

**Minutes of the May 6, 2025
Special Meeting of the Yancey County Board of Commissioners
Joint Meeting with Yancey County Board of Education
Yancey County Schools District Office
Burnsville, North Carolina**

Present at the meeting held May 6, 2025, were Chairman Jeff Whitson, Vice Chairman Mark Ledford, Commissioner Stacey McEntyre Greene, Commissioner David Grindstaff, Commissioner Sandi Norton, County Manager Lynn Austin, and Clerk to the Board Morgan West.

Present with the Yancey County Board of Education were Chairman Edwin Fortner, Vice Chairman Cody Whitson, Member Wade Dahlberg, Member Ronnie Randolph, Member Will Hensley, Superintendent Kathy Amos, Assistant Superintendent Heather Cox, School Finance Officer Kim Bennett, and School Board Clerk Marie Anglin. Members of the public were also present.

Call to Order

Chairman Whitson called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Whitson asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Greene made the motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Grindstaff seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the agenda was approved. (Attachment A)

Yancey County Schools 2025-2026

Board of Education Chairman Edwin Fortner recognized Superintendent Amos who presented the 2025-2026 Local Budget Request. (Attachment B) Ms. Amos highlighted the school system accomplishments, areas of focus, and school system goals including a 4-year plan. Ms. Amos also reviewed grant funding awarded to the school system. Ms. Amos and Ms. Cox facilitated the discussion of the budget requests for 2025-2026, shared supporting data sources, and presented justification for the requests. A discussion ensued on the budget requests and current and future planned school projects.

Adjournment

Having no further business, Commissioner Ledford made the motion to adjourn with Commissioner Grindstaff seconding the motion. The Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adjourn.

Approved and authenticated this the 14th day of July 2025.



Jeff Whitson, Chairman



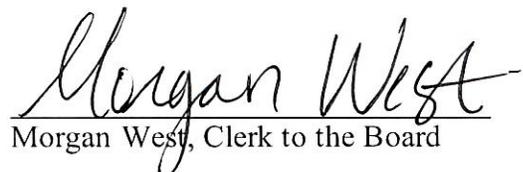
Mark Ledford, Vice Chairman



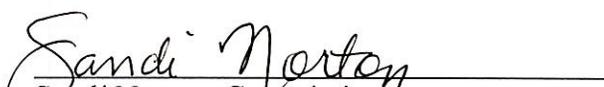
Stacey McEntyre Greene, Commissioner



David Grindstaff, Commissioner



Morgan West, Clerk to the Board



Sandi Norton, Commissioner





**AGENDA
YANCEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
JOINT MEETING YANCEY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAY 6, 2025
6:00 PM**

- I. Call to Order – Chairman Jeff Whitson**
- II. Approval of the Agenda**
- III. Presentation –Yancey County Schools**
- IV. Adjourn**



Yancey
County Schools
Our Vision - Excellence

Attachment B



2025 - 2026 Local Budget Request

What the School System Can Do For Yancey County





Positive Statistics:

- We serve 2,067 students Pre-K -12th grade
- Pre K = 54 students, 44 Slots for NC Pre K, 38 Students for next year
- YCS is Ranked 12th in NC for Reading, Math and Science
- YCS is Ranked #1 in NC for 8th Grade Science and Biology Scores
- MHHS has the 7th highest in NC for EOC Scores for Grades 9-12
- Ranked 5th Best School District in WNC based on our test scores in Grades 3-12
- #1 in NC for the Lowest Teacher Attrition Rate of 4.05% - we value our students, teachers, employees and community support
- Top 2 in NC for Highly Effective Teachers - 2024 EVAAS Data - Exceeds 25-32% of our Teacher
- CTE was 1st in NC for Credential Attainment
- 23 CTE Students enrolled in Internships and 1,098 Credentials Earned
- In 2024-2025, CTE students have already earned 594 credentials Fall 2024
- Our CTE Natural Resources II - Forestry Students 1st in NC to earn the states first Certified Forest Worker Credential Course



NCDPI Future Focused, Career Ready: Preparing students to enroll, enlist, or be employed



Yancey
County Schools
Our Vision - Excellence

Areas of Focus:

- **Instructional Leadership**
 - Literacy Focus - Science of Reading and CKLA
 - Math Focus
- **Help all students to make a years growth at every level**
- **Attendance**
- **NCSTAR - Setting Attainable Goals**
- **Technology/AI**
- **Infinite Campus Training**
- **District and School Web Pages - Apptegy Training**
- **Workforce Development and CTE Career Development Plans**
- **Facilities Study and Long Range Plans**





With Our Local Budget Needs - What Can YCS Do For You???

- **Keep all students safe, happy and healthy**
- **Increase Student Achievement K-12**
- **Maintain a High Graduation Rate**
- **Prepare students for the High Tech Business and Industry Workforce and Post Secondary Studies**



Hurricane Helene - Fall 2024

- **Provided Shelters/Distribution Sites on our 6 Campuses for our during the Rescue, Relief and Long Term Recovery**
- **Relocated 8 Classrooms to BES and 3 Classrooms to STES in 3 weeks**
- **Secured \$13,566,933.74 in State Grant Funds from the NC Disaster Recovery Act**
 - **Mental Health, Child Nutrition Salaries, Child Nutrition Equipment, Technology Repair Funds**
 - **Facility Repair Funds - \$12,960,271**
 - **MHHS Roof, MS/HS Gym Floors and Bleachers, Windows, and 5 Slope Failure Repairs**
- **Secured \$464,693 US Department of Education SERVE Grant**
- **Provided Mental Health Support - SREB Crisis Recovery Network Deployed to YCS and NC Center for Resilience and Learning, Employee Assistance Network**
- **Organized and Distributed over 700 Angel Tree Gifts to our Students and Families**
- **Distributed 315 Easter Hams and Meals to our Families**
- **Secured Donations and Grant Funds for: Spring Field Trips, Christmas Cheer, Employee Assistance and Tiny Homes**
- **MHHS Advanced Carpentry Class Building Tiny Homes for our Community - Appearance on Good Morning America, This Old House Filming soon**





Yancey
County Schools
Our Vision - Excellence

Grants for YCS Projects:

\$4,088,501.76



**21st Century After School
and Summer School Grant
\$1.5 Million for 3 Years**



2024-25 | 5-Year Enrollment Forecast

Table 2. Top 10 Fastest-Growing Public Schools in North Carolina by Percentage Increase in Student Enrollment

Projected Growth 2024-25 to 2029-30

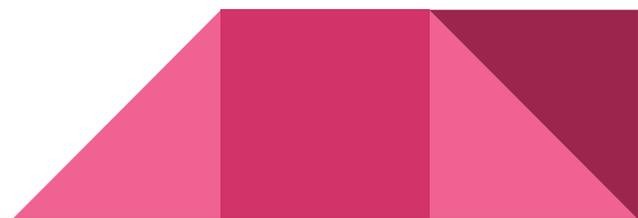
LEA	County	LEA Name	2024-25 Enrollment	2029-30 Enrollment	Projected Growth Total Percent	Projected Annualized Growth Rate	Projected Growth
270	Currituck	Currituck County Schools	4,518	5,173	14.50%	2.74%	655
550	Lincoln	Lincoln County Schools	11,426	12,795	11.98%	2.29%	1,369
995	Yancey	Yancey County Schools	2,042	2,283	11.80%	2.26%	241
350	Franklin	Franklin County Schools	7,855	8,750	11.39%	2.18%	895
570	Madison	Madison County Schools	2,060	2,281	10.73%	2.06%	221
360	Gaston	Gaston County Schools	30,573	33,670	10.13%	1.95%	3,097
510	Johnston	Johnston County Public Schools	37,030	40,757	10.06%	1.94%	3,727
130	Cabarrus	Cabarrus County Schools	35,142	38,644	9.97%	1.92%	3,502
220	Clay	Clay County Schools	1,254	1,377	9.81%	1.89%	123
491	Iredell	Mooresville Graded School District	5,794	6,353	9.65%	1.86%	559



YCS Local Budget Request - 4 Year Plan :

- 2025 - 2026
 - Due to the Devastation of Hurricane Helene - We are not requesting additional funds
- 2026 - 2027
 - Salary Study - YCS Staff \$150,000
 - Pre K Plans (2 Teachers/2 TA's Needed - YCS/CC)
 - Additional Pre K Teacher \$71,000
 - Additional Pre K TA \$43,000
 - Total: \$264,000**

- Capitol Request for Half of 5% Match for State Grant (65 Million for MHHS) \$1,550,000





YCS Local Budget Request - 4 Year Plan :

Future Pre K Plans:

- 2027 - 2028

- Salary Study - YCS Staff \$150,000
- Pre K Plans (2 Teachers/2 TA's Needed - YCS/CC)
 - Additional Pre K Teacher \$71,000
 - Additional Pre K TA \$43,000

Total: \$264,000

- 2028 - 2029

- Plumbing and HVAC Teacher \$71,000

Total: \$71,000



Yancey
County Schools
Our Vision - Excellence

Future Plans:

2025 - 2026

- Complete Remodeling Project at STES - August 2025
- Complete Remodeling Project at EYMS/CRMS - July to September 2025
- Complete 14 Classroom Addition at BES in August 2025
- Complete 12 Classroom Addition at BRES in December 2025
- Complete 6,000 Square Foot Expansion Project of the Orr Building in June 2026
 - Heavy Equipment and Electrical Classes
 - Move the Carpentry Classes and Expand the Automotive Classroom Space
- Animal Science Program - Complete Barn and Arena - June 2026
 - Barn, Animals, Materials, Supplies and Teacher
- Handicap Accessibility Renovations to the MHHS Stadium August 2025
 - Parking, Seating, Bathrooms, Change of Entrance





Yancey
County Schools
Our Vision - Excellence



Future Plans:

2025 - 2026

- **Aviation Classes - Spring 2026**



2026 - 2027

- **Universal Pre K - Additional 2 Classrooms - Fall 2026**
- **Computer Science Classes - Fall 2026**
- **High School 65 Million Facilities Grant - Spring 2026**
 - Renovations +
 - Career and Innovation Center
 - Secure Office Space
 - Auxiliary Gym and Shelter (Gym Space, Weight Room, Kitchen/Food Prep, Health Room, Wrestling Mat Room, 2 JROTC Classrooms)



Yancey
County Schools
Our Vision - Excellence

2027 - 2028

- Finish seating and lighting renovations at MHHS Stadium
- Advocate for YCS Employee Supplements
- Apply for Dogwood Grant for YCS Employee Workforce Housing
 - CTE Classes to Design, Build 5 -6 Townhouses and Small Homes
- Funding for Hybrid, EV, Aircraft Engines in Automotive Classes
- Continue plans for Pre K Expansion
- Explore 3rd Elementary School
- Explore Plans for Auxiliary Gym/Shelter





Yancey
County Schools
Our Vision - Excellence

2027-2028

- **Addition of Two Assistant Principals (State?)**
 - BRES/CRMS
 - BES/EMYS
- **Begin Auxiliary Gym/Shelter Project**
- **Review MS CTE Classes**
- **Activity Buses**
- **Devices for Pre K-1 Students and all teachers**
- **4 Playgrounds**
- **Furniture - Desks and Chairs**
- **Turf Reconditioning**





Yancey
County Schools
Our Vision - Excellence



2028 - 2029+

- **MHHS Renovaton Project Begins (Spring 2027 or 2028?)**
- **Build YCS Storage Shed**
- **Explore 4th Elementary School and**
- **6th Grade Wing Additions at the Middle Schools**
- **Secure Funds for YCS County Office**
 - Remove Mobile Unit at BES
 - Technology Center - Server Storage
 - 2 Professional Development Rooms - seating for 60 in each
 - School Board Room for 120 seating
 - Parking for 80-100

