



Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College

Office of the President

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Asheville, NC 28801
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January 18, 2011

Dr. Wanda Greene
County Manager
Buncombe County
Asheville, North Carolina

Dear Dr. Greene:

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College (A-B Tech) respectfully requests the opportunity to approach the voters of Buncombe County at the next regularly scheduled election. The purpose is to seek approval to levy a one-quarter cent sales tax to support the College's current and future growth as authorized in Section 31.17(b) of the Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2007.

A-B Tech has more than a 50-year history of meeting the higher education needs of Buncombe County and western North Carolina. Over that time, we have built or obtained 26 buildings on our multi-campus sites to fulfill that mission. However, many of those buildings are now aging and require substantial capital to resolve deferred maintenance issues.

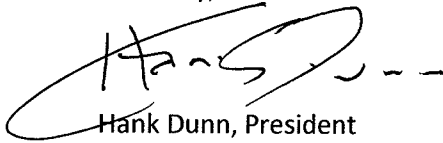
In addition, we need to expand the capacity of our allied health programs to train employees for one of western North Carolina's largest employment sectors. Healthcare workers account for 25 percent of the region's service sector employment. A-B Tech is currently out of space to add new programs in the existing Health Building and our ability to provide workforce training could be substantially strengthened by the construction of a building that would support the growth of our health programs and workforce development.

The Board of Trustees approved a new Master Plan at its August 2010 meeting. The Master Plan details the need for the major renovation or construction of infrastructure projects totaling approximately \$129 million. Additionally, we conservatively estimate a need of \$3 million annually for preventative maintenance costs to prevent deferred maintenance liability from increasing.

In times of a good economy, the county needs a good community college focused on the needs of its constituents. In a tough economy, like exists today, there is a need for a great community college. We are that great community college, but we need your help to support our current and future infrastructure issues.

We respectfully request your permission to approach the voters to seek approval for Buncombe County to levy a one-quarter cent sale tax in exclusive support of A-B Tech. I have attached a copy of our recently approved Master Plan that details the needs and goals identified at the time of its approval. If I can provide additional information, please call on me. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hank Dunn", with a large, sweeping flourish underneath the name.

Hank Dunn, President