



## OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS AND MANAGER

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### News Release

#### **County Manager Recommends \$5 Million Increase to Current Expense in UCPS Funding**

**June 15, 2015, Monroe, NC** – Union County Manager Cindy Coto and Chief Financial Officer Jeff Yates presented the Proposed FY 2016 Operating and Capital Budget to the Board of County Commissioners on Monday night. County staff cited fiscal sustainability and capital maintenance as two of the principles of prioritization used to establish the recommended \$5 million funding increase to current expense for Union County Public Schools (UCPS).

The Manager's recommended budget reflects a 5.54 percent increase to \$91,922,668 for UCPS to fund current expenses. It is based upon analysis of written information provided by UCPS. No joint meeting between the two boards to discuss the budget process was held.

The Manager's recommendation is consistent with the Board of County Commissioners commitment to funding more than what is necessary to provide an opportunity for a sound, basic education and more than is legally necessary to operate a system of free public schools.

“It is my intent to continue to fund a high performance school system as the County has done in the past,” stated Coto in her opening remarks. “Union County Public Schools significantly and consistently achieves some of the highest levels Statewide.”

Establishing the County budget is an annual process. It is anticipated that after consideration, the Board of County Commissioners will adopt the FY 2016 Operating and Capital Budget, which includes funding for UCPS, Volunteer Fire Departments, Emergency Medical Services and the County in a special meeting at the Union County Government Center on Monday, June 29 at 7 p.m.

All Union County budget documents are available online at [www.unioncountync.gov](http://www.unioncountync.gov). Residents are encouraged to participate in the process by attending the meeting on June 29 or send their comments or questions to [askthecountymanager@unioncountync.gov](mailto:askthecountymanager@unioncountync.gov) or [publiccomment@unioncountync.gov](mailto:publiccomment@unioncountync.gov).