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VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Planning Grant Application for a College Partnership Laboratory School

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Public institutions of higher education (IHE); public higher education centers, institutes, or authorities; or eligible institutions of higher education as defined in the Tuition Assistance Grant Program, as provided in [§ 23.1-628](#), (eligible entity or entities) may apply for a Virginia Board of Education (Board) College Partnership Laboratory School Planning Grant (Planning Grant).
2. Each Planning Grant Applicant (Applicant) seeking a Planning Grant must read and comply with the Instructions for Application for a Planning Grant for a College Partnership Laboratory School (Lab School), which are available on the Virginia Department of Education's (Department) website, and fully complete this Planning Grant Application (Application) to be eligible for a Planning Grant.
3. Applications may be submitted on a rolling basis and will be evaluated for Planning Grant awards based on factors set forth herein.
4. **Planning Grant Term: This Application is for a one-time Planning Grant, the term (Term) for which will not exceed 12 months from the date of any award hereunder.**
5. The completed PDF version of the Application and related materials must be sent to labschools@doe.virginia.gov by email. The Department may return or reject an Application that is incomplete.
6. Please contact labschools@doe.virginia.gov by email if there are any questions about the Application process.

A.1. KEY CONTACTS, SUBMISSION DATE, AND FUNDING REQUEST

1. **Name of Eligible Entity (Planning Grant Applicant):**
Ferrum College
2. **Address of Eligible Entity (Planning Grant Applicant):**
PO Box 1000, Ferrum VA, 24088
3. **Name of Authorized Official Representative:**
Dr. Mirta M. Martin
4. **Email Address for Authorized Official Representative:**
mirtamartin@ferrum.edu
5. **Telephone Number for Authorized Official Representative:**
540-365-4202
6. **Name of Contact Person for Application:**
Dr. Jason Powell
7. **Email Address for Contact Person for Application:**
jpowell@ferrum.edu
8. **Telephone Number for Contact Person for Application:**
540-365-4483
9. **Name of Partnering School Division (if applicable):**
Franklin County Public Schools
10. **Name of School Board Chairman of Partnering School Division(s) (if applicable):**
Mr. Jeff Worley
11. **Email Address for School Board Chair of Partnering School Division(s) (if applicable):** jeff.worley@frco.k12.va.us
12. **Name of Superintendent of Partnering School Division(s) (if applicable):**
Dr. Kevin W. Siers

Email Address for Superintendent of Partnering School Division(s) (if applicable):
kevin.siers@frco.k12.va.us

13. Name of Industry or Community Partner(s) (if applicable):

Carilion Clinic

14. Name of Contact Person for Industry or Community Partner(s) (if applicable):

Mr. Carl Cline

15. Email Address for Industry or Community Partner(s) (if applicable):

CTCLINE@carilionclinic.org

16. Phone Number for Industry or Community Partner(s) (if applicable):

540-489-6344

17. Date of Submission:

June 2, 2023

18. Amount of Funding Requested (\$200,000 maximum):

\$200,000

Additional Partners:

1. Name of Industry or Community Partner(s) (if applicable):

F & S Building Innovations, Inc. // Build Smart Institute, LLC

2. Name of Contact Person for Industry or Community Partner(s) (if applicable):

Michelle Ramaker

3. Email Address for Industry or Community Partner(s) (if applicable):

michelle.ramaker@fsbuildinginc.com

4. Phone Number for Industry or Community Partner(s) (if applicable):

540-985-9160

5. Name of Industry or Community Partner(s) (if applicable):

Franklin County Public Safety

6. Name of Contact Person for Industry or Community Partner(s) (if applicable)

William Ferguson

3. **Email Address for Industry or Community Partner(s) (if applicable):**
William.ferguson@franklincountyva.gov
4. **Phone Number for Industry or Community Partner(s) (if applicable):**
540-483-3091

B. DEFINITIONS

1. **College Partnership Laboratory School:** In accordance with [Item 4-14](#) of the General Assembly’s 2022-2024 Biennium budget, the Code of Virginia § [22.1-349.1](#) is amended and reenacted, and the types of IHE eligible entities to establish Lab Schools are defined as follows:
 - a. "College Partnership Laboratory School" means a public, nonsectarian, nonreligious school in the Commonwealth established by a public institution of higher education; public higher education center, institute, or authority; or an eligible institution, as defined in § [23.1-628](#). Notwithstanding the provisions of § [22.1-349.5](#), a public institution of higher education; a public higher education center, institute, or authority; or an eligible institution, as defined in § [23.1-628](#) may submit an application for formation of a college partnership laboratory school.”
 - b. An “eligible institution” as provided above is an institution of higher education as defined in the Tuition Assistance Grant Program in accordance with § [23.1-628](#).
2. **At-risk student:** As provided in the Code of Virginia § [22.1-349.1](#), "at-risk student" means a student having a physical, emotional, intellectual, socioeconomic, or cultural risk factor, as defined in Board criteria, that research indicates may negatively influence educational success.

For the purpose of these guidelines and any Planning Grant awards, “at-risk students” include (a) students who have experienced learning loss as the result of the COVID-19 pandemic; (b) students served by low-performing schools that are designated as “accredited with conditions” or “accreditation denied” based on the Virginia Board of Education’s accreditation ratings; and (c) students attending schools identified under the Every Student Succeeds Act within three support categories: (i) Comprehensive Support and Improvement, (ii) Targeted Support and Improvement, or (iii) Additional Targeted Support Category.

3. **Regional diversity:** For the purpose of evaluation of this Application, regional diversity reflects representation from each of the Department’s eight Superintendent [regions](#).

C. ASSURANCES AND SIGNATURES

1. ASSURANCES

- a. By signing and submitting this Application, the Applicant assures that it will adhere to state and federal laws and regulations governing public schools, including the *Virginia Standards of Quality*, the *Virginia Standards of Learning*, and the Board's *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.
- b. The Applicant assures that all elements of the proposed school(s) will comport with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations.
- c. The Applicant certifies that to the best of his/her knowledge the information in this Application is correct, that all Application elements have been addressed as required in this Application, and that the Applicant understands and will comply with the assurances.
- d. The Applicant agrees to conduct a review of their planning phase, and submit milestones and deliverables as required, including, but not limited to, a comprehensive report with details for the projected Lab School implementation, expenses, and other items as may be prescribed by the Department.
- e. Applicants receiving a Planning Grant are expected, by the end of the term of such grant, to submit a subsequent application for the launch of a Lab School to the Department, for review and approval by the Board.
- f. Applicant provides assurance to subscribe to the following reporting requirements timetable:

TIMELINE	BENCHMARK AND DELIVERABLES
On or before the end of the first quarter of the grant term	Awardee must present a proposed list of milestones, measures of success, and deliverables.
On or before the end of the second quarter of the grant term	Awardee must submit a progress report in order to be eligible for the second installment of the award.
On or before the end of the third quarter of the grant term	Awardee must present progress on milestones and deliverables, including submission to the Board of an application for approval to launch a Lab School.
On or before the end of the grant term	Awardee is expected to have attained approval by the Board to launch a Lab School.

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2. SIGNATURES

a. Higher Education Authorization:

Signature of [AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE of public institution of higher education; public higher education center, institute, or authority; or an eligible institution]:



Printed Name: Dr. Mirta M. Martin
Title: President, Ferrum College
Date: 5/24/2023

b. Fiscal Agent Authorization (if applicable):

Signature of Division Superintendent of Fiscal Agent School Division:



Printed Name: Dr. Kevin Siers
Title: Superintendent, Franklin County Public Schools
Date: Click or tap here to enter text.

c. Signature of Chairman of School Board of Fiscal Agent:



Printed Name: Jeff Worley
Title: Chair, Franklin County School Board
Date: Click or tap here to enter text.

D. REGIONAL AND APPLICANT DIVERSITY

1. Planning Grants will be awarded in a manner that encourages ready access to Lab School options and the establishment of Lab Schools in each of the Department's [eight Superintendent regions](#).
2. Indicate Superintendent Region of Proposed of Lab School: Region 6
3. Indicate Proposed Name(s) of Lab School:
Ferrum College Workforce Laboratory School.
4. Identify Proposed Physical Location(s) of Lab School:
On the Ferrum College campus in Franklin County, Virginia.

E. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION, GOAL, AND TIMELINE

1. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- a. **General description of the program:** The Ferrum College Workforce Laboratory School will offer Franklin County High School students who opt for Career and Technical Education (CTE) over conventional secondary education tracks the opportunity to specialize in curriculum to build skillsets that are critically needed by local and regional employers including nursing, EMT, paramedic, and fire fighting in addition to skills needed in industrial settings. Providing dual enrollment college credit for these experiences will act as an enticement to continue into higher education later in their career preparation pathway. Initially, the Lab School will be focused will be on 11th and 12th graders. After full implementation of these programs, some 9th and 10th graders would also become eligible for participation. This would necessarily be a part of the investigation portion of the planning grant.
- b. **Rationale for the program:** The Ferrum College Workforce Laboratory School will be a win/win for both students and local employers. For students, the Lab School will offer an option for dual enrollment credit in a county that has no community college alternative. The nearest community colleges are over 30 minutes away in Roanoke or Martinsville, creating a travel burden for students that many do not have the resources to meet, to make this a regular trek. For local and regional employers, particularly in nursing, the demand for skilled workers is critical and growing, and it is currently unresolvable because of the dearth of well-trained candidates to fill those roles. The Lab School will create a new pipeline for skilled candidates to fill those vacancies. Employers in regional healthcare systems consistently need new nurses to help fill gaps left by retirements and other forms of attrition. Ferrum College's nursing program, going on its third year, is in good standing to become accredited and will achieve accreditation faster as more nursing students begin their studies in the Lab School

and feed directly into the College's nursing program. The College is planning for significant growth in its nursing program, with plans in place to initiate an RN to MSN program, pending SACSCOC approval.

c. Nature of innovation proposed for the program, including how it will

improve student academic proficiency, mastery, college and career readiness, and long-term outcome goal: As an umbrella initiative, Ferrum College's Partnership Laboratory School will seek to expand workforce readiness components of its curriculum in addition to the soft-skill preparation provided by our comprehensive liberal arts framework. Revision of our associate degree programs to include an Associate of Applied Science degree will supplement the existing Associate of Arts program. The program will be designed to facilitate credit transferability of general education "Core Component" requirements (12 credits), leaving only 21 credits of general education requirements remaining to be met for these students to achieve their **A.A.S.** degree. If students wish to subsequently obtain their bachelor's degree at Ferrum College, they may pursue the new technical studies minor, entering as transfer students with only 61 credits to complete their bachelor's degree.

One focus in workforce readiness is related to public safety: EMT, paramedic, fire, and expanded nursing and criminal justice programs with a focus on police training are high demand fields. An emergency services program proposal has been approved by faculty and will soon be submitted to SACS-COC. The planning grant will fund partnership exploration for facilities and instruction.

Another focus in workforce readiness is related to sustainable building trades and technical services - construction, carpentry, electrical, plumbing, welding, HVAC, industrial maintenance, and marine trades. A technical studies proposal has been approved by faculty and will soon be submitted to SACS-COC. The planning grant will fund partnership exploration for facilities and instruction.

- d. Expected student learning benefits:** 1. Easing the transition from secondary to post-secondary education for first-generation college students by introducing them to college-level work and allowing them to attain career-specific certifications while they are still in high school. This is a critical need for many Franklin County Public Schools students as only 22% of Franklin County residents have a bachelor's degree, consequently most FCPS students are the first in their families to pursue a college education. 2. Reducing loss of younger county residents to more urban areas by presenting a clear and actionable path toward a financially rewarding career and making that path as accessible as possible. The U.S. Census for 2017-2021 noted that 89% of Franklin County residents have at least a high school diploma, but the number for degree-holding residents drops sharply to 22%. Historically, the reason for the

dearth of degree holding county residents is the tendency for youngsters in Franklin County is to graduate from high school, pursue college or enter the job market and move away. The ability to obtain a well-paying job without accruing heavy student debt and having to move to a larger population center for employment will help Franklin County retain more of its young people.

3. Advancement to employment that offers a secure financial future. Currently, the per capita income of Franklin County residents is approximately \$33,739, while an individual holding a bachelor's degree can expect to earn significantly more. For example, starting salaries for nurses holding a BSN are approximately \$50,000.

e. **Expected teacher learning and professional development benefits:**

This planning grant will give immediate benefit to teachers in Franklin County, particularly those engaged in CTE education. The grant will also provide professional development for Ferrum College professors as well as teachers and instructors employed by regional partners. In order to ensure that the laboratory school is developed with full implementation of current best practices, training sessions will include sessions with educational specialists for in-person and online instruction of content-based and process-based disciplines. The required collaboration between the college and county school system will improve CTE and streamline workforce-related education for both organizations.

Both Ferrum College and the Franklin County public school system have regular professional development opportunities for their teachers. However, there have not been many opportunities for shared professional development opportunities across both organizations. This planning grant has the added benefit of catalyzing regional professional development for teachers that can attract instructors from both initial partner organizations but ultimately also from private schools and training academies with shared goals and values. This truly provides the opportunity to revolutionize the region's approach to this type of education as we conduct the necessary research to develop and implement the laboratory school.

f. **Content areas addressed:** The focus of this laboratory school initiative is career readiness and workforce development for Franklin County. The content areas addressed are very broadly health and emergency services and technical trades. Within health and emergency services, the College intends to expand capacity for education in nursing, E.M.T., paramedic, firefighting, law enforcement, and search and rescue. Within technical trades, the focus will be on expanding capacity for education in construction trades (including carpentry, electrical, plumbing, welding, and HVAC), contracting and maintenance, and marine trades.

2. GOAL

State the overall proposed goal for the Lab School:

As always, the College's goal for the Lab School is to provide a high-quality education to students who might otherwise not be able to obtain a degree. The College has strived, since its inception as a training school in 1913, to "educate students in the disciplines of higher learning and to help them be thoughtful and perceptive, to be articulate and professionally capable, and to be caring and concerned citizens of their community, nation, and world." The Lab School model will introduce students at the high school level to hands-on experiential learning that will motivate and encourage them to continue towards their career and professional goals with minimal distractions and digressions.

For the College's initial partner, Franklin County Public Schools, the Lab School will empower FCPS to further its shift from traditional learning models to personalized competency-based learning environments (PCBE.)

3. TIMELINE

Provide a timeline of the planning process, including the proposed date/school year for launch of the proposed Lab School:
August 7, 2023-August 31, 2024.

Date	Activities
Week of July 5 2023	Anticipated notification from Dept. of Education.
August, September, and October 2023	Fall of 2023 will be dedicated to initial meetings with Ferrum College faculty and ITC support, and faculty research.
August 9, 2023	First day of classes at FCHS.
August 14, 2023	First day of classes at Ferrum College.
August 14 and beyond	Social media updates for listening session.
Week of August 16, 2023	Anticipated date of receipt of funding.
Week of	

August 16, 2023	Begin ordering supplies.
Week of August 16, 2023	Appoint Project Director and student support.
August 26, 2023	All-day training event for FC faculty, FCHS CTE faculty, and community educators
Week of August 30, 2023	Ferrum College faculty brainstorming and planning session.
September 9, 2023	Planning event.
September 2023, post-planning event	Launch feasibility study.
September 2023	First listening session.
October 2023	Second listening session.
October 2023	Proposed list of milestones, measures of success, and deliverables due in first quarter report.
October 2023	First meeting with Franklin County Board of Supervisors, School Board, FCHS PTO.
November 2023	Advisory group, Emergency Services.
November 2023	Advisory group, Technical Studies.
December 2023	Leadership Team reviews feedback, plans next quarter.
December 2023	All-day training event for FC faculty, FCHS CTE faculty, and community educators (with outside presenters.)
January 2024	Progress report due in second quarter report (for second installment.)
January 2024	Receive approval from SACS-COC, begin trial enrollments.
January 2024	Launch pilot enrollments for Spring-Summer 2024 in new programs.
January 2024	Begin advertising campaign for new programs and the laboratory school.

February 2024	Update feasibility study and authorize final design development.
March 2024	Second round of ad campaign for new programs and the laboratory school.
April 2024	Final design due for third quarter report and application for implementation grant.
April 2024	Progress on milestones and deliverables including submission of application to launch Lab School due in third quarter report.
July 2024	Expected to have attained approval by the Board to launch a Lab School.
August 2024	First full cohort begins - existing facilities.
August 2024	Submit final report on Planning Grant outcomes, apply for Implementation grant, with intent to initiate Lab School in Spring 2025.

F. STUDENT POPULATION AND RELEVANT RESEARCH

1. TARGETED STUDENT POPULATION

- a. Describe the student population planned for the proposed Lab School, including the number of students, reporting group(s), and grade level(s) contemplated, and discuss why the specific student population is targeted to attend the Lab School.

Franklin County High School's West Campus Administrator and Supervisor of Career and Technical Education, Curtis Bumgardner, notes that with the high school's increasing focus on personalized, competency-based learning environments, virtually every FCHS student is enrolled in CTE curriculum. With some students taking multiple CTE courses, FCHS counts 2600 CTE students per year. Among the high school's student body, encompassing grades 9-12, 78% are White, 8% are Black, 7% are Hispanic, and 7% report their background represents two or more races. FCHS students are hard workers, as evidenced by the school's 91% graduation rate, which exceeds the graduation rate statewide (89%.) However, many students face financial challenges, with 32% qualifying for free school lunches, and 7% qualifying for reduced-price lunch.

Initially, the Lab School's focus will be on 11th and 12th graders. After full implementation of these programs, some 9th and 10th graders would also become eligible for participation. This would necessarily be a part of the investigation portion of the planning grant.

PROPOSED GRADES TO BE SERVED FOR THE FULL TERM OF THE APPROVED LAB SCHOOL CONTRACT

(PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY*)

Pre-K		Sixth Grade	
Kindergarten		Seventh Grade	
First Grade		Eighth Grade	
Second Grade		Ninth Grade	X
Third Grade		Tenth Grade	X
Fourth Grade		Eleventh Grade	X
Fifth Grade		Twelfth Grade	X

*If the Applicant intends to add or change grade levels at some point during the Lab School's operation, please also provide this information in Section E. Program Description.

b. Describe the community(ies) the school(s) serves:

Franklin County, Virginia is a large, rural county in southwest Virginia. The bulk of the county is listed as either "Rural, Fringe" or "Rural, Distant" by the National Center for Education Statistics, with the county seat of Rocky Mount noted as

"Town, Distant." The county's transition from a largely agricultural economic base to one supported by innovative industries capitalizing on emerging technology is stymied in part by a lack of skilled workers. Franklin County High School is the sole public high school in Franklin County, and as previously stated, there are no community colleges in the county, making achieving associate degrees a burden on students who wish to opt for Career and Technical Education coursework.

c. If the Lab School is going to have a specialized focus (e.g., Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics [STEM], at-risk students, special education, career and technical education, gifted education, classical education, etc.), please describe the focus:

The Lab School will focus on career and technical education in order to align with Franklin County Public Schools' shift toward personalized, competency-based learning environments that prioritize instruction in specific career pathways. The Lab School is an evolution in existing programming for the high school and will further FCHS's goal of increasing CTE students' opportunities for hands-on learning experiences, and also allow them to earn certifications that will expedite their entry into the workforce at a higher rate of pay than with a high school diploma alone.

2. RELEVANT RESEARCH

Discuss any relevant research tied to the proposed student population and overall goal of the Lab School to demonstrate that it will improve student academic proficiency, mastery, college and career readiness, and long-term outcomes:

Development of a Lab School will allow for in-depth demographic study of educational outcomes for Franklin County pre- and post-implementation as well as career and educational outcomes for trades-related students, as well as the number of students trained through the program filling local employment vacancies.

G. COLLABORATION AND STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

1. Describe the involvement of local school divisions, community-based organizations, employers, teachers, and parents in the planning, development, and implementation of the proposed Lab School:

The College currently has or is pursuing dual enrollment partnerships with each of the following entities. As development of these endeavors continues, teachers and parents will be invited to meetings to gather feedback.

Franklin County Public Schools (Franklin County High School) - Ferrum College has existing dual enrollment partnerships in education, chemistry, computer science, and environmental science. It is in discussions with the school system's CTE (Career and Technical Education) division about dual enrollment opportunities in building trades, business, agriculture, and health professions. There is a new CTE facility in the planning, budgeting, and quote/approval phase in the county.

Franklin County Public Safety - The department approached Ferrum College about a partnership for the purposes of educating EMT, paramedic, and fire science professionals. Among the steps taken are collaborating on curriculum development and proposal for accreditation, developing concepts for cohort-based course offerings in these areas to meet needs of current and prospective employees and volunteer firefighters, and investigating the opportunity to reintroduce EMT training at the high school level.

The Franklin Center - The College enjoys an existing partnership with the Franklin Center, which leases classroom and laboratory space for Ferrum's nursing program and is a partner in developing its emergency services curriculum (hosted most of the meetings in person and online). The Franklin Center is focused on economic development in Franklin County and is interested in additional partnerships with Ferrum College to accomplish this.

Build Smart Institute - The College is a full partner in developing the institute's curriculum; and participated in a joint course offering last May for E-term (on contractual basis). The Build Smart Institute formulated a steering committee for construction trades education and it is pursuing opportunities for inclusion in Roanoke County and Roanoke City high schools.

Virginia Technical Institute - VTI assisted the College in developing curriculum by providing contacts for model curriculum from Liberty University.

Carilion - Carilion Clinic is a longtime supporter of Ferrum College initiatives and vice versa, frequently championing one another with letters of support for projects aimed at student success and improved health outcomes in our community. Additionally, Carilion Clinic was among the first partners of the College's nursing program to offer required clinical placement opportunities for students. Carilion Clinic has also offered their mobile learning ambulance for training CTE students in paramedic and firefighting courses.

Franklin County Board of Supervisors (BOS) - Blue Ridge Supervisor Tim Tatum who represents the College's district is a part of the planning group for the proposed

emergency services curriculum, and he has indicated that he will facilitate a letter of support from the BOS if needed.

School systems to be pursued for partnerships in the future include Roanoke County Public Schools, Roanoke City Public Schools, Henry County Public Schools and Patrick County Public Schools.

2. If the Lab School is going to be in partnership with a local school division(s), please briefly describe the partnership:

Ferrum College and Franklin County High School (FCHS) have enjoyed a limited partnership through dual enrollment to date. Ferrum permits FCHS juniors and seniors to take one course on campus each semester tuition free, and FCHS has offered dual enrollment through Ferrum College for courses in biology, chemistry, computer science, education, and environmental science. One motivation for pursuing the laboratory school opportunity is to expand dual enrollment opportunities into fields served by the CTE division of FCHS, thus expanding the educational opportunities for students who may not be pursuing a traditional college-bound path. Many details of the partnership will be developed further during the community partnership sessions funded by the planning grant.

The current model is for FCHS to provide facilities, teaching staff, and existing equipment to be augmented by the College's facilities (either on campus or those leased from The Franklin Center) and faculty. Professional development for FCHS teachers will be provided by Ferrum College faculty and other subject matter experts, with skills and career certifications awarded through the College after the completion of coursework and required demonstration of proficiency. Models of transportation for FCHS students enrolled in Ferrum College courses could follow the same model already used for the Roanoke Valley Governor's School and the Franklin Center, where Franklin County buses the students at specific times during the day that allow them to maximize their opportunities at the various locations where instruction is offered.

H. SUSTAINABILITY

1. The goal of the Lab School Planning Grant program is to support public institutions of higher education; public higher education centers, institutes, or authorities; or eligible institutions of higher education as defined in the Tuition Assistance Grant Program, as defined in § 23.1-628, as they develop and implement programs in order to create or improve capacity to operate and sustain a Lab School independently of long-term state funding, and in a manner that promotes quality, innovation, and program results.
2. **Describe the Applicant's capacity to implement a Lab School:**

Ferrum College already pursues learning pathways with our local public-school system, so collaborating on a Lab School is the next logical step in these efforts. The College is well positioned to partner with Franklin County Public Schools and, at a later point, local community colleges, to leverage our unique strengths such as holding one of only two Agriculture programs with working farms in Virginia, the oldest Environmental Science program in Virginia and the second oldest in the country, our Internet of Things lab, and the only Ecotourism major in the country, to offer direct, hands-on learning experiences for students of all levels.

3. Identify potential affiliates, partners, and describe potential sustainable funding sources:

Franklin County Public Schools, Franklin County Public Safety, Christian Heritage Academy, Roanoke Catholic School, The Franklin Center, Build Smart Institute, Virginia Technical Institute, Cardinal Criminal Justice Academy, Carilion Clinic, Patrick & Henry Community College, Danville Community College, Virginia Western Community College, Roanoke County Public Schools, Roanoke City Public Schools are all either existing dual enrollment partners, pending partners for educational opportunities, or partners to be pursued in the future. As partnerships develop, the College's Institutional Advancement office will seek out donors and corporate entities with an affinity for the programs, or whose business interests are dependent upon skilled workers from those programs for donations, creation of endowments to support the programs long-term, and in-kind giving for related equipment and materials.

4. Identify potential barriers to the planning process and possible ways to address them:

Time and manpower are the two main obstacles for the College in pursuing all the potential partnership opportunities available to us and expanding existing partnerships. The College operates with a very lean staff and the development and implementation of such programs is labor intensive for faculty who teach classes, serve on committees and have additional academic responsibilities to attend to.

I. BUDGET OF DIRECT COSTS (WITH \$200,000 MAXIMUM)

1. Complete the budget table below outlining the financial plan of how the Planning Grant will be used in the effort to establish the proposed Lab School. The Planning Grant Term and use of funds may not exceed 12 months from the date of award.
2. Only include direct operating costs. Indirect costs and capital outlay costs are not allowed. Include a description of expenses that explains appropriateness of expenses based on the category descriptions shown below.
3. All expenses must be directly related to the proposed Planning Grant activities. Applicants are not guaranteed the requested award amount and any award may be

proportionally adjusted according to Application's weighted Planning Grant Application Evaluation Rubric score and to reflect only those expenditures that are designated as permissible.

- 4. Note: Any unspent Planning Grant funds remaining at the end of the Term must be returned by the recipient to the Department.**

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION OF EXPENSES	FUNDING REQUESTED
1000 – Personal Services	Twelve month salary for a full-time project manager or displaced salary for reassigned responsibilities of existing full-time employees (\$45,000) and two work-study positions at 20h/wk for two semesters, plus some winter and early summer work. These individuals will be responsible for coordinating stakeholder meetings, capturing data and participant input and compiling information for review by the College's Academic Affairs administrators.	\$56,440
2000 – Employee Benefits	This will include FICA and full-time benefits for the full-time employee (20% of salary), as well as FICA for work-study students. (Benefits for students for summer and winter, only.) These costs are legally required components of employees' pay and benefits structure.	\$9,067.32
3000 – Purchased/Contractual Services	This will cover speaker fees and travel expenses for guest speakers for training sessions to include one instructional specialist, one online education specialist, and one laboratory/hands-on education specialist. These individuals will share critical insights on best practices in their field of expertise.	\$7,500
4000 – Internal Services	This amount will provide two all-day training events for ~40 people, two community listening sessions for ~30 people, a planning event for ~20 people, an emergency services advisory group for ~12 people, and a technical studies advisory group meeting for ~12 people. These meetings will provide trainings for FCHS personnel and Ferrum College faculty to empower both to provide outstanding instruction and develop coursework to best	\$4,510

	support CTE students. Listening sessions are critical to this project to increase community buy-in and better understand the needs of CTE students.	
5000 – Other Services	This funding will provide for a feasibility study and initial design for the Lab School facility and cover costs incurred by Franklin County High School faculty attending Lab School planning and training events and listening sessions to include mileage, per diem/stipends. The feasibility study will help to identify the ideal resources, equipment, technology and other supports needed to create an optimal learning environment for CTE students.	\$81,000
6000 – Materials and Supplies	Classroom display screens with support laptops for instruction, marketing materials for Lab School promotion and outreach to include costs for printing and duplicating, branded materials for promotional giveaways, and an electronic display and computer and laptop to provide presentations at training events and listening sessions. Promotion of Lab School listening sessions and other events is needed to ensure a strong turnout to build consensus, and the requested technology will help to present audiences with information in a clear, compelling, professional manner.	\$41,000
Total		\$199,517.32

*** Total cannot exceed \$200,000 with additional funding considered at the discretion of the Department on a case-by-case basis and in accordance with available funds.**

Please visit the [Virginia Department of Education OMEGA object codes universal guidelines](#) for a complete description of the budget categories.

APPENDIX: PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION EVALUATION rubric

For the Applicant’s information, the following will be used as the Planning Grant Application Evaluation Rubric for this Application. Applicant does not need to complete this section.

AREA OF CONSIDERATION	DESCRIPTION	POINTS AVAILABLE
Targeted Student Population(s) and Relevant Research	Application proposes intention to serve at-risk students and/or offer a new, innovative model of instruction grounded in evidence-based practices to improve student academic proficiency, mastery, college and career readiness, and long-term outcomes.	30
Clarity of Program Description Goal, and Timeline	The program description and goal are clear and attainable. Indication of programmatic, operational, and infrastructural capacity to advance an application to launch a Lab School program, as well as launch a Lab School no later than the 2024-2025 school year. Additional preference will be given to applicants with an earlier Lab School launch timeline.	20
Sustainability	Evidence of institutional commitment to the viability of a Lab School in a manner that promotes quality, innovation, program results, and sustainability.	20
Collaboration	Evidence of engagement and collaboration with stakeholders, including local school divisions, community-based organizations, employers, teachers and parents.	15
Regional and Applicant Diversity	Evidence of diversity of location, with the goal of Lab Schools in each Superintendent region. For applicant diversity, preference will be given to new applicants in the event a concurrent applicant has previously received a Planning Grant during the current application period.	15



May 26, 2023

Dr. Lisa Coons
Virginia Department of Education
P.O. Box 2120
Richmond, Virginia 23218

Dear Dr. Coons,

As President for F & S Building Innovations, Inc., I am writing to you today in support of FCPS joining with Ferrum College to request funding to create a College Partnership Laboratory School or "Lab School" aimed at increasing the number of students earning certifications and credentials that will help them to support and grow local and regional industries, including residential and commercial construction.

We believe the construction business is actually a people-centric business. Providing a superior product with service excellence begins with placing priority on our clients, not just their project. From our executive leaders through field laborers, keeping our customer's best interest at heart is key. Assuring excellence at every stage of every project assures our clients have hired not only a contractor but a partner with a degree of integrity, skill, and commitment to match. In order to deliver this level of service, F & S Building Innovations, Inc. is constantly in search of well-trained, well-qualified candidates to join our team, and we believe the proposed lab school will help provide those employees.

Additionally, the College has a more than 100-year history of providing a quality education to students who might not otherwise be able to pursue a degree. As such, the College is uniquely positioned within our home community with a deep understanding of the needs of our students. Ferrum College will give our students the resources, guidance and structure to ensure their success.

For the reasons noted above, with my signature below, I am very pleased to support Ferrum College's pursuit of implementing a Lab School program.

Sincerely,

Tina C Rush

President , F & S Building Innovations, Inc.



FRANKLIN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of Superintendent

25 Bernard Road Rocky Mount, VA 24151-6614
(540) 483-5138 FAX (540) 483-5806

May 16, 2023

Dr. Lisa Coons
Virginia Department of Education
P.O. Box 2120
Richmond, Virginia 23218

Dear Dr. Coons,

As the incoming superintendent of Franklin County Public Schools effective 7/1/2023, I am writing to you today in support of FCPS joining with Ferrum College to request funding to create a College Partnership Laboratory School or "Lab School" aimed at increasing the number of nursing program students educated and retained locally to serve our regional healthcare systems.

The Franklin County Board of Supervisors is keenly interested in retaining the graduates of Franklin County Public Schools within our local area and streamlining degree attainment is vital to this effort. A lab school partnership between the College and FCPS will help to achieve this goal by capturing early adopters ready to make a lifelong commitment to the field of nursing, and providing them with a clear, guided pathway that will ensure they are prepared to meet the demands of their college-level coursework, attain their degree, and enter the workforce commanding a competitive salary.

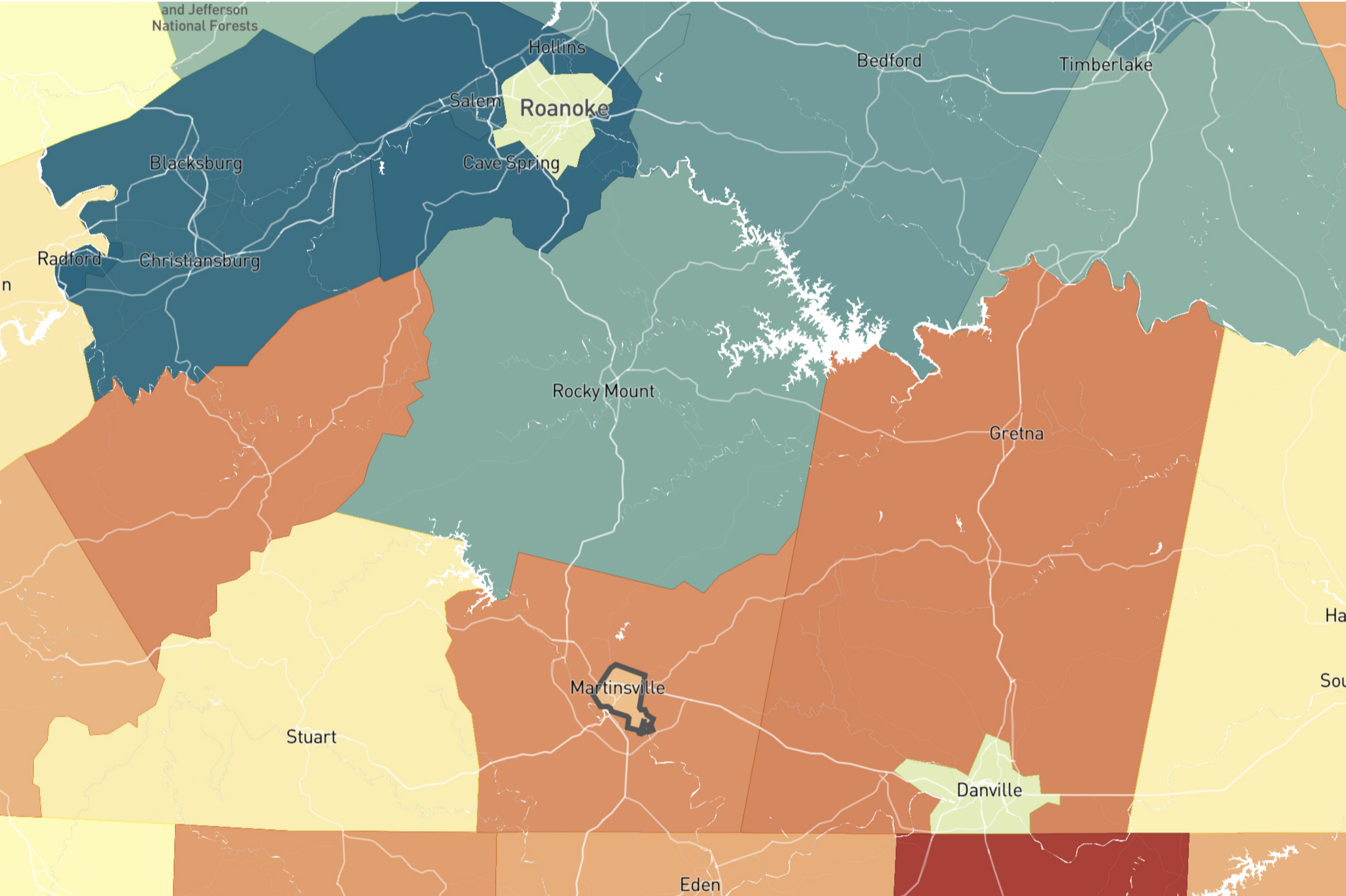
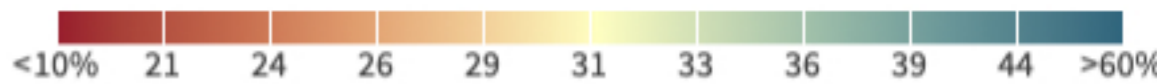
Additionally, the College has a more than 100-year history of providing a quality education to students who might not otherwise be able to pursue a degree. As such, the College is uniquely positioned within our home community with a deep understanding of the needs of our students. Ferrum College will give our students the resources, guidance and structure to ensure their success.

For the reasons noted above, with my signature below, I am very pleased to support Ferrum College's request for funding to create a College Partnership Lab School for nursing.

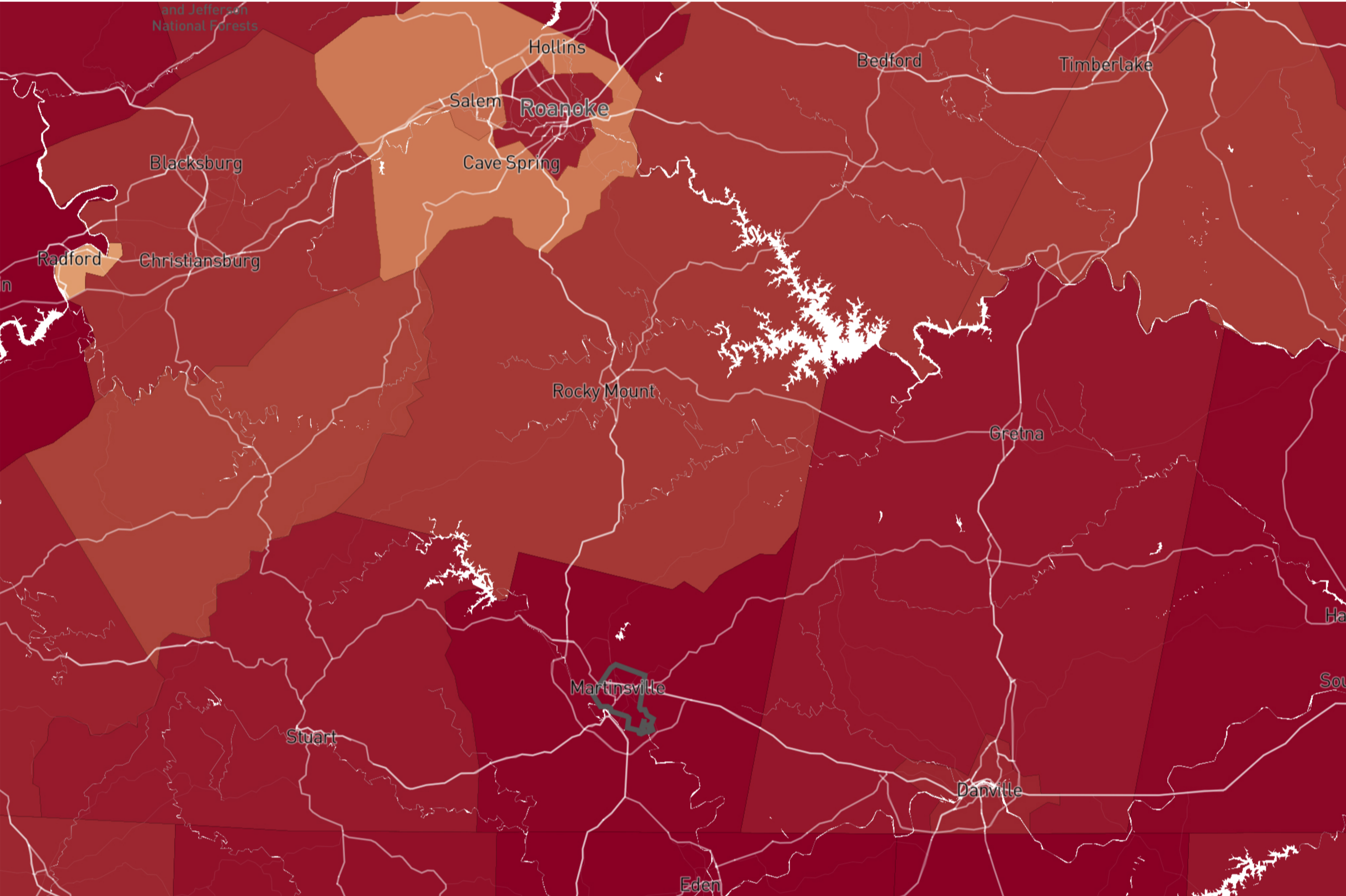
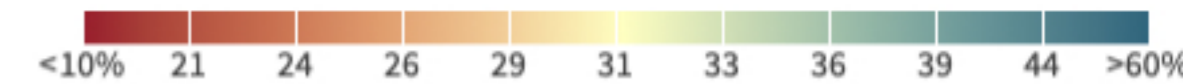
Sincerely,

Dr. Kevin Siers
Incoming Superintendent, Franklin County Public Schools

College Graduation Rate for Children



College Graduation Rate for Children of Low Income Parents



High School Graduation Rate for Children of Low Income Parents

