

NICHOLAS COUNTY

SBA Needs Project Evaluation Summary

Project Request:

Nicholas County requests up to \$1,815,450 in SBA funding for HVAC and associated controls replacement at Panther Creek Elementary School. These funds will be used in partnership with a local contribution of \$150,000 for a total project cost of \$1,965,450.

Project Facts:

- In approved CEFP: Yes
- Number of Students affected: 204
- Annual Savings: \$25,000
- Cost Avoidance: \$0
- Project in Floodway / Flood Plain: No

Evaluation Criteria in WV Code §18-9D-16:

I. Student Health & Safety

This project has a generally positive effect on student and teacher health and safety.

II. Economies of Scale

This project meets economies of scale: No. (If no) Waiver request submitted: Yes

III. Reasonable Travel Time

This project meets the requirements in WV Code for maximum student travel time.

IV. Multi-County and Regional Planning

This project is a single-county project.

V. Curriculum Improvement and Diversification, including Technology and Distance Learning

This project proposes no change to current curriculum delivery.

VI. Innovations in Education

This project does not propose innovative educational offerings.

VII. Adequate Space for Projected Student Enrollments

This project has no positive or negative effect on the adequacy of spaces within the existing school.

VIII. History of Efforts taken by the County Board to Propose or Adopt Bond Issues of Special Levies

The County has not proposed a bond issue and/or special levy in the recent past.

IX. Regularly Scheduled Preventative Maintenance

This project increases maintenance required; however, the county has a PM plan in place.

Project Status:

Listed below are projected activities that have been completed to date.

- After reviewing the submitted documents and information, an on-site review was performed on 9/23/25 with Chris Hanshaw and Rusty Brown of Nicholas County Schools, along with Mark Miller of the SBA Staff.
- On behalf of Nicholas County Schools, a project budget and conceptual plan was established by ZMM Architects and Engineers.

Project Comments by the SBA Staff:

- The existing HVAC equipment at Panther Creek Elementary is outdated and increasingly unreliable, posing a significant risk of system failure, especially during extreme weather conditions.
- Nicholas County proposes to replace the existing HVAC rooftop units (RTUs) and associated control systems at Panther Creek Elementary School. The scope includes the installation of new high-efficiency rooftop units designed to meet current codes and standards, as well as a new building automation system (BAS) that integrates with Nicholas County Schools' existing network.

Existing Building Evaluation Report

Panther Creek Elementary

- Year of Original Construction: 1995
- Number and Year of Major Additions: 0
- Grade Configuration: PK-5
- Number of Classrooms: 17
- 2nd Month Enrollment (24-25 School Year): 204
- Building Program Capacity 402
- Building Program Utilization: 51%
- Building Total Square Footage 30,000 sq. ft.
- Site Size: 12 acres
- Site Adequacy: Adequate
- Site Access: Adequate
- Parking Adequacy: Adequate
- Flood Plain: No
- HVAC System Type: Electric
- HVAC System Overall Condition: Fair
- Restroom Facilities: Adequate
- Food Service Facilities: Adequate
- On-site Review Conducted:
 - Fire Safety Deficiencies 0
 - Sanitation Reports 0
 - State Board of Risk/Insurance 0
- Overall Condition of the Building: Good

Project Finance Report

Nicholas County

County's Proposed Finance Plan for this Project:

Funding Sources	County Proposal	Percent
SBA Funds:	\$1,815,450	92%
Local Funds:	\$ 150,000	8%
Total Funds:	\$1,965,450	100%

County Budget Information as of June 30, 2024:

Unrestricted Fund Balance: \$21,938,326

State Rank: 11th

Distressed County: No

Bonding and Levy Capacities:

Bonding Capacity: \$54,482,730

Available Bonding Capacity: \$54,482,730

Excess Levy Capacity: \$7,834,379

Available Levy Capacity: \$2,666,078

History of SBA Funding:

- Net: \$ 2,068,062.67
- NEEDs: \$14,255,629.26
- MIP: \$ 2,187,224.00
- Emergency: \$ 0
- SAS: \$ 457,844.47
- **Total:** **\$18,968,760.50**

List of Needs Projects Funded:

New Elementary School
Cherry River ES HVAC/Flooring
Glade Creek ES Addition
Summersville ES Windows/Carpet Rep.
Summersville Jr. High Carpet Rep.
Nicholas Co. HS A/R; Carpet; HVAC

Ongoing SBA Project(s): Nicholas County HS Safe Entrance (MIP 2026); Nicholas County HS Utility Line Replacement (MIP 2025); New Richwood MS-HS & New Glade Creek PK-8 (FEMA)