

**Stephen Dionisio**  
Superintendent



**School Board**

**Wendy Atkinson, Chairman**  
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October 27, 2021

State Representative Michael J. Grant, District #75  
Chairman, Charlotte County Legislative Delegation  
4355 Pinnacle Street, Suite C  
Charlotte Harbor, FL 33980

Dear Honorable Michael J. Grant:

We are writing to request your support of the Charlotte County Airport Authority's (CCAA) \$3 million Appropriations request for a new combined hangar and classroom facility for Charlotte Technical College's (CTC) FAA-certified Aviation Maintenance Technician School.

We are extremely thankful for the past support of the Florida Legislature and the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) for providing funding which enabled us to launch this program in August 2021 with nearly 50 adults students, more than 20 high school seniors, and a pipeline of nearly 30 sophomores and juniors in the feeder program.

However, a larger facility is necessary to meet the aviation industry demand for aircraft mechanics, CTC's growing student enrollment, and the DEO requirement of 750 completers in 10 years (2018-19 Grant). State funding is essential to keep CTC's costs low enough for tuition to remain affordable for students.

The total project cost of \$12.2 million also includes, but is not limited to, \$6 million in funding from the FAA and \$1.2 million from the FDOT, along with \$1.5 million from Allegiant's passenger facility charges. These funds are being utilized to construct the aircraft ramp and taxiway access at the site where the CTC facility is desired.

With \$3 million in State Appropriations, CCAA will construct the CTC facility and enter into a long-term lease with County Public Schools (CCPS) whereby CCPS will occupy and maintain the facility at the land-lease rate. Additionally, CCAA will contribute approximately \$250,000 for construction of a parking lot, and CCPS will provide approximately \$250,000 in furniture, fixtures and equipment.

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This project is key to the future of Charlotte County by further diversifying economic development opportunities in the region, creating new and high-quality job candidates, and supporting a burgeoning aviation industry in Florida.

Thank you in advance for your strong support and advocacy in the upcoming session.

Sincerely,

Charlotte County School Board Members



Wendy Atkinson  
Chairman



Cara Reynolds  
Vice-Chairman



Kim Amontree  
District 1



Bob Segur  
District 3



Ian Vincent  
District 4