



PA Schools Work: A Movement to Secure Pennsylvania's Future

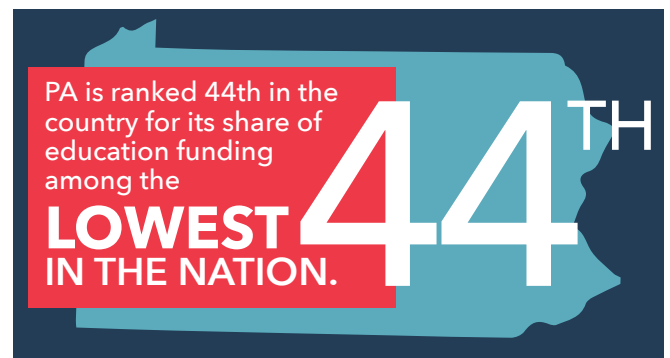
Pennsylvania schools work - for students, communities and the economy - when they have the resources to give all students the opportunities they need to succeed.

Every child deserves a safe, inviting school that has class sizes small enough for students to receive personal attention, a full range of courses from science to music and art, up-to-date books and technology, special education for children with disabilities, career and technical opportunities, guidance counselors to help students with career decisions, and so much more.

Achieving that vision takes investment from the state, and that's not happening now.

The state has failed to keep pace with the rising cost of special education for students with disabilities, which has increased by \$1.6 billion over the last decade, even as the state's share of the cost has fallen from 36 percent to 25 percent.

Similarly, even as employers across Pennsylvania have complained about the difficulty of finding skilled workers, the state has allowed its share of career and technical education (CTE) funding to fall to eight percent of CTE costs.



This means lost opportunities for students and higher costs for taxpayers. School leaders report that they anticipate taking the following actions in the coming year:

40% increasing class sizes

reducing or furloughing staff **36%**

cutting programs & services **30%**

75% raising property taxes

The PA Schools Work Solution for Investing in Students to Secure Pennsylvania's Future

The state must make greater, sustainable investments in public schools to lift all students by improving their academic outcomes and preparing them for today's competitive workforce.

PA Schools Work - a nonpartisan coalition to ensure all students have the resources they need to succeed - is calling on the state to pay its fair share for public education by:

- Increasing basic education funding by at least \$3 billion through the state's fair funding formula
- Ensuring sufficient resources for special education and career and technical education
- Delivering targeted property tax relief to those who need it
- Generate the necessary revenues through sustainable, recurring funding sources

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