

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 Bethlehem 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 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

\$53,880,486

Adequacy Supplement per Student

\$3,539

2024-25 Adequacy Supplement
\$7,697,212

2024-25 Basic Education Funding Increase
\$1,900,562

2024-25 Special Education Funding Increase
\$438,809

2024-25 Savings from Reducing Cyber Charter Overspending
\$2,313,615

Total 1-Year Increase and Savings
\$12,350,198

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!

