

# 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 Mercer 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**

**\$2,981,393**

**Adequacy Supplement per Student**

**\$2,759**

**2024-25 Adequacy Supplement**  
**\$425,913**

**2024-25 Basic Education Funding Increase**  
**\$83,196**

**2024-25 Special Education Funding Increase**  
**\$39,115**

**2024-25 Savings from Reducing Cyber Charter Overspending**  
**\$238,951**

**Total 1-Year Increase and Savings**  
**\$787,175**

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!**

