

# It's Time to Fund Our Public Schools and Improve Our Communities

It's time for state lawmakers to do their job to fund public schools and decrease the pressure on property taxes. The Pennsylvania courts found that the way the state funds public schools is unconstitutional, because the quality of students' education is determined by their zip code. Now, lawmakers in Harrisburg are debating a historic \$1.8 billion increase for public schools as a first step toward delivering on the promise of a great education for every child.

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

## New funds for Athens Area SD include:

- Substantial investments to address chronic and unconstitutional state underfunding via an Adequacy Supplement, which is intended to be the first installment in a 7-year plan to close the funding gap
- Funds to address your high property tax burden via a Tax Equity Supplement
- 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

**Total 7-Year  
Adequacy Supplement and  
Tax Equity Supplement**  
**\$2,181,266**

**Adequacy Supplement and  
Tax Equity Supplement  
per Student**  
**\$1,039**

**2024-25 Adequacy  
and Tax Equity  
Supplement**

**\$311,609**

**2024-25 Basic  
Education Funding  
Increase**

**\$274,401**

**2024-25 Special  
Education Funding  
Increase**

**\$104,024**

**2024-25 Savings from  
Reducing Cyber  
Charter Overspending**

**\$731,739**

**Total 1-Year  
Increase  
and Savings**

**\$1,421,773**

With a \$14 billion surplus in Harrisburg, there are plenty of state funds to make our schools great. By adopting this proposal, schools will begin to have the resources to hire and keep great teachers, reduce class sizes, repair and upgrade schools, provide mental health support and special education, and fix the unconstitutional public school funding system that has failed too many students for too long.

**Make this year the first of a 7-year plan to build a world class education system in Pennsylvania for every child.**

**For more detailed  
information visit**

<https://paschoolswork.org/7-year-plan/>

**Join PA Schools Work  
in Spring 2024 to advocate  
for fairly funding our schools!**

