



Office of the School Board

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March 16, 2026

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors,
On behalf of the Albemarle County School Board, I am writing to formally request your consideration and approval of a \$311.3 million ACPS budget as presented in the [FY 27 Draft Funding Request](#).

This request does not reflect a comprehensive list of all unmet needs for the division. Rather, this is a request of the most essential needs, balanced with the available shared revenues based on the Board of Supervisors Financial Management Policies as recently amended and adopted during your November 19, 2025, Board of Supervisors meeting.

Most notably, the proposed request allows ACPS to fully support the opening of two new schools (ACE Academy – Lambs Lane and Mountain View Elementary Upper), which are the first two new school facilities opening in 24 years.

This funding request also allows us to meet our goal of attracting and retaining highly qualified teachers and staff by fully funding salary and workplace benefits as agreed to through the collective bargaining agreement.

You will also note that we propose to enhance our instruction and learning by investing in new high quality instructional materials and focusing resources on math and data instruction specialists in high-needs schools, adding targeted special education staff, and strengthening our career and technical education and workforce development efforts through implementation of our Scholar Studios programs.

Lastly, the proposal follows the guidance suggested by the Board of Supervisors during our Capital Improvement Program Joint Boards discussion in December 2025 and invests \$4.1M in operational revenues to school capital projects. Overall, we believe the proposal meets the most immediate needs of ACPS to assure our students and families receive the quality of education they expect for their tax dollars.



Attached, please find a copy of the Funding Request presentation that will be delivered by Vice Chair Spillman and myself. Although I expect the board conversation to focus on the policy level decisions for which we are elected to focus our attention, I have also asked Dr. Haas to have his staff available for any technical questions you may have about the operational aspects of the school division.

I look forward to our continued collaboration and open dialogue about the future of Albemarle County.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Berlin, Ph.D.
Chair
Albemarle County School Board

Attachments: [2026-27 School Board's Funding Request](#)