

**RESOLUTION CALLING FOR INCREASED STATE FUNDING**  
**BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE**  
**BURRELL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania requires the General Assembly to maintain a “thorough and efficient system of public education,” which requires that all students have access to a comprehensive, effective and contemporary system of public education.

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania’s 1.7 million public school students deserve the highest quality education; and the state’s public schools work best when they have the resources to give all students the opportunities they need to succeed; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania ranks 6th among the 50 states in the percentage of local revenues allocated to support elementary and secondary education, among the highest in the nation, with local taxpayers’ share of funding public education at more than 52%; and

WHEREAS, since the 2009-10 school year, mandated special education costs have increased by \$3.6 billion, or 104%, while state and federal special education funding has only increased \$280 million, or 21%, in that same time, leading the state’s share of the cost to fall from 28% to 18.5%; and

WHEREAS, in the last decade, mandated costs for pensions, special education and charter school tuition alone have increased more than \$6.1 billion, while state revenue intended to help pay those costs has only increased by \$2 billion, leaving local schools responsible for the remaining \$4.1 billion; and, even if all of the \$2.3 billion increase in Basic Education Funding (BEF) were used to help cover those costs, local schools would still be left with a \$1.7 billion deficit to pay for entirely out of local funds; and

WHEREAS, despite the clear return on investment, the state has failed to keep pace with the costs of providing career and technical education (CTE) pathways to students, allowing its share of CTE funding to fall to 11%, leaving school districts with an 89% share of CTE expenses; and

WHEREAS, public schools face escalating instructional and operational costs, heightened student mental health and behavioral health needs, mandated special education requirements, and persistent educator and support staff shortages that cannot be adequately addressed without sustained state support; and

WHEREAS, inadequate state funding places an additional burden on local taxpayers to pick up a greater share of public schools’ costs to ensure that our students’ education is not jeopardized; and

WHEREAS, increases in mandated costs prevent public schools from making critical investments in classrooms, technology, infrastructure, curriculum and other areas aimed at improving student achievement and reducing the burden on local taxpayers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Burrell School District urges the General Assembly to take legislative action for public education by:

- Continuing the state's commitment to adequacy funding;
- Continuing to provide significant and sustained increases to basic education funding (BEF) through the state's fair funding formula;
- Providing substantial increases to the special education funding and communicating the urgent need for increased federal funding to Congress;
- Providing sustained state funding and support for school infrastructure improvements; and
- Ensuring sufficient state resources are provided for career and technical education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the elected senators and representatives of the Burrell School District in the General Assembly, and to the Governor of Pennsylvania. Adopted this 21st day of April, 2026.

Signed, Juliana Guido McCallahan  
School Board President Board Secretary