BUNCOMBE COUNTY SCHOOLS

Rob Jackson, Ed. D., Superintendent

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MEMO TO: Dr. Rob Jackson, Superintendent

FROM: Dr. Jennifer Reed, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

DATE: March 5, 2026

RE: Revise 2025-2026 Academic Calendar for Buncombe County Schools (BCS), Buncombe County Early College (BCEC), and Buncombe County Schools Center for Career Innovation (BCCI)

Board of Education Policy 3300, School Calendar and Time for Learning, requires the Board of Education to adopt a school calendar that complies with the requirements of G.S. 115C-84.2 and all other applicable legal mandates. State law, specifically G.S. 115C-84.2, requires the school year to consist of either 185 days or a minimum of 1,025 instructional hours.

The revised 2025–2026 BCS Academic Calendar, approved by the Board on February 9, 2026, included 178 student days and 1,042 instructional hours.

After missing school on Monday, February 23 (OTWD for the entire district) and Tuesday, February 24 (OTWD for the North Buncombe District and a two-hour delay for the remaining districts), current instructional hour totals are as follows:

1,034 hours – Owen/Reynolds/Roberson Districts

1,032 hours – Erwin/Enka Districts

1,030 hours – North Buncombe District

To ensure continued compliance with G.S. 115C-84.2, we propose the following revisions to the Academic Calendar, BCEC Calendar, and BCCI Calendar:

The recommendation is to convert the Early Dismissal days scheduled for March 27 and May 1, 2026, into full instructional days. This adjustment would restore four instructional hours to the school calendar.

If approved, the revised 2025–2026 BCS Academic Calendar will reflect 177 student days, with updated instructional hour totals as follows:

1,038 hours – Owen/Reynolds/Roberson Districts

1,036 hours – Erwin/Enka Districts

1,034 hours – North Buncombe District

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal to restore four instructional hours to the 2025–2026 BCS, BCEC, and BCCI calendars.