# WHAT IS THE EDUCATION FUNDING PROBLEM IN PENNSYLVANIA?

PA SCHOOLS WORK
INVEST IN STUDENTS, SECURE OUR FUTURE

## Pennsylvania's school funding system is broken.

## IT IS UNFAIR AND INADEQUATE.

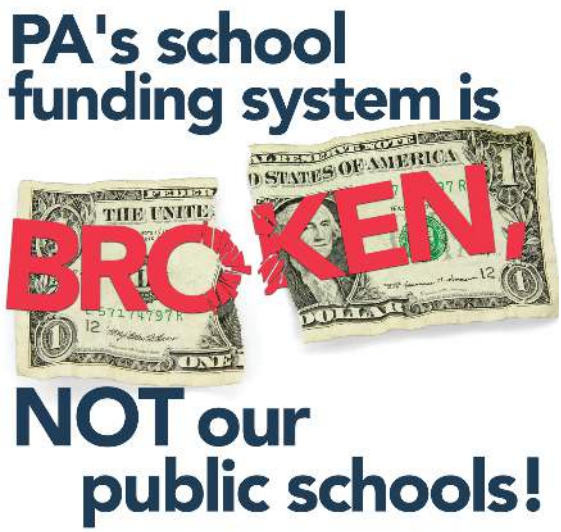
Most Pennsylvania public schools are inadequately funded. As a result, 70% of the state's school districts are not getting enough funding from the state to provide students with the resources they need to succeed. That lack of funding means means lost opportunities for the one million students attending those schools to participate in valuable science, technology, and math programs; receive enough personal attention from their teachers due to growing class sizes; get extra help when they need it; have access to up-to-date books and technology; or participate in vocational training and extracurricular activities.

Growing up in the right zip code in Pennsylvania can change a student's entire educational experience. Due to a deep reliance on local wealth, Pennsylvania has one of the widest gaps between wealthy and low-wealth school districts of any state in the country, and our students and educators are experiencing inequity at outrageous and damaging levels. The disparity in resources is so wide that the most well-off districts spend over $100,000 more per classroom than the poorest districts. And while 73% of Pennsylvania's students attend inadequately funded schools, 82% of our Black students and 85% of our Hispanic students attend inadequately funded schools.

The Pennsylvania Constitution requires that the state provide a thorough and efficient system of public education. Every child, regardless of zip code, deserves access to a full curriculum, art and music classes, technical opportunities, and a safe, clean, stable learning environment. All children must be provided a level chance to succeed.

Investing in public education excellence is the path to thriving communities, a stable economy, and successful students.

Years of underfunding have set PA districts back. Rural, urban, and suburban districts alike have been unable to meet their obligations to students and families, and these districts now need budget certainty and a commitment from the General Assembly that the funding gap will be closed on a reasonable timeline.

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