

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

April 1, 2024

Dear Members of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners,

Enclosed please find the information pertaining to recent revisions made by the Chatham County Schools Board of Education to the Head-Up Assumptions, which we believe are essential for your consideration in the development of the county's budget.

The Chatham County Board of Education, through unanimous decision on Monday, March 11, 2024, has directed our team to revise and submit updated assumptions for our 2024-2025 Preliminary Heads-Up Budget Request Document.

These revisions stem from the imperative need to address the challenges surrounding recruitment, retention, and equitable compensation of our highly skilled educators, critical for the provision of quality education to the students of Chatham County. Notably, the revised request includes an increase of \$2,700 to the base of each step of the supplement pay schedule.

Aligned with our ONE Chatham strategic plan, these adjustments aim to ensure that our educators are well-qualified and fairly compensated, thereby fulfilling our commitment to providing exemplary education to every student in our district.

Enclosed please find a comprehensive breakdown of the proposed changes compared to the information presented during your retreat in January:

Budget Item	Original Heads Up Approved Dec-2023	Revised Heads Up Approved March 2024	Difference
New Classified Employees Pay Scale Adjustment	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000	\$0
Employee Raises and Benefits	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$0
Certified and Classified Supplement Adjustment	\$400,000	\$3,168,000	\$2,768,000
Operational Increases	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0
TOTAL Chatham County Schools Current Expense Request	\$2,500,000	\$5,268,000	\$2,768,000
Charter School Transfer	\$300,000	\$633,000	\$333,000
Capital Outlay Appropriation Request	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$0
Total Appropriation Request Needed to Fund	\$2,915,000	\$6,016,000	\$3,101,000

CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

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We trust that this information will provide valuable insight into the adjustments made by the Chatham County Schools Board of Education and their implications for the county budget. We are available to provide any further clarification or discuss the methodology behind these revisions at your convenience.

Thank you for your dedicated consideration of our request and your ongoing support of our educational endeavors. We look forward to the opportunity to collaborate with you in ensuring the continued success and prosperity of Chatham County.

Warm regards,

Dr. Anthony D. Jackson, Superintendent
Chatham County Schools

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