

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



State Update

PA budget office to change leadership as 2026-27 budget season nears

The state Office of the Budget will have a new leader going into the 2026-27 budget season after Gov. Josh Shapiro announced Budget Secretary Uri Monson will step down next week to become executive director of the Pennsylvania Public School Employees' Retirement

System.

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

Source: Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, December 5, 2025.

\$3 million invested for feminine hygiene products in Pennsylvania schools

The Pennsylvania Department of Health is investing an additional \$3 million to put free feminine hygiene products in all Pennsylvania school districts.

According to the Shapiro Administration, the investment will help provide free [feminine hygiene] products to students in Pennsylvania's school districts, intermediate units, career and technical centers and brick-and-mortar charter schools.

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

Source: ABC27, WHTM, December 5, 2025.

Oversight, cuts come to PA's 14 cyber charter schools in budget

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: The Express, December 2, 2025.

Shapiro Administration Secures Major Policy Wins in 2025-26 Budget, Expanding Educator Workforce, Strengthening Literacy Initiatives, & Reforming Cyber Charter Law

As a result of the 2025-26 state budget – which was signed into law by **Governor Josh Shapiro** last week – the **Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE)** is moving to implement new policies included in budget-related legislation that will improve public education all across the Commonwealth.

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

Source: *Commonwealth of PA Newsroom, November 19, 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:** 12/03/2025 - Referred to - House Education
- **[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:** 12/03/2025 - Referred to - House Education
- **[HB2079](#)** - An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known as The Fiscal Code, establishing the Budget Impasse Reimbursement Program.
• **Sponsor:** Rep. Sean Dougherty (D)
• **Action:** 12/03/2025 - Referred to - House Appropriations
- **[HR377](#)** - A Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct an effectiveness and results audit and issue a report on all existing incentives for public school district consolidation and sharing of services, and to make recommendations related to incentivizing the reorganization, consolidation and shared services of school districts of a specific enrollment size.
• **Sponsor:** Rep. Gregory Scott (D)
• **Action:** 12/03/2025 - Referred to - House Education
- **[SB160](#)** - An Act to provide appropriations from the General Fund for the expenses of the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Departments of the Commonwealth, the public debt and the public schools for the fiscal year July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, and for the payment of bills

incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025; to provide appropriations from special funds and accounts to the Executive and Judicial Departments for the fiscal year July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, and for the payment of bills remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025; to provide for the appropriation of Federal funds to the Executive and Judicial Departments for the fiscal year July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, and for the payment of bills remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025; and to provide for the additional appropriation of Federal and State funds to the Executive and Legislative Departments for the fiscal year July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

- **Sponsor: Sen. Scott Martin (R)**
- **Action: 12/04/2025 - Discussed during Medical Assistance Advisory Committee meeting**

- **SB1102** - An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known as The Fiscal Code, providing for the Budget Impasse Reimbursement Program and for grants to certain eligible entities; and establishing the Budget Impasse Reimbursement Restricted Account.
- **Sponsor: Sen. Lindsey Marie Williams (D)**
- **Action: 12/04/2025 - Referred to - Senate Finance**

- **SB1103** - An Act providing for State aid requirement for libraries relating to book removal and for prohibited removal of instructional materials and voluntary inquiry materials in public school entities.
- **Sponsor: Sen. Amanda M. Cappelletti (D)**
- **Action: 12/04/2025 - Referred to - Senate Education**

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

***NAESP's Federal Relations Coordinator
(FRC)***

Meeting Summary - December 2025

Submitted by Melanie Rosenberger, PA's Federal Relations Coordinator



Department of Education Reorganization

- The Department of Education is undergoing a major reorganization with the functions of two key officers: 1) Elementary and Secondary Education and 2) Postsecondary Education moving to the Department of Labor.
- Other offices are also being moved
- Indian Education - Department of the Interior
- International Education and Foreign Language programs - Department of State
- Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPS) - Department of Health and Human Services
- Foreign Medical Accreditation - Department of Health and Human Services

The sweeping moves came as a surprise as recent rumors had only focused on special education programs being moved to the Department of Health and Human Services as a proof-of-concept (with other offices to follow) as Secretary McMahon had previously mentioned multiple times.

The new plan was much broader and did not include Special Education.

K-12 Programs Moving to the Department of Labor

- All of the programs in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) will now be overseen by the Department of Labor.
 - This includes:
 - Title I
 - Part A
 - State Assessments
 - Migrant Children
 - Neglected and Delinquent Children
 - Title II - Supporting Effective Educators State Grants
 - Title III - English Language Acquisition State Grants
 - Title IV
 - Student Support and Academic Enrichment State Grants
 - 21st Century Community Learning Centers
 - Impact Aid

[Click here](#) for the full FRC report.

[Click here](#) for the FRC PowerPoint, December 2025.

20 States Push Back as Ed. Dept. Hands Programs to Other Agencies

A coalition of states that sued months ago to stop mass layoffs at the U.S. Department of Education is now also challenging the department's recent moves to shift many of its core functions to the U.S. Department of Labor and other federal agencies.

[Click here](#) for full article.

Source: *Education Week*, December 1, 2025.

House subcommittee debates best way to protect children online

Nearly 20 House bills seeking to address the harm social media poses to children and teens were discussed during a hearing held by the chamber's [Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade subcommittee](#) on Tuesday.

[Click here](#) for full article.

Source: *K-12 DIVE*, December 3, 2025.

IDEA at 50: How the landmark law changed education

Before the Education for All Handicapped Children Act was signed into law on Nov. 29, 1975, many public schools could turn away students with disabilities whom they deemed too challenging to educate.

[Click here](#) for full article.

Source: *K-12 DIVE*, December 3, 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 (NASSP)** 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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