HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE Office of the County Mayor Weston WAMP

For Immediate Release December 14, 2022 Contact: Mary Francis Hoots, 423-680-0344

Hamilton County Mayor Announces Plans to Fund New Tyner Academy Despite High Cost, Pending Commission Approval

Today Hamilton County leaders announced plans to fully fund the proposed bid to build the new Tyner Academy. The bid came back from The Christman Company in November at \$96 million, approximately \$17 million higher than the projected cost earlier this year. County Mayor Weston Wamp said the county can reprioritize other projects to cover the extra costs.

Hamilton County issued \$90 million in bonds in 2021 — \$46 million of which was previously set aside for Tyner. Additionally, \$33 million in ESSER funds have been committed by Hamilton County Schools towards the project. Hamilton County general government will make up the remaining \$17 million from a combination of 2020 and 2021 bond monies.

"All students deserve quality learning environments, and I am very hopeful this project will receive approval from the County Commission," said School Superintendent Dr. Justin Robertson. "The future of Tyner is bright, and we are excited to move forward with this project."

"With a focus on excellence from career training to athletics, the new Tyner Academy will set a high bar in public education for our entire county," said Mayor Wamp. "Although costs increased substantially from initial estimates, it is important we honor the commitment made to the Tyner community and start construction as soon as possible."

The Hamilton County Commission will vote to accept the \$96 million bid next week. If approved, the new school will be the first new high school built in Hamilton County since East Hamilton Middle/High School was opened in 2009. The new Tyner Academy will serve 1,400 students in grades 6 through 12.

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