

DRAFT
 Amendment to Asheville Primary School Study
 Fall 2021
 G.S. 115C-72

I. Purpose of Amendment

During a Work Session held by the Board of Education on December 6, 2021, the Board received multiple reports and information regarding the possible relocation of Asheville Primary School (staff and students) to either the campus of Hall Fletcher Elementary or Montford North Star Academy. The information demonstrated the difficulty of moving APS to either location and APS may need to be closed with the students and staff assigned to existing ACS schools for the 2022-23 school year. A public hearing was set for December 7, 2021 and comments regarding possible closure of APS were received at that time. In addition, the public hearing was continued until December 13, 2021 to permit additional comment and input from the public on the possible closure of APS.

II. Per the request of the Asheville City Schools Board of Education, the following information is added to the Asheville Primary School Study:

1. An exact number of students when IDE was located on the current MNSA campus.

IDE Enrollment on the MNSA Campus			
School Year	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Enrollment	463	487	507

2. NC DPI guidelines on classroom size and capacity for grade K-8

NC DPI Classroom Square Footage Requirements					
Grade Level	PK	K	1-3	4-8	9-12
Net Square Footage	1,200 - 1,400	1,200	1,000 - 1,200	850 - 1,000	750 - 850

Source: *Public Schools of North Carolina Facilities Guidelines*. Public Schools of North Carolina State Board of Education Department of Public Instruction. (2014, September). Retrieved December 7, 2021, from <https://ncleg.gov/PED/Reports/documents/SchoolConstruction/AppendixE.pdf>.

3. NC DPI Class Size Requirements per G.S. 115C-301

NC DPI Class Size Requirements				
K	1	2	3	4-5
18	16	17	17	No maximum

Source: § 115c-301. allocation of teachers; class ... - NCLEG.NET.
 NorthCarolinaGeneralAssembly(ncleg.gov). (n.d.). Retrieved December 10, 2021, from
https://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/BySection/Chapter_115C/GS_115C-301.pdf.

4. Enrollment at APS by program on the campus as of 12/10/2021

Program Name	# of Students Enrolled
Montessori K - 4th	108
Montessori PK	24
ACS PK	60
Total Students Enrolled on APS Campus	192

5. Student-to-Instructional Staff Salary Ratio and Student-to-Instructional Staff Ratio by campus.

School-based Instructional Staffing *		
School	Per-Pupil-Cost based on base salaries	Student (PMR 3) to Instructional Staff Ratio
APS	\$620	6.9
Claxton	\$421	10.6
Hall Fletcher	\$506	9.4
Ira B. Jones	\$477	10.2
Isaac Dickson	\$413	12.5
Lucy S. Herring	\$498	9.9
Asheville Middle	\$489	9.7
Montford North Star	\$409	11.1
Asheville High	\$418	14.2
SILSA	\$226**	22.1**

Source: Based on PMR 3 student ADM and instructional staff base-salary reports.

Note: SILSA students share elective staff with Asheville High School

6. Critical and High Priority Capital Cost per student on every ACS Campus. This data came from our enrollment as of 10/19/2021 and the PFA Report presented to the Board of Education on 12/6/2021.

Campus	Critical and High Priority Capital Cost	Student Enrollment K-12 (as of 10/19/2021)	Repair Cost per K-12 Student Enrolled	Student Enrollment with PreK	Repair Cost per PK-12 Student Enrolled
AHS/SILSA	\$11,002,622.52	AHS: 1,139 SILSA: 345 Total: 1,484	\$7,414.17	AHS: 1,146 SILSA: 345 Total: 1,491	\$7,379.36
Asheville Primary	\$7,160,208.24	108	\$66,298.22	189 (APS & ACS PK)	\$37,884.70
Hall Fletcher	\$5,818,608.43	242	\$24,043.84	272	\$21,391.94
Herring	\$3,588,596.70	291	\$12,331.95	303	\$11,843.55
AMS	\$3,056,875.20	628	\$4,867.64	628	\$4,867.64
Jones	\$1,743,601.57	372	\$4,687.10	401	\$4,348.13
Claxton	\$1,204,500.27	388	\$3,104.38	388	\$3,104.38
MNSA	\$755,373.89	233	\$3,241.95	233	\$3,241.95
Dickson	\$32,918.14	399	\$82.50	417	\$78.94

7. The approximate cost to repair the APS campus to be used for administrative use only would be \$800,000.
- Roof Repair
 - Sewer and water (new lines, repairs, and replacement)
 - Doors
 - Guardrails
 - Restrooms
 - Room conversion (Classroom - to office, storage, etc.)
8. Current lease and utilities for ACS Maintenance Department (cost savings if APS campus used for the ACS Maintenance Department)
- Yearly lease = \$60,000
 - Yearly utilities (electric, water, network, waste, etc) approximately = \$35,000

9. ACS Child Nutrition current storage fees (cost savings if APS campus is used for the ACS Child Nutrition storage.)
 - o Expended to date (5 months) = \$11,300
 - o Estimated Total for the year = \$26,000

10. The approximate modular costs for additional APS classroom space on the HFE campus (information provided by the possible vendor):
 - o A Modular with 9 rooms (9100 sq ft) cost approximately = \$753,200
 - o Delivery, installation, footings, plumbing, and electrical = \$400,000

11. The Number of resignations and transfers of staff for each campus

2017-18 School Year Resignations/Transfers							
School	CLX	HFE	IBJ	IDES	LSH	APS	ACS
Total	22	30	26	16	15	1	110
Black	3	2	5	1	5	0	16
Hisp.	1	1	1	0	0	0	3

2018-19 School Year Resignations/Transfers							
School	CLX	HFE	IBJ	IDES	LSH	APS	ACS
Total	13	16	13	17	24	18	104
Black	1	2	2	2	3	2	12
Hisp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

2019-20 School Year Resignations/Transfers							
School	CLX	HFE	IBJ	IDES	LSH	APS	ACS
Total	11	10	19	15	11	19	94
Black	1	0	2	3	2	0	8
Hisp.	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

2020-21 School Year Resignations/Transfers							
School	CLX	HFE	IBJ	IDES	LSH	APS	ACS
Total	21	17	9	16	19	11	94
Black	5	3	0	4	2	1	15
Hisp.	0	2	0	1	1	0	4

II. Per G.S. 115C-72, the following information is added to the Asheville Primary School Study with regards to the possible closure of the school and reassignment of all staff and students to other ACS elementary schools for the 2022-23 school year:

A. Factors Related to School Closure

- Welfare of ACS Students -
 - ACS has significant capital improvement needs at multiple schools. The price per student to fully renovate the APS building is the highest amount of all buildings.
 - There is space in existing ACS elementary schools to include all current APS students (in-district and out-of-district) for the 2022-23 school year without the need to renovate buildings or hire additional staff. All APS students will apply for school enrollment using normal district procedures applicable to all students.

Number of current K-5 classes by schools other than APS (other classes may be added as needed for the 2022-23 school year)

School	# of K	# of 1st	# of 2nd	# of 3rd	# of 4th	#of 5th
CLX	4	4	4	4	4	4
HFE	3	3	3	3	3	2
Jones	4	4	4	4	3	3
IDE	4	4	4	4	4	3
LSH	3	4	3	3	3	3
Total	18	19	18	18	17	15
Total K-5 Classes	105					
# of current APS K - 4 students	108					

- 108 K-4 students will no longer receive a Montessori-based education.
- All ACS elementary schools offer a caring school community that supports learning through staff, volunteers, and parents.
- All ACS elementary schools offer:

- Caring and student-centered communities
- Rigorous academic curriculum academic curriculum
- Strong focus on foundational literacy
- Art, music, Physical Education, and different specialist classes based on school priorities and/or magnet theme
- Full-time Administrators (Principals and Assistant Principals)
- Geographic Conditions
 - ACS is geographically a small district and has an elementary school choice program for all district schools. The longest distance between ACS elementary schools (Jones and Lucy S. Herring) is approximately 7.1 miles.
- Increase / Decrease in Enrollment
 - No impact on overall ACS enrollment.
 - There is space in existing ACS elementary schools to include all current APS students (in-district and out-of-district) for the 2022-23 school year without the need to renovate buildings or hire additional staff. All APS students will apply for school enrollment using normal district procedures applicable to all students.
- Inconvenience / Hardship to Students
 - 108 K-4 students will no longer receive a Montessori-based education in a dedicated school building.
 - Parents and students will need to transition to a new school and new school environment.
 - Classrooms at new schools could have a higher staff to student ratio.
 - Teacher reassignment and student reassignment will not be consistent for all students.
- Cost of “Additional” Facilities
 - There is space in existing ACS elementary schools to include all current APS students (in-district and out-of-district) for the 2022-23 school year without the need to renovate buildings or hire additional staff. All APS students will apply for school enrollment using normal district procedures applicable to all students.

