

# The 2025-2026 Education Funding Proposal Benefits **Mercer 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.

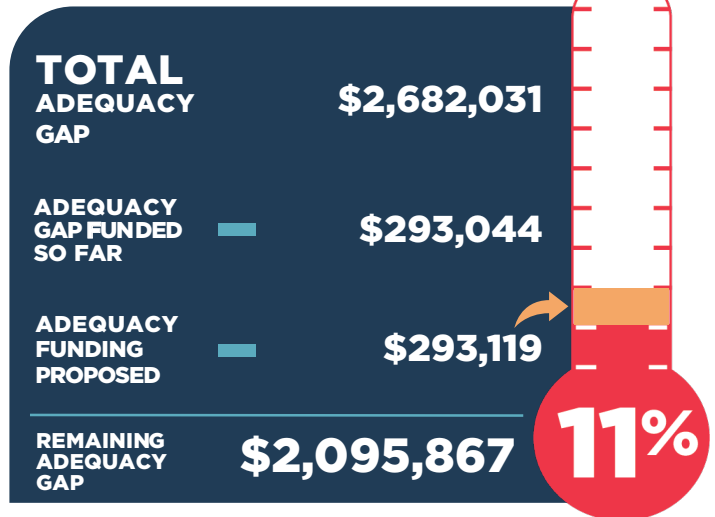
**New Funds Would Be Allocated to Every School District, Including Yours**

## Included in New Funds for **Mercer Area SD:**

- Substantial investments to address chronic and unconstitutional state underfunding via an Adequacy Supplement, which is intended to be the second installment in the plan to fully close the funding gap
- Funds to help balance the district budget by cutting exorbitant cyber charter costs
- Funds to continue to offer a quality education through increases to Basic Education Funding and Special Education Funding

## PROPOSAL WOULD DELIVER \$427,503 TO YOUR DISTRICT

<b>2025-26 Net Savings from Cyber Charter Reform*</b>	<b>\$88,918</b>
<b>2025-26 Basic Education Funding Increase</b>	<b>\$25,271</b>
<b>2025-26 Special Education Funding Increase</b>	<b>\$20,195</b>
<b>Total 2025-26 Increases and Savings</b>	<b>\$427,503</b>



\*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 \$67,644 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](https://paschoolswork.org/school-district-data)

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



# SCHOOL DISTRICT FACT SHEET



## Mercer Area SD

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

**TOTAL ADEQUACY GAP** **\$2,682,031**

**ADEQUACY GAP FUNDED SO FAR** **\$293,044**

**REMAINING** **\$2,388,986**

**11%**



### ELECTED OFFICIALS

These elected officials currently represent the communities this school district serves

Sen. Michele Brooks (R); Rep. Timothy Bonner (R)

**STUDENTS**

**1,063**

**SPENDING PER WEIGHTED STUDENT**

**\$11,723**

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

**MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME** **\$68,297**

**ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS** **46.2%**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS** **0.00%**

**STUDENTS WITH AN IEP** **26.5%**

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

**\$726,785**

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

**59.20%**

MARCH 2025