

May 10, 2019

The Honorable Jim Coppinger
Hamilton County Mayor
625 Georgia Avenue
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

Dear Mayor Coppinger:

We would first like to thank you for your steadfast leadership and continued focus on public education. We are grateful for your commitment to ensuring we prepare every child in Hamilton County for the future and for inviting the Budget Working Group to serve the community by periodically providing guidance and feedback as both you and Dr. Bryan Johnson work to improve our school system in a fiscally responsible manner.

In short, we are pleased to support Dr. Johnson's proposed budget and the request for \$34 million in additional revenue. Both in his April 22, 2019, letter to the Budget Working Group outlining steps the district has taken since our group was first convened in 2017 and in the budget proposal itself, Dr. Johnson has outlined the significant improvements the district has made since he became superintendent and a compelling case for new investment in Hamilton County Schools. We applaud him and the school board for a strong vote of confidence this week.

We stand ready to be mobilized in support of the budget and proposals for new revenue as they are considered by the county commission. Please let us know how we can be helpful moving forward.

Sincerely,

Hamilton County Schools Budget Working Group

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David R. Eichenthal
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