

2022 North Carolina General Assembly Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Lindsey Prather

District: House District 115

Party Affiliation: Democrat

Current Occupation: Assistant Director of Admission

1. What are your views on the needs of young children (prenatal to age 5) and what specific steps would you take to address these needs?

The first few years of a child's life are the most crucial in so many ways. We must fund universal childcare and pre-K. When we invest in the early years, we build a stronger society for years to come. This also allows parents to work if they need to.

2. What steps would you take to ensure that children birth to age five have access to high-quality and affordable early learning programs?

We have a \$6.5 billion rainy-day fund in NC. We can use some of that money to fund childcare and pre-K. We must also invest more heavily in our teacher education programs in colleges and universities.

3. What steps would you take to stabilize and sustain North Carolina's early education system and child care workforce as we approach the end of the federal child care relief funding?

Investing in licensure programs in colleges and universities, and building relationships between childcare providers and local organizations (schools and businesses) to make sure those programs are accessible to the families who need them. Strengthen our child tax credit and EITC for NC families.

4. What are your views on how to provide all children with access to a sound, basic education beginning in early childhood?

We need the personnel. We must invest in education/licensure programs to that people who go into the childcare and pre-K field are prepared and will remain. We must also stop giving taxpayer money to private educational institutions through the voucher program.