

DELAWARE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

June 3, 2026

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News and Updates

[School cell phone bans may boost student well-being – but not test scores, new study suggests](#) by **Claire Cameron of *Scientific American* on May 4, 2026**

Banning cell phones in schools has been touted as a silver bullet for poor test scores and low student well-being and attendance, but new research suggests the results are more mixed. [...] In the years since cell phone bans went into effect in schools, students and teachers at those schools have reported higher levels of well-being, but average test scores and attendance records haven't budged. Perceived levels of online bullying have also not improved, according to the paper.

[Lawmakers push for fairness in high school sports with new playoff system](#) by **John Finnerty of *State Affairs* on April 30, 2026**

The state House approved legislation Wednesday [April 29, 2026] empowering the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association to establish one post-season tournament for traditional public schools and another for private and charter schools. House Bill 41 passed with bipartisan support from lawmakers who said they've grown weary of watching their local schools beat their neighboring

Submitted by Rebecca Smith, Coordinator of Innovation, Partnerships, and Special Projects and Danielle Chung, Marketing and Communications Specialist. Sources: PA General Assembly, Capitolwire, Bill Track 50.

competitors in the regular season only to get quickly eliminated from post-season tournaments from schools that are able to attract students without being limited by school district boundaries.

[Some parents don't want their kids to use tech at school. But districts are pushing back](#) by Sharon Lurye of the *Associated Press* on May 14, 2026

Across the country, parents are voicing concerns about excessive screen time in schools and lobbying educators to go back to pencil and paper. In places like Lower Merion Township, where Aliyah goes to high school, some are taking it even further. Over 600 people in the affluent Philadelphia suburb have signed a petition asking to preserve parents' ability to opt their children out of using digital devices during the school day. The public school district has pushed back, saying it's not feasible to let hundreds of students opt out of technology that is essential to the curriculum.

Federal Updates

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) New E-Rate Rule

Beginning July 2027, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will move competitive bidding activity for E-rate funds into a centralized online portal managed by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), a nonprofit designated by the FCC to administer the Universal Service Fund and its programs.

- **Current Process:** Procurement is mostly managed at the local level, with schools and libraries handling bids, documentation, and compliance under their own state and local purchasing rules.
- **Beginning July 1, 2027:** All bid requests and applicants' responses must be uploaded into the new portal, documenting all competitive bidding, bid evaluations, vendor selection documentation, and approval of final award contracts.

[FCC 26-30 In the Matter of Promoting Fair and Open Competitive Bidding in the E-Rate Program](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture Issues Final Rule on Whole Milk

On Friday, May 8, 2026, the U.S. Department of Agriculture issued a final rule to allow schools participating in Child Nutrition Programs to offer whole and reduced-fat milk. This rule is effective June 8, 2026.

[Department of Agriculture Final Rule Expanding Fluid Milk Options in Child Nutrition Programs](#)

State Updates

PDE Updates

The Pennsylvania Department of Education recently updated two education circulars: Enrollment of Students and School Immunization Requirements.

- **Enrollment of Students:** Updates reflect changes in law established by Act 47 of 2025. The *Proof of Residency Section* has been revised to list ten acceptable documents for residency verification. Additionally, the Cyber Charter School Enrollment and Residency Verification form has been updated to align with the standards for residency.
- **School Immunization Requirements:** The updated document provides no changes to Pennsylvania's Immunization requirements. The revisions are limited to clarify existing requirements, providing guidance to support consistent implementation, and addresses several frequently asked questions.

Session Schedule

**Newly added session days*

Month	Senate	House
June	1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30	1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
July		
August		
September	28, 29, 30	28, 29, 30
October	5, 6, 7, 19, 20, 21	5, 6, 7, 19, 20, 21
November	17, 18	9, 10
December		

State Legislative Update

Curriculum and Instruction

Legislative Actions

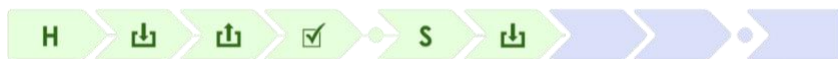
- HB1752: Keystone Exam Alternative Feasibility Study, Rep. Curry (D)**
 Requires the Department of Education to commission an independent feasibility study on replacing Keystone Exams with alternative assessments such as the SAT, ACT, or Smarter Balanced assessments. The study must evaluate alignment to standards, comparability of results, accessibility for diverse learners, costs, and implementation considerations, with findings and recommendations reported to state leadership within one year.

05/04/2026 – Re-reported as committed from Appropriations

05/04/2026 – Third consideration and final passage (191-10)

In the Senate

05/07/2026 – Referred to Education



- HB2176: Social Media Literacy, Rep. Prokopiak (D)**
 Requires the State Board of Education to incorporate social media literacy into academic standards, including instruction on the impacts of social media use, online safety, and identifying risks such as cyberbullying and predatory behavior. The Department of Education must develop instructional materials and make professional development opportunities available to support implementation.

In the Senate

05/01/2026 – Referred to Education



- HB1877: Enhancing our Workforce by Recognizing the Skill of Biliteracy, Rep. D’Orsie (R)**
 Establishes a Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy to be awarded to graduating students who demonstrate proficiency in English and at least one additional world language, with criteria set by the Department of Education. School entities that award the seal must note it on transcripts and

report annual data on recipients, while the Department is required to publish ongoing reports on program outcomes.

05/05/2026 – Second consideration and re-committed to Appropriations

05/06/2026 – Re-reported as committed

05/06/2026 – Third consideration and final passage (201-0)

In the Senate

05/07/2026 – Referred to Education



- **HB2460: Hunting and Trapping Education in Schools, Rep. Kulik (D)**

Directs the Pennsylvania Game Commission, in consultation with the Department of Education to develop and provide a model program for hunting and trapping education and firearm safety for students in grades 6-12. The program must include the following topics: proper use of handling firearms, safe cleaning and maintenance of firearms, different types of firearms, safe hunting practices and techniques, and the history of wildlife conservation and hunting. Firearms and ammunition will not be permitted into a school building as part of instruction.

04/26/26 - Introduced and referred to Game & Fisheries

05/06/26 - Reported as committed

05/05/26 - First consideration

05/06/26 - First consideration rescinded

05/06/26 - Reconsider the Vote by which the House Accepted the Report of the Game and Fisheries Committee that Contained House Bill 2460 (201-0)

05/06/26 - Reported as amended

05/06/26 - First consideration



Newly Introduced

- **HB2541: Keystone Literacy Investment Act, Rep. Ortity (R)**

Funds the evidence-based reading instruction program through the sale of deferred tax credits. Proceeds from the tax credits will be deposited into a restricted Early Literacy Implementation Fund that provides funding for literacy implementation costs such as curriculum, screening tools, intervention programs, and educator training.

05/27/26 - Introduced and referred to Education

Student Supports, Services, and Special Education

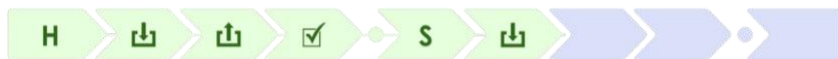
Legislative Actions

- **HB2218: Increasing Student Success with More School Counselor Support, Rep. Steele (D)**

Requires all school entities to develop, implement, and publicly post a comprehensive school counseling plan aligned to academic, career, and social-emotional development for students. It establishes requirements for program structure, counselor duties (including a goal of 80% of time spent in direct and indirect student services), and mandates Department of Education oversight, guidance, and monitoring for compliance.

In the Senate

05/01/2026 – Referred to Education



Newly Introduced

- [HB2485](#): Informing Educators of Trauma: Record Keeping Protocols, Rep. Nelson (D)**
 Allows school entities participating in the School Safety and Security Grant program to establish a trauma-informed records program detailing a student's experience with traumatic events and adverse childhood experiences. The records must be overseen by a mental health professional or trained administrator and can include information from county agencies, local law enforcement, medical providers, school personnel, a counselor's assessment of the student's wellbeing, a summary of known triggers for the students, and a support plan detailing how the school will care for the student. Use is restricted through tiers of access and is limited to developing trauma informed approaches and instruction but cannot be used for admissions purposes or criminal proceedings. The bill mandates parental notification and consent for the creation of these records.
05/06/26 - Introduced and referred to Education
- [HB2486](#): Informing Educators of Trauma: Requiring Student Mental Health Support Policies and Training, Rep. Nelson (D)**
 Requires school entities to adopt a comprehensive student mental health support policy. The policy may be based on a model developed by the Department of Education. Additionally, the bill requires professional educators in school buildings serving students in grades 6-12 to complete four hours of training in comprehensive student mental health support every five years.
05/06/26 - Introduced and referred to Education
- [HB2487](#): Informing Educators of Trauma: Establishing Secure Sharing Pathways, Rep. Nelson (D)**
 Amends Title 23 to require the Department of Human Services to create regulations and procedures for county child protective services agencies to inform school officials when a student at their school has been involved in a traumatic event. The purpose of the notification is to allow school staff to monitor the student for potential support needs.
05/06/26 - Introduced and referred to Education
- [SB1341](#): Community Engaged Schools for Success Program, Sen. Langerholc (R)**
 Establishes the Community-Engaged School for Success Pilot Program for schools engaged in developing and implementing a community engagement plan to provide engaged student support services. Schools are identified based on academic performance or poverty rates.
05/20/26 - Introduced and referred to Education

Student Health & Wellness

Became Law

- [Act No. 17 of 2026 \(SB375\)](#): Greg Moyer's Law, Sen. Brown (R)**
 Establishes comprehensive requirements for automated external defibrillators (AEDs) and CPR training in schools. This bill was Specifically, the new law requires:

- AEDs to be present in a readily accessible location at all PIAA-sanctioned athletics events and practices. **Schools have three years from May 13, 2026 to comply;**
- Schools to develop and rehearse emergency action plans for cardiac incidents;
- School entities to offer, as an option to all school employees, a cardiopulmonary resuscitation training (CPR) class, from an appropriate certifying agency, on school premises, at least once every three years;
- School entity personnel offices to include documentation, copy of certification card, in each employee’s personnel file who completes a CPR course;
- Amends the School Safety and Security Grant Program overseen by PCCD, to allow designated funds to be used for the purchase of AEDs and training on the use of AEDs.
 - Requires that during the 2025-2030 school years at least 2.5% of the fund’s annual appropriations be allocated for AED purchases and training grants;
 - To be eligible to purchase AEDs under the grant program, each school entity must ensure that two or more persons assigned to the locations where the AED will be housed are appropriately trained as required in the use of the device;
- Requires annual reporting to PDE of the number, condition, age, and placement of each AED in each school building. **Annual reporting to start by June 30, 2027 with PDE report issued by December 31, 2027.**

In the Senate

05/04/2026 – Referred to Rules & Executive Nominations

05/06/2026 – Re-reported on concurrence, as committed (48-2)

05/06/2026 – Signed in Senate

05/06/2026 – Signed in House

05/07/2026 – Presented to the Governor

05/13/2026 – Approved by the Governor, Act No. 17 of 2026



Legislative Actions

- **HB1077: Providing Glasses to Help Our Student Succeed, Rep. Cepeda-Freytiz (D)**
Establishes a Commission on Children’s Vision within the Departments of Education and Health to develop statewide strategies for improving student access to vision screenings, eye examinations, and eyeglasses. The commission is tasked with coordinating programs, analyzing data and needs, and issuing annual reports with recommendations to expand access to vision care services for students.

05/04/2026 – Re-reported as committed

05/04/2026 – Third consideration and final passage (150-51)

In the Senate

05/07/2026 – Referred to Education



- **HB1045: School Professional Seizure Recognition and First Aid Training, Rep. Kazeem (D)**
Requires school nurses and school staff with direct student contact to complete Department of Health-approved training on seizure recognition and related first aid at least every three years. It shifts prior optional training to mandatory and includes provisions clarifying civil immunity for staff

who provide care consistent with school policies.

05/06/2026 – Second consideration and re-committed to Appropriations

06/01/2026 – Re-reported as committed

06/01/2026 – Third consideration and final passage (129-71)



- **HB2117: Ensuring Lifesaving Asthma Medication is Available for Students, Rep. Hill-Evans (D)**

Expands existing school health policies to include short-acting asthma medications alongside epinephrine delivery systems, requiring school entities to allow student self-administration and maintain supplies for emergency use. It authorizes trained school staff, including non-medical personnel under certain conditions, to administer these medications, establishes training requirements, and extends protections to school bus drivers and crossing guards who provide emergency care.

06/02/2026 – Second consideration with amendments and re-committed to Appropriations



- **SB9: Save Women’s Sports Act, Sen. Ward (R)**

Requires sport activities in public institutions of higher education and public school entities to be expressly designated male, female, or coed as determined by sex at birth. Creates a cause of action for harm as a result of a violation.

06/02/2026 – Reported with a request to re-refer to Health

06/02/2026 – Re-referred to Health



School Safety

Legislative Actions

- **HB830: Parental Notification of Bullying in Schools, Rep. O’Mara (D)**

Requires school entities to investigate all reported bullying incidents and establish formal procedures for those investigations. It also mandates that within 24 hours of determining that bullying occurred, schools must notify the parents of guardians of both the target and the aggressor, while maintaining existing requirements for parent notification and privacy compliance.

In the Senate

05/01/2026 – Referred to Education



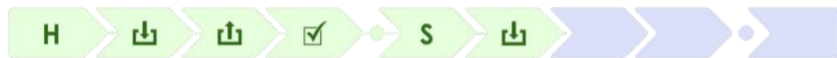
- **HB2042: Safety in Youth Sports, Rep. Briggs (D)**

Expands concussion and traumatic brain injury requirements to include additional youth athletic activities beyond interscholastic athletics and strengthens existing protocols. It requires adoption of a return-to-learn protocol, annual acknowledgement of concussion information, updated coach training requirements, and allows municipalities to require compliance as a condition for use of public athletic facilities.

*In the Senate**05/01/2026 – Referred to Education*

- **HB2474: Closing Reporting Gaps in Title 23, Rep. Rivera (D)**

Amends Title 23, further providing for mandated reporting requirements related to child-on-child contact. The bill adds unlawful dissemination of intimate images and sexual abuse of children to the crimes against a child subject to mandated reporting.

*04/29/26 - Introduced and referred to Judiciary**05/04/26 - Reported as committed**05/04/26 - First consideration**05/05/26 - Second consideration**05/05/26 - Re-committed to Appropriations**05/06/26 - Re-reported as committed**05/06/26 - Third consideration and final passage**In the Senate**05/07/26 - Referred to Judiciary**Newly Introduced*

- **SB1326: Safeguarding Our Students from Sexual Offenders, Sen. Coleman (R)**

Expands the scope of who is subject to criminal history checks to include employees and independent contractors who perform work on the premises of a school entity.

05/07/26 - Introduced and referred to Education

- **HB2531: Amending the PA Crimes Code to Include Same Protections for School Security Guards, Rep. Anderson (R)**

Amends Title 18, the PA Crimes Code, to provide the same protections for armed School Security Guards that are currently afforded to School Resource Officers, Police Officers and Corrections Officers.

*05/27/26 - Introduced and referred to Judiciary***Facilities and Transportation***Newly Introduced*

- **SB1325: Ensuring Safe Transportation for Pennsylvania Schoolchildren, Sen. Keefer (R)**

Clarifies visions regarding student transportation particularly for charter schools. It specifies that school districts must provide free transportation to resident pupils attending charter schools under the same terms and conditions as transportation to district schools, including mode of transport. The bill also clarifies that when free transportation is provided to resident pupils attending a district school, transportation via a common carrier is not permitted for students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

05/07/26 - Introduced and referred to Education

- **HB2513: Making Intermediate Units Eligible for the Public School Facility Improvement Grant Program, Rep. Matzie (D)**

Expands the scope of “school entity” as defined in the Public School Facility Improvement Grant Program to include intermediate units.

05/13/26 - Introduced and referred to Education

School Governance & Finance

Legislative Actions

- **SB1014: Phone Free Schools, Sen. Robinson (R)**

Requires school entities to adopt a “bell-to-bell” policy prohibiting student use of personal mobile devices during the school day while on school property. The bill includes defined exceptions for medical needs, IEP/504 accommodations, English learners, or specific instructional use. It requires schools to adopt and enforce policies aligned to these requirements.

05/06/2026 – Second consideration, with amendments and re-referred to Appropriations



- **HB1814: Cell Phones in Schools, Rep. Steele (D)**

Requires school entities to prohibit use of student personal mobile devices during the school day and establish methods to physically restrict access, such as lockboxes or locked pouches. It includes limited exceptions for medical needs, IEP/504 accommodations, English learners, or specific instructional use. The bill also requires schools to adopt and enforce policies aligned to these requirements.

05/06/2026 – Second consideration, with amendments and re-committed to Appropriations

06/01/2026 – Re-reported as committed

06/01/2026 – Third consideration and final passage (126-75)



- **HB41: Athletic Playoff Process, Rep. Conklin (D)**

Allows the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) to establish separate playoffs and championships for public (boundary) and nonpublic (non-boundary) schools, but requires a formal public process before doing so. The process includes holding public hearing across regions, collecting testimony, conducting an open deliberation meeting, and issuing a written decision with justification. The bill also limits legal challenges once a determination is made.

In the Senate

05/01/2026 – Referred to Education



- **SB250: Displaying the Preamble of the Constitution of Pennsylvania in Schools, Sen. Dush (R)**

Requires each school entity to display the Preamble of the Pennsylvania Constitution at the entrance of every school building, such as through a mounted plaque.

05/04/2026 – Re-reported as committed

05/04/2026 – Third consideration and final passage

In the House

05/07/2026 – Referred to Education



- **SB598: Displaying the Preamble of the Constitution of the United States in Schools, Sen. Dush (R)**

Requires each school entity to display the Preamble of the United States Constitution at the entrance of every school building, such as through a mounted plaque.

05/04/2026 – Re-reported as committed

05/04/2026 – Third consideration and final passage (38-11)

In the House

05/07/2026 – Referred to Education



- **SB698: Requiring an Appraisal Before School Districts Purchase Real Estate, Sen. Coleman (R)**

Requires school districts to base real estate purchases on formal appraisals, prohibiting payment above the appraised value and, if multiple appraisals are obtained, limiting the purchase price to the average of those appraisals. It also mandates that appraisal documents be publicly accessible under the Right-to-Know Law and extends these requirements to charter and cyber charter schools.

05/04/2026 – Second consideration and re-referred to Appropriations



- **HB2544: Supporting Pennsylvania Principals, Rep. Takac (D)**

Redefines and expands provisions related to compensation agreements for school administrators “compensation plans” to “compensation agreements” and requires school employers to meet and discuss in good faith with school administrators compensation, performance evaluations, and benefits before adopting an agreement that lasts for at least one and up to five school years. Agreements must detail salary determination programs, salary schedules, fringe benefits, performance evaluation, complaint procedures, and mediation process. The bill also clarifies that once an agreement is approved, it is binding.

05/27/2026 – Introduced and referred to Education

06/02/2026 – Reported as committed

06/03/2026 – First consideration and re-committed to Rules



Newly Introduced

- **HB2482: Supporting Pennsylvania’s Newly Employed Teachers, Rep. Prokopiak (D)**
Establishes a grant program designed to help alleviate the financial burden placed on newly employed teachers. The grant program will be administered by the Department of Education to award grants to newly employed teachers to purchase classroom supplies. Supplies must be purchased through a PDE selected e-commerce platform with a maximum grant of \$500 per

school year. Purchased classroom supplies will be the property of the school entity.

05/06/26 - Introduced and referred to Education

- **SB1327: Clarifying PSERS Eligibility and Removing Ineligible Entities, Sen. Bartolotta (R)**
Amends PSERS eligibility requirements and redefines “governmental entity” to exclude any association, nonprofit corporation, or other entity that does not perform governmental functions. The bill also specifies that non-governmental entities deemed ineligible for membership will be removed from the program and responsible for paying a one-time removal fee.
05/07/26 - Introduced and referred to Education
- **SB1340: Home School Law Updates for Military Children, Sen. Mastriano (R)**
Makes two changes to home school law. Participation by home instruction or private school students in district extracurriculars has been expanded to include Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps. Additionally, any parent or spouse of a military service member who moves into a new district or begins home instruction after the start of the school year, must notify the district of the intention to provide home instruction and comply with the requirements within 30 days.
05/20/26 - Introduced and referred to Education
- **SB1348: Updates on Competitive Bid Requirements Moving Into 26-27 School Year, Sen. Laughlin (R)**
Raises the monetary threshold requiring a competitive bid involving construction, reconstruction, repairs, maintenance or work, including labor and material to a base amount of \$100,000, the amount for which written or phone price quotes shall be requested from a base amount of \$10,000 to \$50,000, and the value of work school districts can perform themselves by its own maintenance personnel from \$10,000 to \$50,000.
05/26/26 - Introduced and referred to Education
- **HR543: Studying Screen Time in Public Schools, Rep. Steele (D)**
Directs the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to carry out a performance audit on public school policies and procedures related to the amount of screen time students are allowed during the school day.
05/28/26 - Introduced and referred to Education

Teacher and Staff Certification

Legislative Actions

- **HB2436: Talent Recruitment Account, Rep. Tiburcio (D)**
Directs certification fee revenue collected by the Department of Education into the Talent Recruitment Account to support educator workforce efforts except for professional educator discipline fees.
05/06/2026 – Second consideration, with amendments, and re-committed to Appropriations
06/01/2026 – Re-reported as committed
06/01/2026 – Third consideration and final passage (201-0)



- **HB1919: Protecting Public School Employees Injured on the Job, Rep. Mehaffie (R)**

Requires all public schools to provide up to one year of paid student-related injury leave to any school employee who is unable to work due to an injury caused in the performance of a public school employee's duties by a student or the parent or guardian of a student. During this leave, the employee must receive full salary, full benefits, continued accrual of leave, and full retirement credit without using their own sick or personal time. The bill also coordinates with workers' compensation, requiring employees to turn over workers' compensation wage benefits to the school and delaying certain workers' compensation statuses of limitation until paid leave ends. Clarifies that no determination as a part of this bill will affect an employee's eligibility for injury leave or related pay or benefits.

06/02/2026 – Reported as amended

06/02/2026 – First consideration and re-committed to Rules



Career and Technical Education

Legislative Actions

- **HB2425: CTE Curriculum Modernization Grant Program, Rep. Rusnock (D)**

Establishes a Career and Technical Education Curriculum Modernization Grant Program to provide funding for school entities to purchase and implement updated digital or print CTE curriculum materials. It sets a formula-based distribution of funds, requires a streamlined application process, and outlines required features of supported curriculum, including instructional resources, hands-on activities, and pathways to industry-recognized credentials.

06/01/2026 – Second consideration and re-reported to Appropriations

06/02/2026 – Re-reported from Appropriations

06/02/2026 – Third consideration and final passage (201-0)



Newly Introduced

- **SB1343: Building and Construction Trades Pre-Apprenticeship Initiative, Rep. Boscola (D)**

Establishes The Commission for Career and Technical Education Excellence which will develop guidelines for secondary or post-secondary career and technical education programs, recommend periodic revision of the guidelines, and report annually on the trends and needs of career and technical education training and the building and construction trades industries. The commission will consist of representation from: the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Labor, the Chair of the Pennsylvania State Board of Higher Education, Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges, Pennsylvania Building and Construction Trades Council, Pennsylvania Career and Technical Administrators, Associated Builders and Contractors, and Pennsylvania Manufacturers Association. The bill also expands the use of career and technical education equipment grants to include funding for building and construction trades youth camps. It further mandates that community colleges establish annual building and construction trades youth camps for 7th and 8th graders.

05/26/26 - Introduced and referred to Education

- **HB2552: CTE Program of Study Before Twelfth Grade. Rep. Abney (D)**

Waives a requirement for career and technical education programs to conclude in twelfth grade. This would allow students in career and technical education programs to complete their coursework and take the NOCTI earlier than twelfth grade. The waiver is temporary and set to expire three years after its effective date.

05/29/2026 – Introduced and referred to Education