

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

Jacqueline Timmer Education Proposal

Lynchburg, VA

For Immediate Release:

Today, Jacqueline Timmer, Ward 1 city council candidate, announced education reforms to “engage parents as part of the solution, restore core educational priorities, and ensure education dollars get to the classroom and are not spent on pet national projects.

“Overall, Lynchburg test scores have declined in 24 of 28 test categories since COVID and the district is spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on electric buses while teachers have to buy their own classroom materials. When the priorities are wrong, the students suffer,” Timmer explained.

“It’s time we fund the classroom, not the boardroom, recognize parents are not the problem but the solution, and expand opportunities for workforce development and trade school through creative partnerships,” Timmer added.

Timmer is calling for the creation of a task force of parents and educators to “honor the voice of parents in reviewing curriculum, interact with educators, and engage with educators as partners in their child’s education.”

Timmer said education dollars should be earmarked to the classroom to prevent waste and to “get the money to the place where education takes place and to the people actually providing the education.”



JACQUELINE
TIMMER
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Timmer also announced plans to explore new and expanded partnerships with Central Virginia Community College (CVCC), the Legacy Center, and others for trade skill and workforce development.

“National organizations with national funding have forced failed priorities into the classroom and removed parent and teacher authority. Education takes place where a parent, teacher, and child interact – not in the halls of national activist organizations or inside the DC bureaucracy,” Timmer added.

Comparing pre-COVID test results with results with most recent scores reveals a dramatic reduction in student performance. For example, declines exceeding 20% were present in five of six math tests with grade 6 math scores dropping 49% and Geometry falling 56%. The declines were also present in measurements of advanced learning students – students scoring five hundred points in the 600-point valuation. Those scores dropped more than 40% in five of the six measurements and over 80% in three of the tests.

Summary of Lynchburg test score comparisons attached.



Jacqueline Timmer
JACQUELINE TIMMER

Lynchburg City School Budget Comparison (FY 2022) to FY 2024 Adopted and Education Performance.

Lynchburg City School Budget Comparison (FY 2022) to FY 2024 Adopted, All funds.

Revenue	FY 2022	Adopted FY 2024	Difference	Percentage
State	\$59,155,102	\$68,137,129	\$8,982,027	15.18%
Federal	\$850,773	\$925,000	\$74,227	8.72%
Other	\$1,532,875	\$888,000	(644,875)	(42.06)%
Local	\$39,128,643	\$39,360,355	\$231,712	0.5%
Grants	\$17,990,482	\$36,933,106	\$18,952,624	105%
Total	\$117,990,482	\$146,243,500	\$28,253,018	23.9%

Source: Lynchburg City Schools Budget 2024 Adopted, at 2. [2024 Adopted Budget \(PDF\).pdf \(lcsedu.net\)](#)

Administration Personnel Costs, Lynchburg City Schools Comparison FY 2022 and FY 2024 Adopted.

Category	FY 2022	FY 2024 Adopted	Amount	Percentage
Personal Services	\$4,514,158	\$6,005,075	\$1,490,917	33%
Benefits	\$1,069,104	\$1,338,948	\$269,844	25.24%
Total	\$5,583,262	\$7,344,023	\$1,760,761	31.53%

Source: Lynchburg City Schools Budget 2024 Adopted, at 6. [2024 Adopted Budget \(PDF\).pdf \(lcsedu.net\)](#)

Instruction – Classroom Instruction Materials and Supplies Expenditure Comparison.

Category	FY 2022	FY 2024 Adopted	Amount	Percentage
Materials and Supplies	\$3,167,454	\$1,082,524	(\$2,084,930)	(65.8)%

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Lynchburg City Schools Budget 2024 Adopted, at 6. [2024 Adopted Budget \(PDF\).pdf \(lcsedu.net\)](#)

Lynchburg Schools Performance.

Chronic Absenteeism in 2023-2024 (absent greater than 10% of the time) 25.67% in high school. Source: [E.C. Glass High - Lynchburg City Public Schools | Virginia School Quality Profiles.](#)

Comparison of Lynchburg City Schools Pre-COVID and Present Test

Scores.

Pass rates improved in only 2 reported tests, remained the same in two tests and **declined in 24 of 28** reported tests. Test passage rates **declined more than 20% in 13 of the tests and more than 40% in 3 of the tests.**

Students scoring as “advanced” (scoring 500 of 600 possible points) dropped dramatically. The number of students with advanced scores fell more than 50% in 13 of the 28 tests, with **the number of students with advanced scores falling more than 20% in 23 of the 28 tests.**

In 2023-24 Lynchburg did not have any student obtain advanced scores in the Virginia/US History; World War II History; and Chemistry tests.

Mathematics

Lynchburg pass rates **dropped over 20% in five of the six math grade level tests** (Grades 3-8). The sixth math test witnessed a 17% reduction in pass rate. Grade 6 math pass rates dropped 49%. Algebra I saw a drop of only 5% in pass rates, Algebra II and 18% reduction and **Geometry a drop of over 56%.**

Of the six grade level math tests (Grades 3-8), Lynchburg students scoring advanced dropped over 40% in five of the six tests, and over 80% in three of the six tests.

Source: Virginia Department of Education. SOL Test Pass Rates & Other Results. [SOL Test Pass Rates & Other Results | Virginia Department of Education](#) (retrieved September 30, 2024).

**Lynchburg City School Budget Comparison (FY 2022) to
FY 2024 Adopted and EducaAon Performance.**