



The 2025-2026 Education Funding Proposal Benefits Mars Area SD

The Pennsylvania courts found that the way the state has been funding public schools is unconstitutional, because the quality of students' education is determined by their zip code. Harrisburg lawmakers measured a \$4.5 billion gap in state funding that impacts 348 school districts. State lawmakers have taken a step towards an ambitious plan to sustainably fund public schools and decrease the pressure on property taxes. This year they must make the next installment as the second step toward delivering on their promise. This funding proposal also includes other funding increases and savings for all 500 school districts.

New Funds Would Be Allocated to Every School District, Including Yours

Included in New Funds for Mars Area SD:

- Funds to continue to offer a quality education through increases to Basic Education Funding and Special Education Funding
- Funds to balance the district budget by cutting exorbitant cyber charter costs

PROPOSAL WOULD DELIVER \$169,916 TO YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT

2025-26 Net Savings from Cyber Charter Reform* **\$81,558**

2025-26 Basic Education Funding Increase **\$65,216**

2025-26 Special Education Funding Increase **\$23,142**

Total 2025-26 Increases and Savings **\$169,916**

*The net savings assumes that the General Assembly will enact a flat \$8,000 per student rate for regular education cyber charter tuition. It also assumes the discontinuation of the \$100 million cyber transition line item that provided \$117,436 in funding to this district in 2024-2025.

Harrisburg lawmakers on both sides of the aisle agreed that Pennsylvania's schools have a remaining \$4 billion adequacy shortfall. By adopting this proposal, Pennsylvania will be one step closer to fixing the unconstitutional public school funding system that has failed students for too long.

Pennsylvania lawmakers have a constitutional obligation to adequately fund our public schools.

For more detailed information visit paschoolswork.org/school-district-data

Join **PA Schools Work** in Spring 2025 to advocate for fairly funding our schools!



SCHOOL DISTRICT FACT SHEET

Mars Area SD



Pennsylvania's school funding system was declared unconstitutional in 2023.
Our lawmakers must fairly fund our schools.

STUDENTS

3,510

**SPENDING PER
WEIGHTED STUDENT**

\$11,009



A snapshot of student need in your district is as follows:

**MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD
INCOME**

\$116,380

**ECONOMICALLY
DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS**

12.1%

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE
LEARNERS**

1.10%

**STUDENTS WITH AN IEP
(SPECIAL EDUCATION)**

14.6%

ELECTED OFFICIALS

These elected officials currently represent the communities this school district serves

Sen. Elder Vogel (R); Rep. Aaron Bernstine (R); Rep. Stephanie Scialabba (R)

**TOTAL CYBER CHARTER
SCHOOL EXPENDITURE
2022-2023**

\$1,261,761

**TOTAL GROWTH IN CYBER
CHARTER EXPENDITURES
2015-16 to 2022-23**

165.10%



MARCH 2025