: 434.797.8542
Fax: 434.797.8541 www.dcc.vccs.edu

December 18, 2013

Mr. James McDaniel
Pittsylvania County Schools
P. O. Box 232
Chatham, VA 24531

Dear Mr. McDaniel:

Listed below is a summary of the tuition costs for Pittsylvania County students enrolled in dual credit courses at Danville Community College and the instructors' salaries and classroom fees for teaching these courses for Fall Semester 2013.

Tuition

Dual enrollment classes at the County schools:	
2,259 credits @ \$131.50 per credit (in-state)	\$297,058.50
Dual enrollment classes at Governor's School:	
705 credits @ \$131.50 per credit (in-state)	<u>\$92,707.50</u>
TOTAL.....	<u>\$389,766.00</u>

Lecturers' Salaries and Classroom Fees

One hundred percent (100%) of tuition for Pittsylvania County	\$297,058.50
One hundred percent (100%) of tuition for Governor's School	<u>92,707.50</u>
TOTAL.....	<u>\$389,766.00</u>

Mr. James McDaniel

Page 2

Danville Community College will invoice you for the following dual enrollment courses taught in the high schools:

Governor's School	\$92,707.50
Chatham High School	\$42,474.50
Dan River High School	\$48,918.00
Gretna High School	\$35,636.50
PCTC	\$107,304.00
Tunstall High School	<u>\$62,725.50</u>

TOTAL **\$389,766.00**

A check will be sent to you from Danville Community College for **\$389,766.00** for lecturers' salaries and classroom fees for courses taught in the high schools and at the Governor's School.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve your students through dual enrollment classes. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Christopher Ezell, Ph.D.
Vice President of Academic and
Student Services

cdp

c: Dr. Bruce Scism w/ attachment
Vice President Scott Barnes w/ attachment
Ms. Lisa Johnson-Knight w/ attachment
Ms. Wanda Vaughan w/attachment
Mr. Brian Pace w/ attachment

Pittsylvania County Schools Fall 2013

In-state tuition per credit \$131.50

Total In-state credits: 2964

<i>Class</i>	<i>Course Credits</i>	<i># of students (In state)</i>	<i>Total credits</i>		<i>Total In-State Tuition</i>
PITTSYLVANIA CO. GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL					
BIO 101-GSP1	4	10	40	\$	5,260.00
BIO 141-GSP1	4	6	24	\$	3,156.00
CHM 111-GSP1	4	25	100	\$	13,150.00
ENG 111-GSP1	3	29	87	\$	11,440.50
ENG 131-GSP1	3	13	39	\$	5,128.50
ENG 210-GSP1	3	20	60	\$	7,890.00
ENG 243-GSP1	3	20	60	\$	7,890.00
MTH 157-GSP1	3	16	48	\$	6,312.00
MTH 166-GSP1	5	25	125	\$	16,437.50
MTH 175-GSP1	3	10	30	\$	3,945.00
MTH 177-GSP1	2	2	4	\$	526.00
MTH 177-GSP2	2	4	8	\$	1,052.00
MTH 241-GSP1	3	8	24	\$	3,156.00
MTH 273-GSP1	4	4	16	\$	2,104.00
MTH 274-GSP1	4	2	8	\$	1,052.00
PHY 201-GSP1	4	8	32	\$	4,208.00
			Total:	\$	92,707.50
Pittsylvania Career & Technical Center					
ADJ 100-PCT1	3	14	42	\$	5,523.00
ADJ 118-PCT1	3	12	36	\$	4,734.00
AIR 195-PCT1	1	4	4	\$	526.00
AIR 295-PCT1	1	7	7	\$	920.50
AUB 198-PCT1	1	8	8	\$	1,052.00
AUB 298-PCT1	2	10	20	\$	2,630.00
AUT 195-PCT1	2	9	18	\$	2,367.00
AUT 295-PCT1	2	15	30	\$	3,945.00
EGR 100-PCT1	1	7	7	\$	920.50
ELE 195-PCT1	2	9	18	\$	2,367.00
ELE 295-PCT1	2	13	26	\$	3,419.00
EMS 112-PCT1	4	14	56	\$	7,364.00
ETR 295-PCT1	2	11	22	\$	2,893.00
ETR 295-PCT2	2	6	12	\$	1,578.00
ITN 154-PCT1	4	6	24	\$	3,156.00
MAC 101-PCT1	8	10	80	\$	10,520.00
MAC 101-PCT2	8	11	88	\$	11,572.00
NUR 25-PCT1	3	10	30	\$	3,945.00
NUR 25-PCT2	3	10	30	\$	3,945.00
NUR 27-PCT1	3	10	30	\$	3,945.00
NUR 27-PCT2	3	10	30	\$	3,945.00
NUR 98-PCT1	3	10	30	\$	3,945.00
NUR 98-PCT2	3	10	30	\$	3,945.00
SAF 126-PCT1	3	9	27	\$	3,550.50

SAF 130-PCT1	1	32	32	\$	4,208.00
SAF 130-PCT2	1	0	0	\$	-
SAF 130-PCT3	1	22	22	\$	2,893.00
SAF 130-PCT4	1	25	25	\$	3,287.50
WEL 121-PCT1	2	16	32	\$	4,208.00
			Total	\$	107,304.00
Gretna					
AST 238-G1	2	15	30	\$	3,945.00
AST 239-G1	1	15	15	\$	1,972.50
DRF 114-G1	4	12	48	\$	6,312.00
ITE 115-G1	4	14	56	\$	7,364.00
ITE 115-G2	4	11	44	\$	5,786.00
MTH 163-G1	3	13	39	\$	5,128.50
MTH 164-G1	3	13	39	\$	5,128.50
			Total:	\$	35,636.50
Dan River					
AST 238-DR1	2	20	40	\$	5,260.00
AST 239-DR1	1	20	20	\$	2,630.00
BIO 101-DR1	4	12	48	\$	6,312.00
BUS 100-DR1	3	17	51	\$	6,706.50
DRF 114-DR1	4	10	40	\$	5,260.00
DRF 114-DR2	4	17	68	\$	8,942.00
ENG 111-DR1	3	13	39	\$	5,128.50
ENG 111-DR2	3	7	21	\$	2,761.50
SDV 110-DR1	3	15	45	\$	5,917.50
			Total	\$	48,918.00
Tunstall					
BUS 240-TU1	3	22	66	\$	8,679.00
CAD 233-TU1	3	9	27	\$	3,550.50
DRF 114-TU1	4	12	48	\$	6,312.00
ENG 111-TU1	3	21	63	\$	8,284.50
ENG 243-TU1	3	22	66	\$	8,679.00
MKT 100-TU1	3	12	36	\$	4,734.00
MTH 157-TU1	3	31	93	\$	12,229.50
MTH 163-TU1	3	13	39	\$	5,128.50
MTH 164-TU1	3	13	39	\$	5,128.50
			Total	\$	62,725.50
Chatham					
AST 238-C1	2	13	26	\$	3,419.00
AST 239-C1	1	13	13	\$	1,709.50
DRF 114-C1	4	14	56	\$	7,364.00
ENG 111-C1	3	24	72	\$	9,468.00
ENG 111-C2	3	13	39	\$	5,128.50
ITE 115-C1	4	12	48	\$	6,312.00
MTH 157-C1	3	23	69	\$	9,073.50
			Total	\$	42,474.50
			PGSMST Total:	\$	92,707.50
			High Schools Total:	\$	297,058.50
			PCS TOTAL:	\$	389,766.00

Career and Technical Education

Program Data 2013-2014

<u>Program</u>	<u>Enrollment Number</u>	<u>Additional Information</u>
Precision Machining	21	1st year program- PCTC
Engineering	9	PCTC
Technology - CHS	106	
Technology - DRHS	94	
Technology - GHS	69	Part-Time Program
Technology - THS	97	
Dual Enrollment - CHS	108	
Dual Enrollment - DRHS	78	
Dual Enrollment - GHS	81	
Dual Enrollment - THS	143	
Dual Enrollment - PCTC	223	

Career and Technical Education - Middle School Programs

4, 412 students 2013-2014

Career and Technical Education - High School Programs

3,838 students 2013-2014

Pittsylvania Career and Technical Center Programs

294 students 2013-2014

Attachment D:

Transportation Ridership and
Operational Costs



PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY SCHOOLS

P.O. Box 232 • 39 Bank Street S.E. • Chatham, Virginia 24531

Mr. James E. McDaniel
Division Superintendent

January 30, 2014

TO: Wanda Vaughan, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
Ann Cassada, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services

FROM: Bobby L. Lovelace, Director of Transportation *BL*

SUBJECT: Pre-Labor Day Waiver Information Requested

Total Number of School Bus Routes 192 Routes

<u>Ridership Count</u>	<u>Number of Buses</u>	<u>Fleet Percentage</u>	<u>Operational Cost</u>
Total Elementary Ridership	78 Buses	40.5%	\$ 2,403,644.40
Total 6-12 Ridership	24 Buses	12.5%	\$ 741,865.50
Total K-12 Ridership	90 Buses	47%	\$ 2,789,414.50
Total Operational Cost for 2012-2013 school year			\$ 5, 934,924.65

Information based on 2012-2013 Virginia Department of Education State Report.

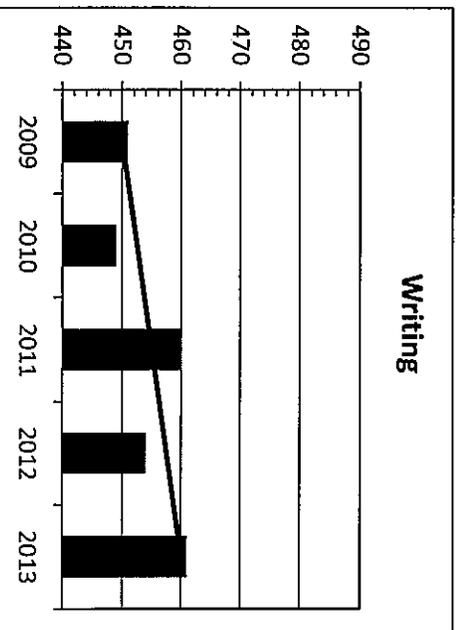
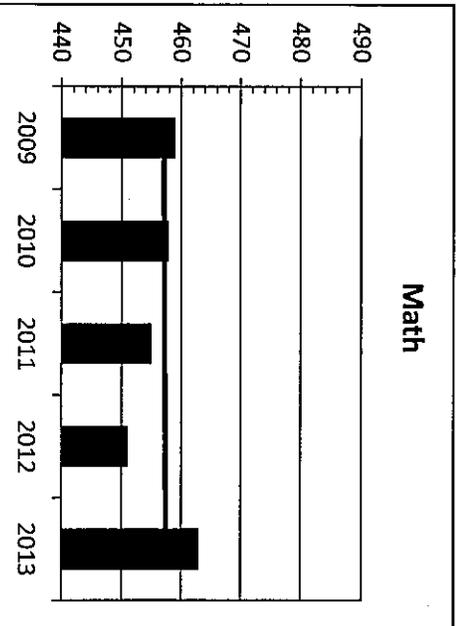
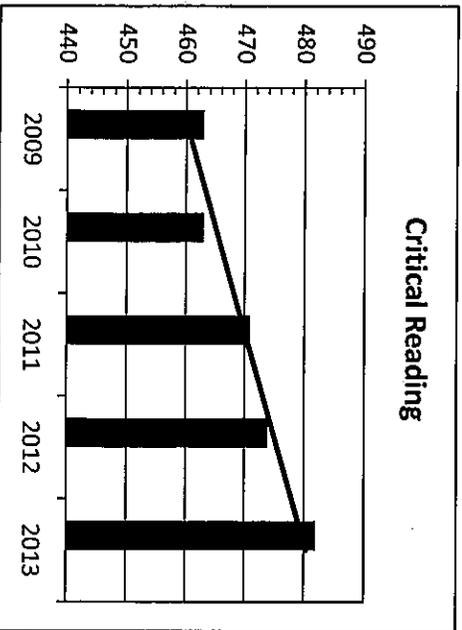
Included in the 192 routes are 2 cars and 2 vans.

Attachment E:

SAT 5-year Score Comparison

Table I: SAT Comparison Mean Scores for 5 years: 2009 - 2013

	Critical Reading Mean					5 yr change	Math Mean					5 yr change	Writing Mean					5 yr change
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
CHS	474	471	484	505	472	-2	475	462	457	467	443	-32	463	449	477	486	452	-11
DRHS	431	424	442	445	478	47	426	426	432	422	460	34	411	417	430	423	445	34
GHS	464	462	474	451	482	18	454	458	451	430	451	-3	457	454	457	439	471	14
THS	482	491	483	497	495	13	480	483	478	484	496	16	472	473	475	466	475	3
PCS	463	463	471	474	482	19	459	458	455	451	463	4	451	449	460	454	461	10
State	511	511	512	510	516	5	512	512	509	514	514	2	498	497	495	495	498	0
National	501	501	497	496	496	-5	515	516	514	514	514	-1	493	492	489	488	488	-5



Attachment F:

Stanford 10 3-year Score Comparison

Stanford 10 Percentile Rank for Assessment Years 2011, 2012, 2013

Grade 4	Reading				Math				Science				Social Science		
Elem. Schools and Division	2011	2012	2013		2011	2012	2013		2011	2012	2013		2011	2012	2013
PCS	47	59	45		46	60	54		60	66	62		47	64	57
Brosville	43	59	59		42	45	61		59	67	70		48	58	69
Chatham	45	57	46		50	49	46		57	71	60		49	58	56
Gretna	50	57	42		47	63	47		64	60	61		49	62	54
Hurt	45	56	43		38	61	44		57	73	52		40	62	50
Kentuck	40	53	40		34	44	49		49	55	56		33	56	50
Mt. Airy	59	63	35		63	71	48		68	73	47		54	70	47
Southside	44	63	45		55	64	56		67	65	63		54	67	54
Stony Mill	51	56	42		45	68	58		51	68	66		47	64	60
Twin Springs	50	63	50		45	68	59		66	72	64		49	71	53
Union Hall	58	55	43		56	63	61		74	64	62		51	63	55

Grade 6	Reading				Math				Science				Social Science		
Middle Schools and Division	2011	2012	2013		2011	2012	2013		2011	2012	2013		2011	2012	2013
PCS	54	48	44		59	54	48		63	59	53		67	65	58
Chatham	58	50	51		61	54	52		69	57	59		71	66	65
Dan River	48	40	40		50	46	43		54	52	44		56	54	42
Gretna	49	53	45		59	58	50		59	63	53		71	73	62
Tunstall	57	48	40		62	55	47		68	62	56		69	68	63

Attachment G:

Pittsylvania County Schools 2014
Statistical Profile

ON-TIME GRADUATION RATE

On-Time Graduation Rates Cohort Report Four-Year Rate – All Students

(# of 1st time entering 9th graders in year X-4) + (Transfers in) - (Transfers out & deceased)

On-Time Diploma Graduates in Year X

Graduation year (First Time 9 th grade Cohort)	2009 (2005-06)	2010 (2006-07)	2011 (2007-08)	2012 (2008-09)	2013 (2009-10)
PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY					
Adjusted Cohort	772	746	740	728	719
Graduated ¹	83.55%	83.05%	86.76%	89.40%	87.60%
GED	1.94%	0.0%	0.68%	<	<
Certificate ²	0.13%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Still Enrolled ³	2.59%	2.81%	1.49%	2.20%	<
Dropouts ⁴	9.20%	11.10%	10.54%	8.00%	10.30%
VIRGINIA					
Adjusted Cohort	98,043	97,997	97,865	97,023	96,167
Graduated ¹	83.20%	85.50%	86.60%	87.98%	89.10%
GED	3.60%	3.40%	3.10%	2.77%	2.48%
Certificate ²	0.30%	0.27%	0.20%	0.25%	0.23%
Still Enrolled ³	2.70%	2.40%	2.30%	2.01%	1.88%
Dropouts ⁴	7.90%	8.10%	7.20%	6.48%	5.90%

1 The percent Graduated is the VA On-Time Graduation Rate
 2 All students who completed high school but did not earn enough requirements for a diploma or GED
 3 All non-graduates, non-completers who are still enrolled in school working towards graduation
 4 All non-graduates, non-completers who have discontinued school
 < Indicates a group below the state definition for personally identifiable results

Completion Rate for Ninth Grade Students Entering High School

Completion Rate Formula:

$$C + D12 + D11 + D10 + D9$$

C = # of students earning any state-approved diploma or completion certification
 D = # of grade dropouts for 9th grade - 12th grade (i.e. D9 is # of 2001-02 9th grade drop outs)

Graduation Year	Year Students Entered 9 th Grade	No. of Students Graduating	Number of Graduates plus Dropouts	Completion Rate
2003-04	2000-01	567	658	86.17%
2004-05	2001-02	676	747	90.50%
2005-06	2002-03	594	656	90.55%
2006-07	2003-04	678	741	91.50%
2007-08	2004-05	695	762	91.21%
2008-09	2005-06	662	746	88.74%
2009-10	2006-07	622	705	88.22%
2010-11	2007-08	642	735	87.40%
2011-12	2008-09	651	709	91.82%
2012-13	2009-10	653	715	91.33%

TEXTBOOK ADOPTIONS

Imple-mented	TEXTBOOKS	LEA Review*
2001-02	Music K-12 (local adoption) Health K-12	Local Local
2010-11	History and Social Science K-12	2010
2011-12	Mathematics K-12	2011
2012-13	Reading/English/Language Arts K-12	2012
2013-14	Science K-12	2012
2014-15	Foreign Language	2015

* LEA Review of Textbook/Materials Adoption Schedule
 Established by VDOE – Implementation of textbooks would begin the following year (based on funding)

SEPTEMBER 30 MEMBERSHIP

2002-03	9036
2003-04	9264
2004-05	9300
2005-06	9299
2006-07	9423
2007-08	9338
2008-09	9252
2009-10	9294
2010-11	9034
2011-12	9004
2012-13	9028
2013-14	9007

Membership: Enrollments + Reentries – Withdrawals
 From Fall Financial Verification Report. Fall membership reported by school division

FREE & REDUCED LUNCHES

	FREE	REDUCED
2002-03	2537	639
2003-04	2724	672
2004-05	3031	746
2005-06	3113	811
2006-07	3224	795
2007-08	3151	839
2008-09	3499	843
2009-10	4025	844
2010-11	3959	684
2011-12	4034	723
2012-13	4190	788

Pittsylvania County Schools

Statistical Profile

2013-14



January 2014

ACCREDITATION RATINGS

Year	Fully Accredited	
	State	Division
2000-01	—	0
2001-02	40%	11% (2)
2002-03	65%	50% (9)
2003-04	78%	61% (11)
2004-05	86%	71% (12)
2005-06	92%	100% (18)
2006-07	91%	89% (16)
2007-08	92%	94% (17)
2008-09	95%	100% (18)
2009-10	98%	100% (18)
2010-11	98%	100% (18)
2011-12	96%	100% (18)
2012-13	93%	100% (18)
2013-14	77%	72% (13)

ACHIEVED NCLB ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP) (2005-11) and ANNUAL MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES (AMO) (2012 forward)

School = Made AYP or AMO	Year										
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Pittsylvania County	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Brosville El. (65-46)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Chatham El.	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Chatham HS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Chatham MS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Dan River HS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Dan River MS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Gretha El.	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Gretha HS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Gretha MS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hurt Elem.	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Kentuck El.	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Mt. Airy El.	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Southside El.	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Stony Mill El.	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Tunstall HS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Tunstall MS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Twin Springs El.	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Union Hill El.	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) - known since 2001 as the Child Left Behind (NCLB) - sets the annual measurable objectives (AMOs) for increasing student achievement. The State of VA, under Executive Order 55, 2012 (NCLB Healthy Water), established AMOs for reducing proficiency gaps in reading and mathematics for lowest-performing and highest-performing schools. The AMOs represent the minimum performance standards for schools in the lowest-performing schools in order to receive sufficient proficiency gains in reading and mathematics within six years. These objectives in reading and mathematics replace the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) targets schools were previously required to meet.

* Met AMOs, but scores were lower than previous year by 5%.

STANDARDS OF LEARNING

Percent of Students Passing Statewide and Division Comparisons 2013 (State Report Card)

Grade	Statewide		Division
	Statewide	Division	
GRADE 3			
English	72	69	
Mathematics	65	69	
History	87	88	
Science	84	84	
GRADE 4			
English Reading	70	70	
Mathematics	74	78	
Virginia Studies	87	90	
GRADE 5			
Reading	73	66	
Writing	71	63	
Mathematics	69	67	
History to 1865	83	76	
Science	75	64	
GRADE 6			
English Reading	73	72	
Mathematics	77	84	
History from 1865	82	80	
GRADE 7			
English Reading	74	74	
Mathematics	61	52	
Civics & Economics	85	77	
GRADE 8			
Reading	71	68	
Writing	70	73	
Mathematics	76	81	
Science	76	75	
END OF COURSE			
Reading	89	88	
Writing	87	88	
Algebra I	76	81	
Algebra II	76	89	
Geometry	76	82	
U. S. History	86	88	
World History I	84	80	
World History II	85	89	
Earth Science	83	85	
Biology	83	84	
Chemistry	86	93	

SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST RESULTS

Verbal	Year										
	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13				
Chatham	482	449	474	471	484	505	472				
Dan River	440	474	431	424	442	445	478				
Gretha	446	448	464	462	474	451	482				
Tunstall	477	487	482	491	483	497	495				
State Av.	511	511	511	512	512	510	516				
National Av.	502	502	501	501	497	496	496				
Math											
Chatham	464	453	475	462	457	467	443				
Dan River	435	450	426	426	432	422	460				
Gretha	432	423	454	458	451	430	451				
Tunstall	477	487	480	483	478	484	496				
State Av.	511	512	512	512	509	514	514				
National Av.	515	515	515	516	514	514	514				

STANFORD 9/10 RESULTS

Beginning with 2010, results are based on 2007 norm. National Percentile Rank-Stanline (Grade Equivalent)

Grade	Year			
	2010	2011	2012	2013
Reading	55 (4.4)	47 (3.7)	59 (4.9)	45 (3.6)
Comprehension	52 (4.0)	46 (3.8)	60 (4.7)	54 (4.0)
Math	65 (5.1)	60 (4.8)	66 (5.3)	62 (4.9)
Social Sc.	54 (3.7)	47 (3.2)	64 (4.9)	57 (4.3)

GRADE 6

Grade	Year			
	2010	2011	2012	2013
Reading	56 (6.1)	54 (5.9)	48 (5.7)	44 (5.4)
Comprehension	57 (6.2)	59 (6.3)	54 (5.9)	48 (5.7)
Math	66 (7.3)	57 (7.0)	59 (6.5)	53 (6.1)
Science	70 (7.9)	59 (7.6)	65 (7.4)	58 (6.5)

(MGE) - Median Grade Equivalent. A grade equivalent is a score that represents the average score of students tested in a given month of the school year. i.e. 5.3 means that the student is performing at the level of a student at the 3rd month of the 5th grade.

Attachment H:

Term Graduate Completion Report

Continuing Education Plan of Graduates

Graduates who completed a CTE
program

Advanced Academic Course Enrollment

Advanced CTE Enrollment

2012-2013- Report of Combined Term Graduates - Final

071 - Pittsylvania County Public Schools

Graduates by Type of Award

	AM-INDIAN		ASIAN		BLACK		HISPANIC		WHITE		HAWAIIAN		2 OR MORE		TOTAL		
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	
Standard Diploma	1	2	0	0	46	45	2	6	72	131	0	0	0	1	0	122	184
Adv Studies Diploma	0	0	0	1	42	18	4	6	144	95	0	0	0	0	1	190	121
Special Diploma	0	0	0	0	4	10	0	0	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	8	16
Certificate of Completion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GED	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
IB Diploma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Standard Diploma	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
GED/ISAEIP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
General Achievement Diploma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal:	1	2	0	1	93	76	6	13	224	234	0	0	0	1	1	325	327
Total (Female & Male):	3	3	1	1	169	169	19	19	458	458	0	0	2	2	652	652	

School Performance Report Card Data

	AM-INDIAN		ASIAN		BLACK		HISPANIC		WHITE		HAWAIIAN		2 OR MORE		TOTAL	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
Advanced Placement course enrollment *	0	0	0	2	29	15	1	2	145	97	0	0	4	3	179	119
Advanced Placement Test Taken Preliminary Results *	0	0	0	2	15	8	1	2	115	73	0	0	3	2	134	87
IB Course enrollment *	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IB Exam Taken *	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dual Enrollment courses taken *	1	1	0	1	56	45	9	11	217	242	0	0	1	2	284	302
Governors School enrollment	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	26	23	0	0	0	0	28	26
Seniors enrolled in IB Program	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Award	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	3	6

Note: students taking at least one AP or IB course, taking at least one AP test, taking at least one IB exam, or enrolled in at least one Dual Enrollment Course during this school year.

2012-2013- Report of Combined Term Graduates - Final

071 - Pittsylvania County Public Schools

Continuing Education Plans of Graduates

	AM-INDIAN		ASIAN		BLACK		HISPANIC		WHITE		HAWAIIAN		2 OR MORE		TOTAL	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
4-yr college	0	0	0	1	40	14	1	3	85	49	0	0	0	0	126	67
2-yr college	1	2	0	0	29	18	5	7	107	112	0	0	0	0	142	139
Other educational plans	0	0	0	0	3	8	0	0	6	6	0	0	0	0	9	14
Military	0	0	0	0	5	9	0	0	8	19	0	0	0	0	13	28
Employment	0	0	0	0	15	25	0	2	16	48	0	0	1	1	32	76
None	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Subtotal:	1	2	0	1	93	76	6	13	224	234	0	0	0	1	325	327
Total (Female & Male):	3		1		169		19		458		0		2		652	

Graduates who completed a Career and Technical Education Program who plan to join the military, seek employment or have no formal post high school plans.

	AM-INDIAN	ASIAN	BLACK	HISPANIC	WHITE	HAWAIIAN	2 OR MORE	Total
Females	0	0	20	0	18	0	1	39
Males	0	0	25	3	53	0	0	81
Total:	0	0	45	3	71	0	1	120

Graduates who enrolled in at least one Career and Technical Education Course during middle or high School

	# Enrolled	% Of Graduates
Females	313	96.3
Males	307	93.9
Total:	620	95.1

2012-2013- Report of Combined Term Graduates - Final

071 - Pittsylvania County Public Schools

Graduates who Completed a Career and Technical Education Program by Type of Award

	AM-INDIAN		ASIAN		BLACK		HISPANIC		WHITE		HAWAIIAN		2 OR MORE		TOTAL	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
Standard Diploma	1	2	0	0	40	36	2	5	62	116	0	0	1	0	106	159
Adv Studies Diploma	0	0	0	0	34	15	3	5	101	76	0	0	0	0	138	96
Special Diploma	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	7
Certificate of Completion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IB Diploma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Standard Diploma	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	4
GED/SAEP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
General Achievement Diploma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal:	1	2	0	0	79	56	5	11	165	197	0	0	1	0	251	266
Total (Female & Male):	3	3	0	0	135	135	16	16	362	362	0	0	1	1	517	517

Pittsylvania County Schools - ADVANCED ACADEMIC COURSES FOR 2013-2014

	COURSE	Code	Adv	Dual	AP	VAP	TOTAL
MATHEMATICS	Adv. Algebra/Trig	31616	X				301
	Pre-Calculus	31626	X	X			170
	AP Calculus	31776			X		44
	AP Calculus AB	31774				X	3
	AP Calculus BC	31775			X		28
	AP Statistics	31924				X	1
	Intro to College Statistics	31956	X	X			79

SCIENCE	Adv. Placment Biology	43706			X		37
	Anatomy & Physiology	4330					172
	AP Chemistry	44706			X		20
	Physics	45106	X				96
	AP Environmental Science	42706				X	2

Governors School	English 11	11505	X	X			28
	Integrated Math Analysis	31625	X	X			24
	College Applied Comp/Math	31845	X	X			28
	College Chemistry	44255	X	X			24
	English 12	11605	X	X			20
	Laboratory Calculus	31705	X	X			16
	College Biology	43255	X	X			8
	College Statistics	31925	X	X			8
	College Anatomy & MicroBio	43405	X	X			6
	College Physics	45055	X	X			8
Sr. Research Application	46105	X	X			20	

ENGLISH	AP English Lit/Comp	11954				X	14
	AP English Lit/Comp	11956		X	X		32
	AP English Lang/Comp	11966		X	X		80
	AP English Lang/Comp	11964				X	2
	College Comp II	1160H	X	X			18
	World Mythology	11654				X	14

SOCIAL SCIENCE	AP Human Geography	22114				X	12
	AP US Government	22456			X		99
	AP US History	23196			X		103
	AP Euro History	23994				X	6
	AP Euro History				X		42
	AP Psychology	29014				X	35
	AP Macro Economics	28036			X		21
	AP Government/Politico US	24454				X	2

TOTAL ADVANCED ACADEMIC COURSES

1623

Pittsylvania County Schools - ADVANCED CTE COURSES FOR 2013-2014

	COURSE	Code	Adv	Dual	TOTAL
BUSINESS	Business Law	6131		X	22
	Business Management	6135		X	64
	Computer Information Sys	6612		X	85
	Adv. CIS	6613		X	0
	Word Processing	6625		X	84
	Design, Multimedia & Web Technologies	6630		X	6
EDUCATION	Teachers for Tomorrow	9062	X	X	15
HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES	Emergency Medical Tech.	8333		X	14
	Nursing Assistant	8360		X	20
MARKETING	Advanced Marketing Coop	8130		X	30
TECHNOLOGY ED & ENGINEERING	Principles of Engineering	8441	X	X	9
	Civil Engineering & Arch.	8430	X	X	9
	Digital Electronics I	84406	X	X	9
	Technical Drawing & Design	8435		X	70
	Engineering Drawing & Design	8436		X	18
	Architectural Drawing & Design	8437		X	0
	Precision Machining Technology I	8539	X	X	21
	Precision Machining Technology II (BEGINS 2014-2015)	8540	X	X	0
TRADE & INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION	HVAC & Refrigeration I	8503		X	4
	HVAC & Refrigeration II	8504		X	8
	Automotive Tech I	8506		X	11
	Automotive Tech II	8507		X	14
	Brick Masonry I	8512		X	4
	Brick Masonry II	8513		X	8
	Electricity - Residential	8533		X	10
	Electricity - Industrial	8534		X	14
	Computer Sys Tech I	8622		X	11
	Computer Sys Tech II	8623		X	6
	Welding I	8672		X	9
	Welding II	8673		X	15
	Auto Body Tech - Collision	8676		X	8
	Auto Body Tech - Painting	8677		X	10
	Criminal Justice I	8702		X	15
Criminal Justice II	8703		X	12	

TOTAL ADVANCED CTE COURSES

635

Attachment I:

Letters of Support

- Danville Community College
- Danville Pittsylvania Chamber of Commerce
- The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research
- New College Institute
- Piedmont Governor's School for Mathematics, Science and Technology
- Pittsylvania County Economic Development
- Virginia State University



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Danville Community College

1008 South Main Street • Danville, Virginia 24541-4004
434.797.2222 • TTY: 434.797.8542

January 24, 2014 Fax: 434.797.8541 • www.dcc.vccs.edu

Mr. James McDaniel, Superintendent
Pittsylvania County Public Schools
P.O. Box 232
Chatham, VA 24531

Dear Mr. McDaniel,

Danville Community College fully supports the request from Pittsylvania County Public Schools for a pre-Labor Day Opening Waiver. Danville Community College (DCC) and Pittsylvania County Public Schools (PCS) are active partners and collaborate on a number of academic projects that include all grade levels. The primary partnership includes a significant number of high school students and thereby should follow college semester schedules. In the Fall 2013 Semester, 821 students were enrolled in 77 dual enrollment classes at the four Pittsylvania County High School and the Pittsylvania County Career and Technical Center through DCC. In addition, a new thirty-three credit hour Advanced Manufacturing Certificate for the DCC program, Precision Machining, is taught at the Pittsylvania County Career and Technical Center in Blairs, Virginia. This is an important career pathway for training the workforce for the economic revitalization of Southside Virginia. PCS also provides students with the opportunity to enroll in dual enrollment courses that lead to the successful completion of an Associate Degree in Arts and Sciences in Science, a General Education Certificate, an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts, and a Nurse Aide Career Studies Certificate, in addition to the high school diplomas from the Pittsylvania County High Schools. A close following of college semester schedules, that includes a pre-Labor Day beginning, facilitates grade processing for dual enrollment students. First, if students are applying to colleges in December, they are able to receive updated DCC transcripts in a timely manner for their applications. Second, student records are updated adequately to correspond with scheduled DCC processes. Finally, DCC is able to include students on the College Honors List each semester which serves as a significant motivation to PCS high school students.

Pittsylvania County Public Schools is beginning the Academy for Engineering and Technology (AET) with a number of regional partners including DCC and Virginia State University. The AET provides thirty-three transfer level credits in engineering and an early introduction to post-secondary academic and career opportunities in engineering. The AET includes DCC faculty visits to PCS schools and DCC campus visits by PCS students. It is

essential that the PCS schedule follow the academic calendar of the post-secondary partners for the courses to have the necessary content and contact hours.

DCC is also a pilot college in the Virginia Governor's Rural Horseshoe Initiative, which has the goal to significantly increase the number of students who complete a higher education credential and contribute to the economic revitalization of Southside Virginia. PCS introduces students at an early stage in their academic career to college experiences and familiarizes them with college programs and campuses. The Rural Horseshoe Initiative will continue this and offer additional support to elementary, middle, and high school students through the full-time DCC Career Coaches included in the initiative. For example, the Career Coaches will assist PCS students in developing academic and career plans which must be completed by the seventh grade. Thus, Career Coaches will promote careers and college program awareness among elementary and middle school students. This is an important project since 80 percent of DCC students are first generation attendees.

As an additional resource to PCS for promoting STEM careers, DCC professors will make presentations to elementary and middle school students on science, technology, engineering and math. This is an expansion of professors' demonstrations in the classrooms on STEM topics. DCC STEM professors will also assist PCS faculty with the Odyssey of the Mind program for gifted and talented students. These initiatives are supported by a PCS schedule that parallels the College schedule which begins before Labor Day.

The Rural Horseshoe Initiative and the AET will play a large role in helping Southside Virginia match the higher education graduation rates for the Virginia Commonwealth as a whole. To achieve the goals for AET outlined by the Pittsylvania County Public Schools, a school division calendar that matches the College semesters is essential. Therefore, I would like to offer my full support for the request from Pittsylvania County Public Schools for a pre-Labor Day Opening Waiver.

Sincerely,



Christopher C. Ezell
Vice President of Academic and
Student Services

January 15, 2014

Mr. James E. McDaniel
Pittsylvania County Schools
P.O. Box 232
Chatham, Virginia 24531



Dear Mr. McDaniel:

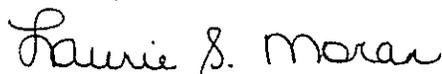
Workforce development has always been a critical component of a community's ability to attract good jobs that provide decent wages and benefits for its citizens. For years, Danville and Pittsylvania County depended on traditional manufacturing jobs and agricultural jobs. Unfortunately, neither of these sectors required – or typically encouraged – an educated workforce. But times have changed. If we want to attract retain our existing jobs and attract new jobs through entrepreneurship and business recruitment, then we must look to developing a workforce that has the skills and knowledge for a new economy.

The development of knowledgeable workers for the 21st century begins with today's students in providing them with college and career readiness opportunities as well as a wide array of options to compete in a global economy. Pittsylvania County Schools' proposal to establish a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Academy will provide students with a rigorous core curriculum, innovative technologies, distance learning opportunities, project-based learning, and critical thinking skills. The foundation that students will receive through a STEM Academy will enhance students' ability to secure careers that provide family-sustaining wages and the quality of life that our young people desire and deserve.

The Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce, which represents approximately 700 businesses, supports Pittsylvania County Schools' efforts to provide instruction to elementary, middle and high school students in the career fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics through the STEM Academy.

The Chamber is committed to working with Pittsylvania County Schools to ensure the success of this program. We hope you give favorable consideration to this application and will gladly provide any additional information you may require.

Sincerely,



Laurie S. Moran, CCE
President



THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED LEARNING AND RESEARCH

January 2, 2014

Mr. James E. McDaniel
Division Superintendent
Pittsylvania County Public Schools
39 Bank St., SE
Chatham, VA 24531

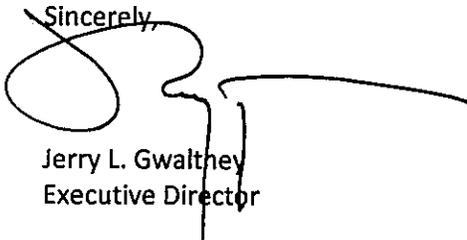
Dear Mr. McDaniel,

The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR) is committed to the economic transformation of Southern Virginia, understanding that this will require the need to increase educational opportunities available to the region's citizens. Formal and informal learning programs offered through IALR are designed to address three primary needs: preparing a core economy workforce for the future, meeting current employer needs, and expanding higher education opportunities.

This letter indicates IALR's support of the Pittsylvania County STEM Academy. Emphasizing the importance of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) to elementary, middle, and high school students will prepare our students for the future's workforce needs. By introducing students to hands-on STEM learning at an early age, students will have more time to investigate their interests, learn 21st Century skills, and explore college and career opportunities. IALR will continue to support student development through the STEM mobile lab, summer camps, and other informal learning opportunities, leveraging Pittsylvania County Public Schools' investment in STEM education.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,



Jerry L. Gwaltney
Executive Director

Jerry L. Gwaltney | Executive Director

150 Slayton Avenue | Danville, VA 24540 | Voice: 434-766-6713 | Fax: 434-791-3279 | www.ialr.org |
jerry.gwaltney@ialr.org



January 10, 2014

James E. McDaniel
Superintendent, Pittsylvania County Public Schools
P. O. Box 232
Chatham, Virginia 24531

Dear Mr. McDaniel:

Please accept this letter of support for the Pittsylvania County School S.T.E.M. Academy. We believe that informing young students of career and academic options in STEM fields as well as exposing them to opportunities throughout the region is critical to strengthening our regional workforce and to growing our economy.

NCI, already a partner with your school system through the Academy for Engineering and Technology, will be happy to further our collaboration as appropriate on additional STEM programs. We appreciate your endeavors to bring world-class pedagogy and projects to our region and to our students.

NCI enthusiastically supports the Pittsylvania County School S.T.E.M. Academy and looks forward to engaging our faculty and staff in STEM-related activities.

Best regards,

Leanna Blevins, Ph.D.
Associate Director and Chief Academic Officer



*The Piedmont Governor's School
For Mathematics, Science and Technology
P.O. Box 728
Collinsville, VA 24078*

*Telephone: (276) 403-5625
Fax: (276) 403-5638*

Office of Administration

January 28, 2014

Dr. Patricia L. Wright
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Virginia Department of Education
P. O. Box 2120
Richmond, VA 23218-2120

Dear Dr. Wright:

The Piedmont Governor's School for Mathematics, Science and Technology is excited about the Pittsylvania County STEM Academy. Through this project, students at the elementary and middle school level will be engaged in STEM-related activities and courses early on in their academic career. It is essential that students in the Pittsylvania County area be exposed to the educational and career opportunities in the STEM fields.

Through the STEM Academy, instructors from the Piedmont Governor's School for Mathematics, Science and Technology will provide inquiry-based STEM labs to students in elementary and middle school to focus on specific fields and emphasize career pathways. This initiative will allow the instructors at our school to share their knowledge about STEM-related fields in creative ways to students at an early age.

The administration and staff at the Piedmont Governor's School for Mathematics, Science and Technology fully support the Pittsylvania County STEM Academy and look forward to engaging the youth in our area in STEM-related activities. Again, we are excited to be collaborating with Pittsylvania County Schools in this endeavor. Should you need additional information relative to our support of this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact me at bpance@pgsmst.com or 276-403-5625.

Sincerely,

Brian R. Pace
Director
Piedmont Governor's School for Mathematics, Science and Technology

*Shipping Address: • 10 East Church Street - 4th Floor •
Martinsville, VA 24112*

PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY

VIRGINIA

Gregory L. Sides
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Planning & Development
P.O. Box 426
Chatham, Virginia 24531
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1 Center Street, Chatham, Virginia
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Website: www.pittgov.org

January 28, 2014

Mr. James E. McDaniel
Division Superintendent
Pittsylvania County Schools
P.O. Box 232
Chatham, VA 24531

Dear Mr. McDaniel:

As we seek to revitalize our local economy, it is critical that our workforce development efforts focus on promoting and nurturing the 21st century skills that are necessary to be economically competitive, whether nationally or internationally. We know that success in the future requires knowledge and expertise in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

Economic development, in terms of creating new, well-paying jobs, is more competitive than ever. A knowledgeable workforce with both STEM skills and more specialized technical skills such as Machining and Industrial Maintenance is a pre-requisite for entry into this competitive world. Pittsylvania County realizes that growing our own skilled workforce through the County school system can be the critical factor that differentiates our area from our competitors.

The Pittsylvania County School System has been a great partner in the County's economic development efforts, most recently through new programs at the Career and Technical Center. We feel that the school system's new STEM Academy will be another major step toward a better future for the entire County.

The innovative new concept of the Pittsylvania County STEM Academy will introduce younger students to STEM related activities and the tools and processes associated with these fields. We will be able to have young people exposed to the skills of the future at a time in their life that allows them to focus their future studies toward STEM related professions. This Academy will also benefit existing technical programs by offering students an earlier exposure to the world of science and technology.

On behalf of Pittsylvania County's economic development program, I wholeheartedly support the school system's innovative new STEM Academy and pledge my continued support for this program that is so important to the future growth of our County. Please let me know if I can help in any way.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Sides
Assistant County Administrator
for Planning & Development

GLS/kp



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY
VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY, VIRGINIA 23806
(804) 524- 8989 Ext. 1106

Department of Technology
P.O. Box 9212

January 24, 2014

Fax: (804) 524-6732
TDD: (804) 524-3487

Mr. James McDaniel
Superintendent
Pittsylvania County School System
39 Bank Street, SE
Chatham, Virginia 24531

Dear Mr. McDaniel,

I write to express Virginia State University's strong support for the Pittsylvania County School's STEM Academy.

Virginia State University's (VSU) College of Engineering and Technology is pleased to support Pittsylvania County Schools with this initiative. In coordination with New College Institute (NCI) and Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR), VSU currently provides college credit in engineering and technology courses to junior and senior students through the Academy for Engineering Technology (AET). Pittsylvania County Schools is a partner in this program where students enhance their capabilities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) in addition to direct interaction and involvement in experiential learning with the opportunity to receive valuable workforce credentials in enterprise resource planning (ERP) and product life cycle management (PLM). The advent of a STEM academy in Pittsylvania County at the lower level (k-8) will expand upon AET and develop a rich culture of exposure to engineering and technology in southern Virginia.

The STEM academy also supports the need to invest in the need to create awareness for engineering and technology at the k-8 level where it's critical to introduce the importance of advancing technology and investing in our current region. Ultimately, this program will improve the economic vitality and outlook of a struggling and rural region of Virginia by supplying a well-trained workforce that meets industry needs. VSU will work closely with Pittsylvania County Schools to cultivate this program by providing collaborative efforts in classroom instruction, workshops, and student support.

We look forward to the opportunities this project will create for the Southside region of Virginia and appreciate your thoughtful consideration of our letter.

Sincerely,

Coray Davis
AET Program Director
Associate Professor & Associate Chairperson
College of Engineering & Technology
Virginia State University
804-524-1076
cqdavis@vsu.edu