

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



State Update

Funding cuts and new oversight rules hit Pennsylvania's 14 cyber charter schools

One notable area of bipartisan consensus in Pennsylvania's recently finished, four-month-late state budget? A group of new policies that boost oversight of cyber charter schools, and also give public school districts a break on the tuition they pay to these schools.

[Click here](#) for the full article.

Source: *Spotlight PA*, December 2, 2025.

PA makes it easier for aspiring educators to become certified teachers

The Shapiro administration this week announced updates to the Pennsylvania Department of Education's (PDE) website that will make it easier than ever for aspiring educators to become a certified teacher in Pennsylvania, while still earning a paycheck.

[Click here](#) for the full article.

Source: *Times Leader*, November 30, 2025.

School safety top of mind for PA House members considering silent alarms, cell phones

The state House committees for education and health held a joint, two-hour hearing Monday for informational purposes, without considering any specific legislation. Lawmakers, however, didn't appear to come to a consensus, instead stressing the need for parental involvement and parental rights.

[Click here](#) for full article.

Source: *Pennsylvania Capital-Star*, November 17, 2025.

Pennsylvania will require schools to use evidence-based reading curriculum

The curriculum mandate brings Pennsylvania up to speed with several other states that have passed laws that require literacy instruction to follow the science of reading, a body of research that has found young children need phonics instruction to learn how to read well.

[Click here](#) for full article.

Source: *Chalkbeat*, November 13, 2025.

2025-26 School Code Implementation Guide

As a follow-up from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) regarding the enacted 2025–26 state budget and amendments to the Public School Code, they have provided a [2025-26 School Code Implementation Guide](#). This document provides a more detailed overview of the provisions included in Act 47 of 2025 and offers deeper implementation details, effective dates and specific requirements to support your planning across the coming months and year.

[Click here](#) for the guide.

BASIC BILL ACTIONS

- **[HB2067](#)** - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in duties and powers of boards of school directors, further providing for temporary emergency provisions.
- **Sponsor: Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)**
- **Action: 11/24/2025 - Introduced**

- **[HB2072](#)** - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, establishing the Tuition Waiver for Native American Students Program.
- **Sponsor: Rep. Christopher M. Rabb (D)**
- **Action: 11/25/2025 - Introduced**

Click on the link below for the full Education Recap.

EDUCATION RECAP

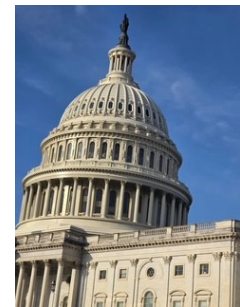
[Click here](#) for more.

(A weekly report on legislative and executive actions on education-related legislation in Pennsylvania state government.)

Federal Update

U.S. Department of Education Announces Six New Agency Partnerships to Break Up Federal Bureaucracy

The White House has **[announced a reorganization](#)** of the US Department of Education that will essentially move six



offices to other cabinet departments as part of a set of interagency agreements:

- Office of Elementary and Secondary Education - Department of Labor
- Office of Postsecondary Education (but not student loans) - Department of Labor
- Indian Education - Department of Interior
- International Education and Foreign Language Programs - Department of State
- Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (CCAMPIS) - Department of HHS
- Foreign Medical Accreditation - Department of HHS

Secretary McMahon said the goal is “to break up the federal education bureaucracy and return education to the states.”

This reorganization via inter-agency agreements is widely understood as the next step in the president’s executive order goal to dismantle the Department and a workaround from the requirement that the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Office of Post-Secondary Education be housed within the Department of Education.

Source: *USDOE*, November 18, 2025.

Here is a [link to a fact sheet](#) about what the change means for K-12 education at the federal level.

Schools fear disruptions as the White House begins dismantling the Education Department

The Trump administration says its [plan to dismantle](#) the Education Department offers a fix for the nation’s lagging academics — a solution that could free schools from the strictures of federal influence.

Yet to some school and state officials, the plan appears to add more bureaucracy, with no clear benefit for students who struggle with math or reading.

[Click here](#) for full article.

Source: *Associated Press*, November 21, 2025.

Pennsylvania Principals Association

Position Statement on State and Federal Education Issues

The **Pennsylvania Principals Association (PA Principals Association)** stands in solidarity with national organizations such as the **National Association of Secondary School Principals (NAESP)** and the **National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP)** in advocating for equitable, well-funded and inclusive education policies at both state and federal levels. In light of ongoing challenges and critiques directed at the education sector, we reaffirm our commitment to the following principles:

[**CLICK HERE FOR POSITION STATEMENT.**](#)

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[FIND YOUR FEDERAL LEGISLATORS](#)



The Pennsylvania Principals Association - 122 Valley Road - Enola, PA 17025
717-732-4999 - www.paprincipals.org

[PA Principals Association](#) | [122 Valley Road](#) | [Enola, PA 17025 US](#)

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