

SFAC EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENTATION

January 25, 2024



WHAT IS THE STATUS OF LEARNING LOSS?

State Support for School Divisions

1. Promoting flexible funding
2. Supporting with evidence-based practices
3. Providing opportunities for differentiation based upon need
4. Inviting creativity and innovation
5. Extending funding until 2026

State Resources for Learning Recovery

1. Research-Based High Intensity Tutoring Models
 - High-intensity academic tutoring
 - Learning acceleration not remediation
 - Grades 3-8
2. Technical Assistance in tutoring implementation
3. Zearn – Mathematics tutoring support
4. Lexia – Literacy tutoring support
5. Ignite – Foundational skills literacy support

131 SCHOOL DIVISIONS' FOCUSED EFFORTS

Division tutoring strategies to meet the needs of their students and families

Portsmouth	Page	Caroline	Newport News	Chesterfield
During school and summer	During school	During school	Before/after school, during school, weekend, and summer	During school
Planning 80 full-time tutors/one per targeted classroom	Extended bus service after-hours Classroom teachers	Using teachers, long-term substitutes, and paraprofessionals	Using Future Teachers program	Increasing role of 500 existing elementary and middle school Tutoring Coaches

MATH TUTORING - ZEARN



- 56,000 students on Zearn
- 87% of divisions have opted in (114 of 131)
- 1,531 teachers/leaders trained to use Zearn

131 SCHOOL DIVISIONS' LITERACY EFFORTS

Division strategies to accelerate literacy instruction aligned to VLA

Portsmouth	Page	Caroline	Newport News	Chesterfield
Training for literacy instruction	Adding middle school reading specialist	3 specialists to become VLA trainers	4 new literacy specialists	10 additional reading specialists
Purchase intervention and supplemental literacy resources	Develop division literacy plan		Literacy-focused professional development	Summer program

HB585 WORK GROUP ON ASSESSMENTS

House Bill 585 (HB 585) required the Secretary of Education and the Virginia Superintendent of Public Instruction to convene and consult with a work group consisting of representatives of the Department of Education and other appropriate stakeholders to **revise the Virginia Standards of Learning summative assessments.**

The Work Group's final report (October 23) recommended the following:

1. Increase rigor of Standards
2. Development of more rigorous assessment items, assessments beyond selected response, and requiring writing on assessments
3. More timely, clear, and actionable reporting
4. Improved system coherence
5. Innovative assessment design

NEW ASSESSMENT COST

The HB 585 work groups members noted that a **new assessment will require additional funding**. The work group specifically stated that an additional appropriation may be needed for the following:

- a. Create a robust bank of rigorous and accessible items;
- b. Transparently release those items on a regular basis so teachers know what is on the assessment; and
- c. Deliver comprehensive, actionable, and timely results with sufficient transition support for educators.

General Fund **\$25,000,000 (FY25) and \$15,000,000 (FY26)**

- Provides funding for the Department to enter into a contract for a new statewide assessment system with constructed response items.
- One time funding in FY2025 supports development of new assessment and transition in school year 2024-2025.

STATE ASSESSMENT COSTS

The HB585 Work Group noted one of the biggest drivers in cost when transitioning to a new assessment is developing new items.

State Examples:

- **New Jersey spent \$22.8 million** in the first year of their state assessment, nearly all of which was spent on the development of the assessment.
- **Tennessee spent over \$37.6 million** in 2018-2019 on the development and administration of their assessment, \$9 million of which was spent under a contract for developing test items and test forms.
- **Texas recently invested \$97 million per year** (\$388 million over 4 years) to develop a new assessment system, which largely includes development of new items, scoring, and maintenance.

VIRGINIA SUPPORT FRAMEWORK



FEDERAL SUPPORT FUNDS

Over \$49M returned by Office of School Quality over the last 5 years:

- 2018	\$9,560,148.63
- 2019	\$6,460,756.88
- 2020	\$15,322,539.43
- 2021	\$8,697,295.78
- 2022	\$9,370,043.43
- 2023	\$0 (expected)

OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & WELLNESS

Reorganized Department Resources

Redesigned several positions across the department to create the Office of Behavioral Health and Wellness (\$200,000 salary and benefits)

School-Based Mental Health

\$30 million to expand school-based mental health programs

Telehealth Services

\$14.4 million to provide for high-quality health care services for public school students in grades six through 12

QUESTIONS?

