



## *Haywood County Schools*

1230 North Main Street  
Waynesville, NC 28786  
828 456 2400

Charles H. Francis, Chairman  
Haywood County Board of Education

May 6, 2016

Chairman Mark Swanger and County Commissioners,

At the Board of Education Work Session Thursday, May 5, 2016, it was recommended we make a request. Our Board of Education is requesting funds of \$61,000 to maintain the Haywood Community Learning Center. Per Director Kyle Ledford's calculations, the center needs the aforementioned amount to maintain current operations.

Haywood County Schools will continue to fund the physical facility and expenses related to the center's operation as well as the Exceptional Childrens teacher's salary.

Mr. Ledford has assured us he is also seeking grants and other revenues. Also, he stated he needs funding by June 1, 2016.

Your assistance in funding would greatly be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Chuck Francis



Board of Education

Charles H. Francis, Chairman

Jim Harley Francis, Larry Henson, Steven Kirkpatrick, Walt Leatherwood,  
Lynn Milner, Bobby Rogers, Jimmy Rogers, Rhonda Schandavel

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MARK S. SWANGER, CHAIRMAN  
J. W. "KIRK" KIRKPATRICK, III, VICE CHAIRMAN  
L. KEVIN ENSLEY  
BILL L. UPTON  
MICHAEL T. SORRELLS



COUNTY MANAGER  
IRA DOVE

COUNTY ATTORNEY  
LEON M. KILLIAN, III

May 10, 2016

Dr. Anne Garrett  
Haywood County Schools  
1230 N. Main St.  
Waynesville, NC 28786

Dr. Anne Garrett,

This letter is in response to the letter of Chairman Chuck Francis dated May 6, on behalf of the Haywood County Schools for funding for the Haywood Community Learning Center. In the letter, Chairman Francis requested that the Commissioners provide additional funding for the program of \$61,000. Please note that this request comes after the County budget has been presented to the Commissioners. The Haywood County recommended budget recommends that fund balance be used for capital needs. Still, the Haywood County Commissioners and I recognize the importance of the Community Learning Center, which has contributed to drastically reducing the dropout rate in Haywood County.

In a follow up call to the letter, you advised me that last year the Haywood Community Learning Center served 154 students. Determining an appropriate amount of funding is not as easy as the regular students. A number of the student's would be counted in the ADM for the funding formula as they would have been in attendance in Haywood County Schools on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the year. However, many of these students would not have been counted in the funding formula. Also, many of the students attend very part-time. After discussions, we agreed that in light of all circumstances, a fair number of pupil slots to fund would be 16 full time equivalents. The total for this would be \$32,354.40.

I would recommend this to the Board of Commissioners, but it is not an unconditional recommendation. The first condition for the recommendation is that the Haywood Community Learning Center would have to stay in operation for the entire 2016-2017 school year, or the money would be returned. Next, this is to be seen as a stop gap measure for this year only and not part of the ongoing appropriation. That will need to be discussed further. Third, this money is not to supplant sources of funding for the Community Learning Center so that they can be used elsewhere. The goal is to keep this program, which also is valuable for work force development, from closing. If additional outside funding becomes available to keep the program open, it would need to be used to reduce the amount of this appropriation. This should not be viewed as general purpose funding beyond the funding formula. Finally, the Board of Education would have to accept these conditions before the money is appropriated.

Please advise me by close of business on Wednesday if you can agree with these conditions and recommend them to your Board and I will put them forth to the Board of Commissioners at the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Thank you for all you do.

Ira Dove, County Manager  
Haywood County