NEW HANOVER COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION
February 4, 2020

Operations Division

Item: Board of Education Resolution and Budget Transfer

Background/Historical Context: PFAS (per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances) refers to a class of man-made compounds that includes GenX and thousands of other compounds, only a handful of which have been studied to assess risks to human health. Chemours and previously Dupont have released GenX and other PFAS into the air and the Cape Fear River since about 1980. About 80 percent of the drinking water CFPUA provides to the community is sourced from the Cape Fear River, drawn from intakes downstream from Chemours. This raw water is treated at the Sweeney Water Treatment Plant, which currently cannot effectively treat for PFAS, despite being among the most advanced water treatment plants in North Carolina.

There are currently 30 schools using water provided by the Sweeney Water Treatment Plant, and it's New Hanover County Schools desires to provide a safe drinking water option at each of these schools.

Recommendation: Approval

Short and Long Term Impact: This Resolution by the Board of Education supports the efforts of CFPUA, along with other Local, State and Federal agencies, to ensure safe drinking water for our schools and community; and in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 115C-452 seeks a portion of the civil penalties mentioned above to establish immediate interim measures to ensure safe drinking water in its school facilities.

The Budget Transfer will fund design and construction to provide one bottle filling station at each of the schools that receive water from the Sweeney Water Treatment Plant.

Supporting Documentation: The Resolution and Budget Transfer are attached for reference.

Board Action: _____ Recommendation Accepted

_____ Recommendation Rejected

_____ Tabled for Further Study

_____ Other