

## Call-to-Action for Public Education Tuesday, March 8

Join others across Pennsylvania and take 5-10 minutes on Tuesday, March 8 to call state legislators to tell them that we need them to **put Pennsylvania's children first** by investing in public education.

It is time for the state to begin to not only stop the bleeding from the current budget impasse, but to begin healing from the damage caused by years of underfunding public education and of inequitable distribution of state dollars.

We know that just 10 calls in one day to one legislator can make a difference in what a legislator pays attention to. Please make these phone calls and make a difference for PA students!

### **TALKING POINTS**

Students across Pennsylvania have been missing out on educational opportunities since well before the state budget impasse began.

In the last six years academic and extracurricular programs have been lost, classroom sizes have ballooned, school libraries have shuttered, and the number of teachers and support staff have been greatly reduced. That is because:

- Pennsylvania has the largest funding gap between wealthy and poor schools of any other state in the country.
- State funding in recent years has not kept pace with necessary school costs.
- Schools are excessively dependent on local wealth for funding. In fact, the state's contribution to education funding is only 36%, among the lowest in the U.S.

### ASK YOUR LAWMAKERS TO:

Provide a strong foundation for the sustainable, predictable and longterm investment that is needed in our public schools by adopting the fair funding formula recommended by the bipartisan Basic Education Funding Commission (BEFC), and making a significant new investment of \$600 million over this budget year and the next.

# Participating is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

 Click <u>HERE</u> to find your legislator. Write their info below:

### **Representative:**

#### Senator:

2. Call legislators and in your own words, explain why they need to provide a strong foundation for the sustainable, predictable and long-term investment in our students and schools.

Then, if you have time, call Governor Wolf's office - see <u>https://governor.pa.gov/contact/</u> and ask him to hold strong on his support for fair funding for schools.

- 3. **SPREAD THE WORD:** Invite people you know to join you in making this call.
- 4. **FOLLOW US:**

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