



*Lawmakers must pass a budget NOW that increases public school funding by \$400 million to help schools recover from the inadequate funding of recent years and to begin implementing the fair funding formula approved by the bipartisan state Basic Education Funding Commission.*

---

### **Why we need the Basic Education Funding Commission (BEFC) funding formula.**

- Pennsylvania is 1 of only 3 states without a basic education funding formula and has the widest funding gap between wealthy and poor school districts in the country.
  - The BEFC – after months of hearings, analysis, and negotiations – developed a funding formula to address the concerns of schools across the state, whether urban or rural, large or small, experiencing changing student populations or holding steady.
  - This balanced formula removes politics from the equation, directing money to school districts based on objective factors, such as student enrollment, the needs of the student population, and school district wealth and capacity to raise local revenues.
  - The BEFC formula must be enacted as proposed. Otherwise, funds will continue to be distributed based on legislative whim, with no predictability and continued inequities.
- 

### **Why we need a \$400 million increase in funding for public schools.**

- With insufficient and inequitable funding in recent years, many school districts have been forced to endure cuts in staffing and programs.
  - Since 2010-11, half of school districts have furloughed teachers or other staff, 74% have cut or reduced at least one academic program, and 57% have increased class sizes. And student performance over that period has lagged.
  - We need a \$400 million to help districts recover and begin restoring fairness.
- 

### **Suggested tweets:**

- **I/we** support #FairFundingPA because all students deserve a chance to succeed, no matter where they live <http://fairfundingpa.org/> #pabudget
- Pa is a case study for unpredictable, inequitable education funding. Lawmakers need to set the standard instead #pabudget #FairFundingPA
- Lawmakers need to deliver a #pabudget that meets the needs of every child. Join **me/us** and send this msg asking them to <http://ow.ly/VlfKS>
- Stand with PA kids: \$400M more for schools + BEFC formula = fair funding for ALL students #pabudget #FairFundingPA