CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOLS

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SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION SHEET
CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOL BOARD

DATE:	12/3/2026
SUBJECT:	Instructional Assistant Certification Pathways: Achieving Highly Qualified Status by Fall 2027 - Maria Lewis
BACKGROUND INFORMATION:	Under Title I, Part A of the ESEA, all paraprofessionals providing instructional support must achieve a "highly qualified" standard. Currently, 43 of 120 Instructional Assistants at Charlottesville City Schools need to meet this designation. The division is providing three division-sponsored certification pathways (Locally-Awarded Certification, ParaPathways Self-Paced Online Study, and ParaPathways PVCC In-Person Course) along with a proposed $500 professional learning stipend to assist staff in meeting compliance by Fall 2027.
STRATEGIC PLAN:	● Priority 1: Increase Academic Achievement ● Priority 2: Provide a Culture of Safety, Wellness, and Belonging ● Priority 3: Support our Staff ● Priority 4: Ensure Effective and Efficient Operations
RECOMMENDATION:	This item is presented for information at the December 3, 2026 meeting. School Board approval of the local certification assessment pathway will be requested for action at the January 7, 2027 meeting.
ACTION REQUIRED:	Not at this time.
CONTACT PERSON(S):	Maria Lewis, Chief Human Resources Officer (Presenter) Dr. Adam Hastings, Administrator for Human Resources and Student Data (Presenter)