

The proposed Thomasville City Schools 2019-2020 budget request was developed against the background of continued, significant funding challenges in State and Local funding for public schools in North Carolina and across the nation. We have struggled through more than a decade of reduced or stagnant revenues, a continued decrease in our school population, and ever-increasing costs as we attempt to provide an appropriate level of educational service for our children.

Our focus has always been to provide the best educational opportunities for students, to invest in our facilities as centers of learning and safe environments for all, and to promote the greater use of newer technologies that keep students and staff competitive across the nation.

Our Current Expense and Capital Outlay requests are “status quo” based on the best information obtained on what the new North Carolina budget estimates could be and revenue projections from Davidson County and the City of Thomasville. Over the past decade, higher costs have been passed on to school districts and local governments from the State in the form of funding formula changes and ever-increasing employee costs. The 2019-2020 budget estimates for employee benefit costs could reach or exceed 30 percent of a full-time employee’s salary.

We must care for the immediate needs of our current students and we need the County Commissioners assistance in achieving that goal. Our student population continues to decrease but costs continue to rise. Their time is now and they deserve every opportunity. This budget maintains a focus on our priorities and the District’s commitment to a strong organizational approach that maximizes the dollars we do have. Thomasville City Schools also realizes tough decisions need to take place due to the continued decrease in enrollment. We must do our part in controlling costs so therefore numerous reductions will take place in 2019-2020 of both personnel and operations expenditures. We strive to fulfill the educational hopes and aspirations of the Thomasville community to ensure that their students maximize their potential and prepare themselves well as citizens of this nation and capable learners ready for every challenge and opportunity their futures bring.

The investment in our students and staff will always be our priority and we thank you for your continued support of Thomasville City Schools.

Sincerely,

Catherine Gentry, Ed. D.
Superintendent
Thomasville City Schools