

### DELAWARE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT LEGISLATIVE UPDATE March 28, 2025

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#### **Session Information**

As of Wednesday, March 26, the House stands adjourned until Monday, April 7, 2025, unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

The Senate will adjourn Wednesday, April 2, 2025 and stand recessed until Monday, May 5, 2025, unless sooner recalled by the President Pro Tempore.

#### **Session Days**

Month	House	Senate
April	7, 8, 9, 22, 23, 24	1, 2
May	5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14	5, 6, 7, 12, 13
June	2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24,	2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28,
	25, 26, 27, 30	29, 30
July		
August		
September	22 (NV), 23 (NV), 24 (NV), 29, 30	
October	1, 6, 7, 8, 27, 28, 29	
November	17, 18, 19	
December	8 (NV), 9 (NV), 10 (NV), 15, 16, 17	

### **Upcoming Meetings, Hearings, and Press Conferences**

#### WEDNESDAY - 04/02/2025

9:30 a.m., Senate Education

Room 8E-B, East Wing, (live streamed)

Public hearing about the importance of career and technical education in Pennsylvania.

### **News and Updates**

<u>Pennsylvania's Teacher's Union Faces Class Action over Data Breach</u> from *The National Law Review*, 03/27/2025

The Pennsylvania State Education Association (PSEA) faces a class action resulting from a July 2024 data breach. The proposed class action consists of current and former members of the union as well as PSEA employees and their family members. [...] The union sent notification letters in February 2025 informing members that the data acquired by the unauthorized actor contained some personal information within the network files.

<u>Democrats pick up state Senate seat as they win 2 special elections in PA</u> from *City & State Pennsylvania*, 03/26/2025

Democrats picked up two wins in the special elections for vacant seats in the General Assembly, securing their narrow, one-seat majority in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, while gaining a member in the GOP-controlled state Senate.

# <u>Lessons learned: PA's educational evolution five years after the pandemic</u> from City & State Pennsylvania, 03/20/2025

Give years after COVID-19 became the single most disruptive event in Pennsylvania education history since the Spanish flu epidemic of 1918, it may seem surprising that pandemic-era leaders' main takeaway from the experience is a positive one. [...] "When you look back at how quickly schools adapted their curriculums on a dime to make sure the students were getting the instruction they needed – I think that is an overlooked achievement of the pandemic," said Jim Vaughan, the longtime executive director of the Pennsylvania State Education Association, which represents K-12 public school teachers.

## Here's what the Department of Education does for Pa. students and schools from Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 03/07/2025

When President Donald Trump was on the campaign trail, he made an ambitious promise: dismantle the U.S. Department of Education has said had been infiltrated by "radicals." [...] Here's a look at the U.S. Department of Education and its role in Pennsylvania. The vast majority of public school funding in Pennsylvania comes from local and state sources. Less than 14% of Pennsylvania's public school funding in the 2021-22 school year came from the federal government. That amounts to almost \$1 in every \$7, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

#### **Executive Actions**

#### Improving Education Outcomes by Empowering Parents, States, and Communities

Directs the Secretary of Education, to the maximum extent appropriate and permitted by law, take all necessary steps to facilitate the closure of the Department of Education and return authority over education to the States and local communities while ensuring the effective and uninterrupted delivery of services, programs, and benefits on which Americans rely. Further directs the Secretary of Education to terminate any program or activity receiving Federal assistance under the label "diversity, equity, and inclusion" or similar terms.

Signed by the President, March 20, 2025

### **State Legislative Actions**

HB354: The "What is Your Pennsylvania Story" Act, Rep. Solomon (D)

The "What Is Your Pennsylvania Story" Act provides for "What Is Your Pennsylvania Story" guidelines for school entities; and imposes duties on the Department of Education (PDE). Establishes guidelines for the development and availability regarding "What Is Your Pennsylvania Story." Requires PDE to develop guidelines in a manner that provides professional educators who teach social studies with the information and strategies to be incorporated into instruction for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 to encourage students to share their stories. Outlines the guidelines for requirements. Allows discretionary content to be included in the guidelines and outlines the criteria. Establishes notice requirements and adds that the act expires at the conclusion of the 2026-2027 school year.

03/17/2025 – Reported as committed from House Education

03/17/2025 – First consideration and laid on the table

03/26/2025 - Second consideration and re-committed to Appropriations

#### HB819: AP Exam Cost Reduction, Rep. Malagari (D)

Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, further providing for continuing professional development; providing for access to rigorous courses of study for all students; adding Article XVII-E to establish the Access to Rigorous Courses of Study for All Students Grant Program in the Department of Education (PDE); and imposing duties on PDE. Includes providing opportunities for educators to serve as rigorous course of study coaches to support teachers in delivering high-quality rigorous courses of study as credit for certification. Requires each school entity receiving a grant under section 1704-E(b) to provide secondary students with expanded opportunities to enroll in rigorous courses of study as well as exam fee assistance, as appropriate, beginning with the 2025-2026 school year. Asserts the rigorous courses of study supplement, not supplant courses offered by the school entity or the secondary school students. Requires rigorous course of study exam fee assistance from the department.

03/12/2025 - Introduced

03/17/2025 – Reported as amended from House Education

03/17/2025 – First consideration and laid on the table

# HR91: Designating March 2025 as "Music in Our Schools Month", Rep. Pashinski (D) A resolution designating the month of March 2025 as "Music in Our Schools Month" in Pennsylvania. 03/17/2015 – Reported as committed from House Education

#### • HR114: Recognizing Civic Learning Week, Rep. Parker (D)

Resolution recognizing the week of March 10 through March 14, 2025 as "Civic Learning Week" in Pennsylvania.

03/11/2025 - Introduced

03/11/2025 - Referred to House Education

03/17/2025 – Reported as committed from House Education

#### • SB9: Fairness in Women's Sports Act, Sen. Judy Ward (R)

The Fairness in Women's Sports Act provides for sport activities in public institutions of higher education and public school entities to be expressly designated male, female or coed; and creates causes of action for harm suffered by designation. Provides definitions. Prohibits athletic teams or sports designated for females, women or girls from being open to students of the male sex. Allows students to participate in an interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic team or sport designed for the student's sex or designated coed or mixed. Prohibits a government entity, licensing or accrediting organization or an athletic association or organization from entertaining a complaint, opening an investigation or taking any other adverse action against a school or institution of higher education for maintaining separate interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic teams or sports for students of the female sex. Permits a student who is deprived of an athletic opportunity or suffers direct or indirect harm as a result of a known violation to bring a cause of action for injunctive relief, damages, psychological, emotional and physical harm suffered, attorney fees and costs and any other relief available under law against the school or institution of higher education. Allows a student who is subject to retaliation or other adverse action by a school, institution of higher education or athletic association or organization as a result of reporting a violation to an employee or representative of the school, institution or athletic association or organization or to any federal or

state agency with oversight of schools or institutions of higher education in Pennsylvania to bring a cause of action. Permits a school or institution of higher education that suffers direct or indirect harm as a result of a violation to bring cause of action. Prohibits a person from bringing a civil action later than two years after the day on which the harm underlying the cause of action occurs. Provides that if a part of this act is found invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid part shall remain in effect. Effective in 60 days.

02/03/2025 - Introduced

02/03/2025 - Referred to Senate Education

02/18/2025 – Discussed during budget hearing with PASSHE & PHEAA – Senate Appropriations

03/26/2025 – Voted favorably from Committee and reported as committed

03/26/2025 – First consideration

# SB315: Career and Technical Education Equipment Grant Funding Fix (Former SB1342), Sen. Culver (R)

Amends the Public School Code, in career and technical education, further providing for career and technical education equipment grants. Requires the Department of Education (PDE) to use data for the calculations under this section based on the most recent years for which data is available, as determined by PDE, and shall fix the data as of the first day of June preceding the school year in which the allocation occurs. Stipulates that if, after the data based on the first day of June is found by PDE to be incorrect, PDE shall revise the calculations accordingly. Effective immediately.

02/26/2025 - Introduced

02/26/2025 - Referred to Senate Education

03/25/2025 – Voted favorably from Committee and reported as committed

03/25/2025 – First consideration and re-referred to Senate Appropriations

03/26/2025 – Second consideration and re-referred to Senate Appropriations

#### SB470: Firefighter Training Pilot Program for High School Students, Sen. Brooks (R)

Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, further providing for firefighter and emergency service training and establishing the Secondary Education Fire Training Pilot Program and the Fire Training Fund. Replaces school district with a school entity or nonpublic school in the language of the section. Establishes the Secondary Education Fire Training Pilot Program to provide high school students with instruction to increase the number of individuals capable of becoming volunteer firefighters. Requires the State Fire Commissioner to accept proposals from institutions of higher education in the state for the pilot program and requires the institution selected to operate the pilot program. Establishes the Fire Training Fund in the State Treasury and allows the commissioner to accept monetary donations and other money deposits for the fund. Establishes survey and reporting requirements.

03/18/2025 - Introduced

03/18/2025 - Referred to Senate Education

03/25/2025 – Voted favorably from Committee and reported as committed

03/25/2025 – First consideration and re-referred to Senate Appropriations

03/26/2025 – Second consideration and re-referred to Senate Appropriations

### **New Legislation**

#### Curriculum & Instruction

• <u>HB748</u>: Litterbug Education, Rep. Mackenzie (R)

Requires litterbug prevention and awareness for each student enrolled in a school entity in kindergarten through grade five beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. Permits instruction to be integrated into existing science curricula and may include instructional materials created and developed for students by the Department of Education (PDE) to assist students in making environmentally sound decisions and understanding the vital role decisions have in preserving the beauty of the commonwealth.

02/26/2025 – Introduced 03/03/2025 – Referred to House Education

#### HB769: Requiring School Libraries, Rep. Webster (D)

Requires public schools to maintain a physical space for libraries and information centers, with the State Board of Education providing recommendations for the best use of space for print and nonprint content. Requires public school board of directors to determine the physical space used based on the State Board of Education's recommendations. Allows the Secretary of Education to approve a construction project that does not meet the State Board of Education's standards. Requires the State Board of Education to review the libraries and information centers physical spaces every 10 years. Asserts this section does not apply to exclusively online schools. Requires public schools to maintain a library with both print and nonprint materials containing at least 1,000 materials per grade level beginning with the 2026-2027 school year to be implemented and directed by a certified school librarian.

02/28/2025 – Introduced 03/03/2025 – Referred to House Education

#### HB776: Civics Education Graduation Requirement, Rep. Webster (D)

Requires students to correctly answer at least 60% of the questions on the assessment under subsection (a.1) in order to graduate from high school or obtain a general equivalency diploma (GED). Allows students with an individualized education program (IEP) to waive the graduation requirement under subsection (a.1) if the student's IEP indicates otherwise.

02/28/2025 – Introduced 03/03/2025 – Referred to House Education

#### • HB792: Study and Report on Holocaust Curriculum and Instruction, Rep. Marcell (R)

Initiates the study regarding the manner in which instruction on the Holocaust, genocide and human rights violations is offered by school entities in the commonwealth following the 2025-2026 school year and every five years thereafter. Mandates the State Board of Education to issue a report no later than November 30, 2027, and every five years thereafter to the Governor, the Secretary of Education, the Chairman and Minority Chairman of the Education Committee of the Senate and the Chairman and Minority Chairman of the Education Committee of the House of Representatives. Lists report contents, including recommendations for updated curriculum guidelines.

03/03/2025 – Introduced
03/03/2025 – Referred to House Education

# • <u>HB793</u>: Providing for Holocaust Education Curriculum Transparency in Our Public Schools (former HB1986), Rep. Marcell (R)

Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, further providing for Holocaust, genocide and human rights violations instruction. Stipulates that beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, a school entity that offers instruction under subsection (a) shall post the title or internet link for every primary resource used by the school entity and a course syllabus or a written summary of the instruction offered by the school entity on the school entity's publicly accessible internet website. Requires the information to be updated at least every three years. Mandates the chief school administrator or a designee to implement the requirements of the subsection. Explains this subsection shall not be construed to require a school entity to violate the copyright, trademark or other intellectual property right of the creator or owner of curriculum.

03/03/2025 – Introduced
03/03/2025 – Referred to House Education

# HB795: Requiring Public School Instruction Relating to Victims of Communism, Rep. Mackenzie (R)

Requires that beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, and continuing each school year thereafter, the instruction under this subsection shall include instruction on the following topics, including Mao Zedong and the Cultural Revolution, Joseph Stalin and the Soviet system, Fidel Castro and the Cuban Revolution, Vladimir Lenin and the Russian Revolution, Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge and Nicolas Maduro and the Chavismo movement and how victims suffered under each of the aforementioned regimes through poverty, starvation, migration, systemic lethal violence and suppression of speech. Mandates the State Board of Education to promulgate regulations consistent with subsection (a) no later than April 1, 2026.

03/03/2025 – Introduced 03/03/2025 – Referred to House Education

### • <u>HB806</u>: Safeguarding Free Speech for Student Journalism, Rep. Shusterman (D)

Asserts that a school entity that has a school-sponsored media program will adopt policies or amend the school entity's existing policies to include the rights and responsibilities of student editors, student journalists and student-media advisors. Provides for unauthorized expression. Stipulates that a school entity's policies ensure that there is no prior restraint of a form of student expression prepared for use in the publication or broadcast of school-sponsored media. Prohibits school officials from participating in the approval of school-sponsored media before publication and serving as a member of a school-sponsored media program. Prohibits school entities from limiting access of a student journalist to the school entity's student media facilities if the student journalist's use of the media facilities will not result in an unauthorized and unprotected form of student expression. Directs that a student editor approve, reject or exclude all content of school-sponsored media publications and broadcasts and oversees the operation of the school-sponsored media program. Provides for student-media advisors. Provides for approval process through a student editor. Asserts that a student editor shall provide a written explanation for the rejection or exclusion of school-

sponsored media prepared by a student journalist for a publication or broadcast. Permits media law training for student journalists. Mandates that school-sponsored media is not to be considered an official statement from the school entity. Provides for protections for student-media advisors.

#### HB829: Full Day Kindergarten, Rep. Scott (D)

Mandates each school district to establish and maintain kindergartens for children between the ages of three and five years. Requires the kindergarten to be open on a full-time basis and be made available to all children residing in the district who are of a fixed age pursuant to subsection (a). Permits a child, being a resident of a school district, between the ages of three and five years may attend full-day kindergarten in accordance with the provisions of this subarticle and the rules, regulations or standards prescribed by the State Board of Education without the payment of tuition, provided the school district of the non-resident child is in the same intermediate unit; and the school districts have entered an agreement to offer full-day kindergarten jointly in accordance with regulations of the State Board of Education. Redefines "compulsory school age."

03/06/2025 – Introduced

03/10/2025 - Referred to House Education

#### HB860: Freedom to Read Act, Rep. Friel (D)

Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, adding a subarticle to provide for prohibited review of curriculum, instructional materials and voluntary inquiry material in public school entities. Establishes General Assembly findings and declarations. Provides several definitions. Prohibits the removal of voluntary inquiry materials of sound factual authority from library shelves or classrooms. Lists reasons for prohibited removal. Prohibits instructional materials and voluntary inquiry materials to be removed from circulation of a public school entity except in accordance with the process outlined in section 1568. Provides applicability. Requires public school entities to adopt policies to ensure parents or guardians have access to information about the curriculum, a process for the review of instructional materials, and the right to have their children excused from specific instruction that conflicts with their belief, upon receipt by the public school entity of a written request from the parents or guardians. Provides qualifying complaints. Authorizes the board of school directors to have the responsibility for the selection, purchase and weeding of voluntary inquiry materials to the instructional experts employed by the school entity. Prohibits a board of school directors or administrators of a public school entity from removing voluntary inquiry materials that have been challenged outside the process outlined in section 1568. Requires the establishment of an educational resource material review committee for each intermediate unit.

03/10/2025 - Introduced

03/11/2025 – Referred to House Education

#### HB1040: LGBTQ+ Inclusive Curriculum (former HB1998), Rep. Hohenstein (D)

Establishes the Diversity Inclusive Curriculum Pilot Program and provides for its three-year operation, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. Provides for the selection of participating school entities and establishes departmental responsibilities for the program relating to funding, consultation and guidelines. Provides for pilot program evaluation via school entity reporting, departmental evaluation and departmental reporting.

03/25/2025 – Introduced

03/25/2025 – Referred to House Education

#### HB1054: Requiring Holocaust Education in Schools, Rep. Webster (D)

Requires all Pennsylvania schools to teach about the Holocaust, genocide, and human rights violations. Directs the Department of Education to establish curriculum guidelines, including establishing the minimum amount of instruction necessary to adequately educate students on the Holocaust, genocide, and human rights violations. Further directs PDE to provide training and materials based on the curriculum guidelines established.

03/25/2025 - Introduced

03/26/2026 - Referred to House Education

#### • HR138: Study on the State of Civic Education, Rep. Brennan (D)

A Resolution directing the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a study on the state of civic education in Pennsylvania and develop recommendations on cost-efficient, feasible steps that the Commonwealth can adopt to increase the accessibility and quality of civic education.

03/19/2025 - Introduced

03/19/2025 - Referred to House Education

#### • SB422: First in Math, Sen. Boscola (D)

Establishes the Supplemental Mathematics Program for kindergarten through grade five beginning with the 2025-2026 school year. Outlines the eligibility requirements for students and outlines the design of the program. Required the department to make the supplemental mathematics program available for both public and nonpublic schools to voluntarily provide access to students and establish criteria by which schools can measure mathematics outcomes. Establishes reporting requirements.

03/10/2025 – Introduced

03/10/2025 - Referred to Senate Education

#### SB459: Imagination Library in PA, Sen. Comitta (D)

Establishes the Imagination Library of Pennsylvania Restricted Account in the General Fund. Allows the State Treasurer to accept appropriations, transfers, gifts, grants donations, legacies or any other revenues for deposit into the account. Allocated money to qualified local entities that agree to a dollar-for-dollar match for the purposes of the program. Provides for interest and that money does not lapse. Establishes the Statewide Imagination Library Program to provide books and allows for matching the amount required of local programs participating in the program by the department. Outlines the duties of the department including administration, oversight, development of guidelines, initiatives and public awareness campaigns, administering the local match requirement, marketing and communication plans, soliciting donations, gifts and other funding and promulgating regulations as needed.

03/17/2025 - Introduced

03/17/2025 - Referred to Senate Education

#### SB479: January 6 Day in Schools, Sen. Haywood (D)

Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, providing for moment of silence on January 6 anniversary.

03/21/2025 – Introduced
03/21/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

#### Early Childhood Education Teacher Incentives

#### • HB778: Early Childhood Education Teacher Incentives, Rep. Shusterman (D)

Establishes the Pre-K Teacher Salary Supplement Pilot Program within the Department of Education (PDE) to bring pre-kindergarten teachers' salaries in line with elementary school teachers' salaries, which will operate for three school years beginning with the first school year after the effective date of this subsection. Provides specifications for implementing the pilot program. Provides responsibilities for eligible pre-kindergarten programs selected for the pilot program.

02/28/2025 – Introduced

03/03/2025 - Referred to House Education

#### HB779: Early Childhood Education Teacher Incentives, Rep. Shusterman (D)

Establishes the Head Start Teacher Salary Supplement Pilot Program within the Department of Education (PDE) to provide a supplement to bring Head Start teachers' salaries in line with elementary school teachers' salaries for comparable skills. Requires a three-year pilot program operation beginning with the first school year after the effective date of this subsection. Directs PDE to establish guidelines and select schools and Head Start programs by using criteria including the school district having a poverty rate of at least 20% and a Head Start program not operated by a school district must be in a census tract with a median poverty level of 80% or less of the statewide median.

02/28/2025 – Introduced
03/03/2025 – Referred to House Education

#### HB780: Early Childhood Education Teacher Incentives, Rep. Shusterman (D)

Amends the Public School Code, adding Article XIX-I to establish the Early Childhood Educator Tuition Assistance Program within the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency and the Early Childhood Educator Tuition Assistance Fund in the State Treasury. Directs the fund to consist of an annual appropriation or transfer from the General Fund, as well as money received from the federal government and any appropriations by the General Assembly for the purposes of funding the program.

02/28/2025 – Introduced

03/03/2025 - Referred to House Education

#### • <u>HB781</u>: Early Childhood Education Teacher Incentives, Rep. Shusterman (D)

Requires the Department of Human Services to establish, implement and administer a pilot salary supplement program to provide salary supplements to child-care center employees assigned to work directly with children under four years of age. Mandates the department to issue salary supplements under the program no later than September 30, 2026, for the 2026-2027 fiscal year and

no later than September 30 for each subsequent fiscal year.

02/28/2025 – Introduced

03/03/2025 - Referred to House Education

#### Student Supports & Wellbeing

#### • HB772: Keeping Our Youngest Students in School, Rep. Webster (D)

Allows public schools to temporarily suspend a pupil eight years of age or older if necessary for no more than 10 days, unless a hearing is conducted for a longer suspension. Prohibits public schools from suspending a student younger than eight years of age unless there is an imminent threat to safety.

02/28/2025 – Introduced

03/03/2025 - Referred to House Education

#### • HB803: Requiring Naloxone (Narcan) in High Schools

Directs the Department of Education, in conjunction with the Department of Health (DOH), to develop a policy requiring a school entity offering grades nine, 10, 11 or 12 to maintain and provide onsite opioid antagonists in each school facility. Permits a trained individual to administer an opioid antagonist during an emergency. Provides for training to a school nurse, teacher or other individual in the administration of opioid antagonists provided by DOH. Asserts that a school entity will maintain opioid antagonists at each school facility in a safe and secure location. Provides that the student or staff member is transported to the nearest hospital emergency department for medical care after an opioid antagonist is administered. Provides immunity from criminal prosecution, civil penalties and professional review for an individual who, acting in good faith and with reasonable care, administers an opioid antagonist.

03/03/2025 – Introduced

03/05/2025 – Referred to House Education

#### HB823: Trauma Informed Active Shooter Drill Practices, Rep. Smith-Wide-El (D)

Directs that a school security drill be age-appropriate and include trauma-informed approaches to address the concerns and well-being of students and school personnel. Directs the content of a school security drill to include and involve school personnel. Asserts that a school security drill should not include any props, actors, simulations or other tactics intended to mimic an incident of violence or other emergency. Mandates that a school entity implement a reasonable amount of time for teachers to debrief with their students immediately following a school security drill. Directs that a school security drill be accompanied by an announcement prior to commencement that uses concise and age-appropriate language and informs students that there is no immediate danger to life and safety.

03/05/2025 – Introduced

03/06/2025 – Referred to House Education

#### HB830: Parental Notification of Bullying in Schools, Rep. O'Mara (D)

Requires bullying policy to include mechanisms to notify parents and legal guardians of children involved in a bullying or cyberbullying incident within five days of the incident.

03/06/2025 – Introduced 03/10/2025 – Referred to House Education

#### School Governance, Finance, & Facilities

#### • HB768: Compensation for School Board Members, Rep. Webster (D)

Permits a person elected or appointed as a school director to receive compensation for service on behalf of a school district. Permits a board of school directors to authorize compensation for school directors. Provides that compensation be consistent with the compensation limits for individuals elected to serve in the municipality in which the school district is located.

02/28/2025 - Introduced

03/03/2025 - Referred to House Education

#### • HB773: Free Tuition at PASSHE Institutions for School Board Members, Rep. Webster (D)

Allows school board members to take eligible courses with free tuition, with specifications determined by the board. Requires institutions to provide relevant information regarding school board members and eligible courses to the board. Requires the school board to provide relevant information to the General Assembly on June 1, 2026, and annually thereafter. Asserts the General Assembly will appropriate funds to the institution for purposes of reimbursement no later than June 30, 2026, and annually thereafter.

02/28/2025 - Introduced

03/03/2025 - Referred to House Education

#### HB774: School Board Member Training, Rep. Webster (D)

Amends the Public School Code, in school directors, further providing for school director training programs. Provides specifications regarding school director training programs that remain relevant through the 2025-2026 school year. Provides a different set of specifications regarding school director training programs for the 2026-2027 school year and every school year thereafter.

02/28/2025 - Introduced

03/03/2025 - Referred to House Education

#### HB854: School Board Member Conflicts of Interest, Rep. Roae (R)

Directs school board members to abstain from all votes pertaining to a collective bargaining agreement if a spouse, romantic partner or household member is in the bargaining unit covered by the collective bargaining agreement being voted on.

03/10/2025 - Introduced

03/11/2025 - Referred to House Education

#### HB900: Abolishing Property Taxes, Rep. Diamond (R)

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, prohibiting the taxation of real property.

03/26/2025 - Introduced

03/26/2025 - Referred to House Education

#### • <u>HB906</u>: School District Financial Transparency Act, Rep. Mackenzie (R)

Requires a public school entity to provide notice, via first class mail, of the financial information posted for the public school entity to each resident taxpayer beginning with the financial information posted on the department's website under section 603-B(a) pertaining to the 2024-2025 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter.

03/12/2025 – Introduced
03/13/2025 – Referred to House Education

# HR146: Dissolution of Power from the U.S. Department of Education to the States, Rep. Gleim (R)

A Resolution urging the Congress of the United States to fully cooperate with Federal efforts to eliminate the United States Department of Education, reaffirming Pennsylvania's sovereign authority over its educational system and recognizing the need for State-led education solutions to improve outcomes for Pennsylvania students.

03/26/2025 – Introduced
03/26/2025 – Referred to House Education

• SB433: Allowing Intermediate Units to Own Facilities for Instructional Use, Sen. Comitta (D)
Amends the Public School Code, in intermediate units, further providing for powers and duties of the intermediate unit board of directors and for capital subsidy. Allows intermediate units to own instructional space and use facilities they already have for instructional purposes.

03/17/2025 – Introduced

03/17/2025 - Referred to Senate Education

#### • SB452: School Corridor Funding (former SB989), Sen. Street (D)

Allocates \$50 million to create the Safe Path Restricted Account to enhance the safety and protection of school corridors. The appropriation allows for the hiring of additional police officers, the training and implementation of volunteer safe path monitors who work in teams to collect information and address suspicious activity, and the installation and use of cameras.

03/26/2025 - Introduced

03/26/2025 - Referred to Senate Education

#### Student Health

- HB1045: School Professional Seizure Recognition and First Aid Training, Rep. Kazeem (D)
  Requires all school nurses and school professional employees who have direct contact with
  students to complete training every two years that is approved by the Pennsylvania Department of
  Health and addresses the signs and symptoms of a seizure as well as how to provide first aid
  treatment if a student has a seizure.
- SB402: Volunteer Training for the Administration of Emergency Seizure Treatment in Schools,
   Sen. Argall (R)

Permits emergency anti-seizure medication to be administered by a school nurse who has been trained in anti-seizure medication administration. Permits administration by nonmedical employees.

Provides exception. Allows parental or guardian requests. Requires training. Stipulates an employee who volunteers as specified under this section may not be required to provide emergency medical assistance until completion of the training program adopted by the school district or charter school, and documentation of completion is recorded in the employee's personnel file. Declares if a school district or charter school elects to participate as specified under subsection (b), the school district or charter school shall be immune from liability for the good faith conduct of an employee acting under this section and shall ensure that each employee who volunteers shall be provided defense and indemnification by the school district or charter school for any and all civil liability. Requires this information shall be reduced to writing, provided to the volunteer and retained in the volunteer's personnel file. Mandates an accommodations notice. Requires program creation and lists contents of the program. Provides compensation. Requires development of guidelines and best practices. Mandates reporting and recordkeeping. Requires the student's parent or guardian to provide all materials necessary to provide emergency medical assistance. Stipulates that a school or charter school may not be responsible for providing the necessary materials.

03/06/2025 - Introduced

03/06/2025 - Referred to Senate Education

#### SB463: Allowing PA Whole Milk in Schools, Sen. Brooks (R)

The Whole Milk in Pennsylvania Schools Act authorizes the provision or sale of Pennsylvania milk in Pennsylvania schools. Provides definitions. Provides that Pennsylvania milk offered for sale to a Pennsylvania school is deemed to be in the stream of intrastate commerce. Allows a school board or other governing entity of a Pennsylvania school to elect to utilize money from the state or local sources to obtain whole Pennsylvania milk or reduced-fat Pennsylvania milk to provide or sell at schools. Requires the secretary of education to notify schools of the provisions in the act. Provides for the right of civil action and establishes reporting requirements. Sets an expiration date for the act on the date of publication of the notice upon the issuance of the amendment or repeal of 42 U.S.C. § 1758(a)(2)(A) (relating to program requirements) that results in the availability of whole milk or reduced fat milk, flavored or unflavored, in elementary and secondary schools in the state, or an update to 7 U.S.C. § 5341 (relating to establishment or dietary guidelines) that permits the availability of milk in elementary and secondary schools in the state.

03/18/2025 – Introduced

03/18/2025 - Referred to Senate Education

#### Student Success Infrastructure

#### • HB827: Tutoring Program, Rep. Freeman (D)

Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, providing for Cross-age Tutoring Program. Requires the Department of Education (PDE) to establish and publish on their website evidence-based guidelines for the Cross-age Tutoring Program in which public school students in grades eleven and twelve, under the supervision of a certified teacher or paraprofessional, may volunteer as a tutor to assist another student with their studies. Stipulates what the guidelines must provide. Mandates the program to be available to all public school entities. Does not replace nor diminish services provided by an employee of a public school entity but shall serve as a supplement to instructional and educational services to aid in enhancing the academic performance of the

student to be tutored.
03/05/2025 – Introduced
03/06/2025 – Referred to House Education

# HB892: Requiring Classroom-to-Workforce Coordinators in Each School District, Rep. Webster (D)

Amends the Public School Code, in high schools, providing for transition coordinators in senior high schools. Directs school districts to hire at least one credentialed transition coordinator for each senior high school.

03/11/2025 – Introduced 03/13/2025 – Referred to House Education

#### **Inclusion & Non-Discrimination**

• HB976: Equity in Education, Rep. Gaydos (R)

Amends the Public School Code, in pupils and attendance, further providing for exceptional children and education and training. Requires school districts to compile information listing the number of gifted children in all expenditure categories. In turn, those students will be captured in the school district's weighted special education student headcount, which will provide additional compensation to school districts to fund gifted student services.

• SB496: Protecting LGBTQ Students from Discrimination, Sen. Williams (D)

Amends the Public School Code, in educational tax credits, further providing for school participation in program. Requires schools which receive funding through the Educational Improvement and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credits (EITC & OSTC) to have a written policy of nondiscrimination. 03/21/2025 – Introduced

03/21/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

### Previously Introduced Legislation with No New Action

HB17: Mandating Cursive Handwriting (Formerly HB1934), Rep. Dane Watro (R)

HB25: Extending School Budget Deadlines in State Budget Impasses, Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)

**HB46:** Increasing Access to PreK for PA Kids, Rep. Tarik Khan (D)

HB51: Property Tax Pension Obligation Disclosure Act (Formerly HB215), Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)

HB63: Exemption from In-Person School Safety and Security Drills (Formerly HB2613), Rep. Marla Brown (R)

HB82: School Bus Driver Epinephrine Auto-injector Training and Grant Program (Former HB1950), Rep. Kristin Marcell (R)

HB130: Education Money to Follow the Child, Rep. Milou Mackenzie (R)

HB158: Protect Women's Sports (Formerly HB216), Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)

HB190: Addressing Eating Disorders in School, Rep. Ortitay (D) (passed House, awaiting Senate action)

HB191: Requiring AEDs at School Athletic Events, Rep. Tim Brennan (D)

- HB192: Increasing Access to school counselors, psychologists, social workers, and nurses, Rep. Manuel Guzman (D)
- HB201: Allowing Intermediate Units to Own Facilities for Instructional Use, Rep. Ciresi (D) (passed House, awaiting Senate action)
- HB203: Making Veterans Day a School Holiday, Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)
- HB215: One Certified Librarian per Public School Building, Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)
- HB227: The Honesty in Teaching Act (Formerly HB211), Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)
- HB228: State Board of Education Academic Standards Review Schedule (Formally HB213), Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)
- HB233: Charter Board Representation, Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)
- HB236: Removing Obscene Material from Our School Libraries (Formerly HB209), Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)
- HB248: Parental Notification and Consent for Student Participation in School-Related Clubs and Organizations, Rep. Stephenie Scialabba (R)
- HB249: Establishing Uniform Criteria for School Guidance Directors, Rep. Stephenie Scialabba (R)
- HB252: Parental Notification and Consent for Student Access and Use of a Mental Health Services Digital Platform, Rep. Stephanie Scialabba (R)
- HB332: Media Literacy (Formerly HB473), Rep. Tim Briggs (D)
- HB338: Cyber Charter School Attendance Accountability, Rep. Clint Owlett (R)
- HB339: Mental Health Check-ins in Schools, Rep. G. Roni Green (D)
- HB342: Teaching Mindfulness in Schools, Rep G. Roni Green (D)
- HB356: Safety and Violence Education (SAVE) Students Act, Rep. Brian Munro (D)
- HB370: Require School Year to Begin after the Labor Day Holiday, Rep. Jose Giral (D)
- HB381: Keystone Exam Alternative Feasibility Study, Rep. Jason Ortitay (R)
- HB387: Parental Notification of Students Involved in School Incidents, Rep. Keith S. Harris (D)
- **HB391:** School Bus Video Monitoring, Rep. Jose Giral (D)
- HB396: Emergency Certification for CTE Educators (part of the Emergency Services Legislative Package), Rep. Seth M. Grove (R)
- HB423: The Future Voters Act, Rep. Brandon J. Markosek (D)
- HB447: School Vaccination and Exemption Announcements, Rep. Russ Diamond (R)
- HB477: Requiring Background Checks for School Board Candidates, Rep. Jeanne McNeill (D)
- HB480: School District Cyber Education Programs, Rep. Ryan A. Bizzarro (D)
- HB495: Charter School Enrollment Caps, Rep. Carol Kazeem (D)
- HB581: Parental Rights in Education (Former HB319), Rep. Borowicz (R)
- **HB606:** Early Human Life Development Education, Rep. Hamm (R)
- HB653: Alyssa's Law (Former SB1206), Rep. Brown (R)

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HB655: Strengthening Student Data Security (Former HB1987), Rep. Ryncavage (R)
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HB656: Volunteer Training for the Administration of Emergency Seizure Treatment in Schools, Rep. Barton (R)

**HB666:** Learning Loss Mitigation, Rep. Webster (D)

HB667: Let Teachers Teach – Regulation of Administrative Meetings, Rep. Webster (D)

HB679: Educator Professional Development Cooperation and Support, Rep. Webster (D)

HB681: Eliminating School BMI Screenings, Rep. Otten (D)

HB682: Protecting the Learning Climate (AC in Every School), Rep. Webster (D)

HB683: Class Size Regulation, Rep. Webster (D)

HB687: Ineligibility for School Directors with Tax Delinquencies, Rep. Moul (R)

**HB688:** Moratorium on New Cyber Charter Schools, Representative Probst (D)

HB725: Temporarily Raising Maximum School Age Due to COVID-19, Rep. Webster (D)

HB726: Survey on School Infrastructure Capital Costs, Rep. Webster (D)

HB727: Replacement of Keystone Exam with the American College Testing (ACT) Test, Rep. Webster (D)

HR18: Career and Technical Education Month in Pennsylvania, Rep. Kristin Marcell (R)

HR38: National Library Week, Rep. Jason Ortitay (R)

HR80: School Meal Quality and Quantity Study, Rep. Cepeda-Freytiz (D)

HR92: School Transportation Consolidation Study, Rep. Webster (D)

SB27: Moratorium on New Cyber Charter Schools, Sen. Williams (D)

SB28: Black Studies in K-12 Curriculum, Sen. Sharif Street (D)

SB77: Mental Health Days for Students (Former SB387), Sen. Judy L. Schwank (D)

SB116: Addressing Pennsylvania's Long-Term Care Workforce Crisis (Former SB1104 and HB2115), Sen. David G. Argall (R)

SB127: Holocaust Education Bill (Former SB1100), Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)

SB128: Improving Curriculum Transparency in K-12 Schools (Former SB340), Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)

SB139: Roman's Law - Delayed School Enrollment for Children with Autism, Developmental Delays, or Intellectual Disabilities (Former SB1157), Sen. David G. Argall (R)

SB220: Changes to Teacher Certification Levels, Sen. Kristin Phillips-Hill (R)

SB227: PSBA to be Considered a State-affiliated Entity, Sen. Kristin Phillips-Hill (R)

SB229: Limiting Access to Smartphones and Social Media in Schools, Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)

SB230: Parental Control of Student Exposure to Sexually Explicit Content in Schools, Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)

SB239: Mandate Waivers for Public Schools, Sen. Coleman (R)

Submitted by Rebecca Smith, Coordinator of Innovation, Partnerships, and Special Projects. Sources: PLS, PA General Assembly, Capitolwire, PASA, PSBA)

- <u>SB246</u>: Weapons in Schools: Providing for the notification of parents, guardians, and school employees, Sen. Coleman (R)
- SB254: Pennsylvania STEM Partnership Program, Sen. Mastriano (R)
- SB259: Carbon Monoxide Detectors, Sen. Fontana (D)
- SB304: Education Opportunity Accounts for Military Families (Former SB263), Sen. Mastriano (R)
- **SB354:** Special Education Cyber / Charter School Funding, Sen. Brown (R)
- SB378: The Student Data Privacy and Protection Act (Former SB565), Sen. Phillips-Hill (R)
- SR8: Establishing an Advisory Commission to Develop a Comprehensive Plan for Public Education (Former SR227), Sen. Judy L. Schwank (D)