

The FY27 Education Funding Proposal Would Deliver **\$783,530 to Iroquois SD**

Pennsylvania lawmakers must take the next step on their promise to close the remaining \$3.8 billion unconstitutional school funding gap.

Over the past two years, to begin closing its adequacy gap, Pennsylvania has provided this district with **\$1,210,122**

1,115 students in the school district are still owed **\$4,327,739**

With this investment, Pennsylvania can ensure their education is adequately funded.

New funds for **IROQUOIS SD** would provide:

- Continued adequacy funding to fix Pennsylvania's unconstitutional school funding gap
- Relief from high cyber charter costs to help balance the district budget
- Increased Basic and Special Education funding to support access to a quality education
- Funds to address your high property tax burden via a Tax Equity Supplement

ELECTED OFFICIALS

These elected officials currently represent the communities this school district serves:

Rep. Patrick Harkins (D),
Rep. Robert Merski (D)
Sen. Daniel Laughlin (R)

We urge you to contact your state legislators and ask them to support continued commitments to adequacy funding in the state budget.

**ADEQUACY
SUPPLEMENT**

\$605,044

**TAX EQUITY
SUPPLEMENT**

\$25,191

**BASIC EDUCATION
INCREASE**

\$61,761

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
INCREASE**

\$58,814

**CYBER CHARTER
SAVINGS**

\$32,720

TOTAL NEW INVESTMENTS FROM PROPOSAL: \$783,530

SCHOOL FUNDING IN PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania's courts ruled the state's public school funding system unconstitutional, finding that hundreds of thousands of public school students in lower-wealth communities are being denied the basic resources needed for a quality education because the state is not adequately or equitably funding our schools. Lawmakers have since identified a \$4.8 billion state funding gap impacting 363 school districts, reflecting decades of underinvestment in our public schools.

Over the past two years, state lawmakers have begun taking steps toward a long-term plan to adequately and sustainably fund public schools. This year's budget proposes a third installment of adequacy funding for chronically underfunded districts – an additional step toward fulfilling the state's obligation to close the remaining \$3.8 billion gap. This proposal also increases funding for all 500 school districts and reforms the cyber charter tuition formula to reduce costs for school districts and local taxpayers.

WHAT IS ADEQUACY FUNDING?

Beginning in 2024, state law established an “adequacy target” for every school district – a measure of the total funding a district needs to provide students with a quality public education.

About 70% of districts (363 of 500) fall below this level; the difference is their “adequacy gap.” In 2024, Pennsylvania's total adequacy gap was \$4.8 billion. Lawmakers have invested about \$1 billion over the past two budgets, leaving a \$3.8 billion shortfall.

WHAT IS BASIC EDUCATION FUNDING?

Basic Education Funding (BEF) is the largest state funding stream for Pennsylvania's public schools, providing flexible funding to each of the Commonwealth's 500 districts. BEF is distributed using a weighted formula that looks at both student characteristics and district-level factors to calculate each district's relative need and percentage share.

WHAT IS SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING?

Students with disabilities are legally entitled to a free and appropriate public education that includes specialized supports and services that are essential for them to learn and succeed.

Special education funding helps districts pay for services provided by certified school psychologists, therapists, nurses and specially trained teachers.

Adequate special education funding ensures students with disabilities receive the individualized support the law requires.

WHAT IS TAX EQUITY FUNDING?

Many school districts lack the local tax base to offset inadequate state funding and already tax residents at disproportionately high rates just to sustain their schools. To address this, districts with the highest tax burdens relative to local wealth qualify for a tax equity supplement.

The 2026-2027 budget proposes this supplement for the 50 districts above the 90th percentile of tax effort relative to local wealth, helping ensure communities with fewer resources are not forced to overtax their residents to fund their schools.

For more information
about school funding
in Pennsylvania:

