



MEMORANDUM

TO: Al Moor II, *Suffolk City Manager*

FROM: Dr. John B. Gordon III, *Division Superintendent* ~~JBG/AL~~

DATE: April 2, 2025

RE: Appropriation of Additional State Funding Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Suffolk Public Schools was appropriated \$248,588,927 by the City Council for the fiscal year 2024-2025. The General Assembly approved an amendment to the 2024-2025 budget to include a bonus payment for SOQ Instructional positions directing the Department of Education to release those funds by June 1, 2025. The exact language reads on page 201 46 (b):

“School divisions shall have discretion to determine the amount of bonuses per employee to maximize the use of these funds to promote retention among instructional and support positions in this act. The funds a division is eligible to receive shall require no match by the local government. Localities are encouraged to use additional available funds to provide bonuses to other eligible instructional and support positions.”

State law requires school divisions to have the City or County appropriate all funding to the Schools and have the School Board approve amendments to the adopted budget under these circumstances.

Suffolk Public Schools respectfully requests that the Suffolk City Council appropriate the additional fiscal 2024-2025 State funding to the School division in the amount of **\$1,528,662**. This would bring the total appropriation to the school division to **\$250,117,589**. This is state funding that passes through the City to the School division and requires no additional match money from the city.

The timing of this bonus is critical to the retention of our teachers and staff who must be provided a contract in May, prior to the start of summer to maximize the number who will remain in Suffolk.