

Education Recap



Feb. 6 – 12, 2026

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SESSION STATUS

At 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 4, 2026, the House stands adjourned until Monday, March 23, 2026, at 12:00 p.m., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

At 1:59 p.m. on Wednesday, February 4, 2026, the Senate recessed until Monday, March 16, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. unless sooner recalled by the President Pro Tempore.

UPCOMING SESSION DAYS

House

March 23-25
April 13-15, 27-29
May 4-6
June 1-3, 8-10, 15-17, 22-30
Sept. 28-30
Oct. 5-7, 19-21
Nov. 9, 10

Senate

March 16-18, 23-25
April 20-22
May 4-6
June 1-3, 8-10, 22-26, 29-30

The Education Recap is a comprehensive weekly report on legislative and executive actions on education-related legislation in Pennsylvania state government, as compiled and edited by PLS. Additional information, including video, transcript and testimony, is available to [PLSGovTrac](https://www.pslsgovtrac.com) users. For more information, contact sales@mypls.com.

Press Conferences

PLS coverage of Capitol events including press conferences, bill signings and media availabilities

No press conferences this week.

Committee News

Comprehensive coverage of the House & Senate public hearings and voting meetings

House Democratic Policy Committee

02/09/2026, 1:00 p.m., Abington Heights Middle School, 1555 Newton Ransom Blvd., Clarks Summit

Pennsylvania Legislative Services.

The committee held a public hearing on cyber charter school reform.

Rep. Tarik Khan (D-Philadelphia), filling in for Chair Ryan Bizzarro (D-Erie), opened the policy hearing on cyber charter reform.

Rep. Jim Haddock (D-Luzerne) highlighted the importance of discussing the funding and operations of traditional school districts and legislative responses to audit findings on cyber charter schools.

Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski (D-Luzerne) emphasized the importance of spending taxpayer dollars wisely in education and expressed hope for a positive outcome from [HB 1500](https://www.pslsgovtrac.com/bills/2026/02/09/1500).

Dr. Christopher Shaffer, superintendent, Abington Heights School District, criticized the focus on financial aspects of charter school reform, advocating for accountability and outcome-based decisions in funding and renewal, comparing performance metrics between Abington Heights and the Commonwealth Charter Academy (CCA) to argue for equity, transparency and consistency in public education.

Anthony Abdalla, secretary, board of directors, Abington Heights School District, expressed confusion about the inconsistent funding for students across different school districts, questioning the disparity in educational costs despite similar teaching staff, particularly between districts like Abington Heights and Lower Merion.

Rep. Joe Ciresi (D-Montgomery) addressed Abdalla's concerns, explaining that educational costs vary due to factors like tax structures and community support for budgets. He criticized the lack of transparency in charter and cyber schools and mentioned a failed bill aimed at redirecting funds from profitable private institutions back to public schools. Shaffer discussed spending over \$2 million on cyber enrollment in the last fiscal year, emphasizing the need for accountability and better utilization of funds to ensure student outcomes. He criticized the financial management of current construction projects and the continued funding of unsuccessful strategies. Rep. Ciresi talked about the decrease in PlanCon funding over the past 25 years, noting that it now provides minimal support for school projects. He mentioned an effort to restore funding, but only \$100 million was secured, which is far less than needed.

Rep. Tarah Probst (D-Monroe) criticized cyber charter schools for their lack of accountability, high costs and inadequate educational outcomes. She mentioned a report on the misuse of funds by cyber schools and discussed improvements in funding formulas since 2023 that have benefited underfunded districts. "I'm not going to argue with the audience because they're here from a cyber charter school, fighting for their kids and I appreciate that," Rep. Probst said to an audience member who voiced disagreement.

Rep. Bridget Kosierowski (D-Lackawanna) emphasized the importance of accountability in education and expressed concern over the education quality in charter and cyber schools compared to public schools. She called for sustainable funding that supports all educational systems without detriment. "You can't argue about the statistics," she replied to an audience member. Shaffer agreed with the importance of accountability in education and the need for students to develop social interaction and non-verbal communication skills. He supported restrictions on cell phone use in schools to reduce anxiety and depression among students, highlighting the challenge of balancing technology use with social engagement in education.

Rep. Melissa Cerrato (D-Montgomery) criticized the funding model for cyber charters and charter schools, emphasizing the need for reform to ensure accountability and equitable use of taxpayer dollars. She highlighted the high costs and advertising practices of cyber charter schools and called for measures to ensure quality education for all students.

Rep. Pashinski, drawing on his teaching experience, criticized charter schools for overcharging and diverting funds from public schools. He stressed the importance of spending tax dollars wisely and ensuring accountability to provide children with opportunities for success.

Rep. Haddock referenced a report showing lower graduation rates among cyber charter students compared to traditional schools. He criticized the financial management of cyber charter schools, including excessive spending on marketing and a lack of accountability. He highlighted legislative efforts that resulted in savings and improved oversight, emphasizing that these measures aimed to ensure safety and accountability without removing school choice.

Peter Butera, board member, Wyoming Area School District Board of Education, discussed the financial challenges faced by the Wyoming Area School District, including rising charter school tuition costs and the impact of flooding on property values. He expressed skepticism about the effectiveness of virtual education and highlighted the significant portion of the district's budget consumed by charter school expenses. Butera suggested treating charter schools similarly to private schools, where families cover the cost.

Rep. Ciresi shared his personal experience with the high costs of cyber education and called for reform in the funding and management of cyber charter schools. He highlighted the lack of publicly elected school boards for cyber schools and the financial strain on public school districts. Rep. Ciresi advocated examining school district mergers as a cost-saving measure and urged real reform in the state legislature. Butera raised concerns about students obtaining Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) after transferring to cyber or charter schools and discussed the financial challenges related to merging school districts, suggesting these obstacles make merging a less viable option for his financially troubled school.

Rep. Probst criticized Pennsylvania's laws on cyber charter schools, highlighting the financial burden they place on school districts, with her district spending \$9 million on 258 cyber charter students. She emphasized the need for reform and financial transparency for cyber charter schools. "You know that I know what I'm saying is true, and everyone in this audience knows it's true," Rep. Probst said to the audience. Butera mentioned his school pays an average of \$19,000 for all charter students and highlighted a discrepancy in the system, noting that when billing other schools, they charge about \$12,000.

Rep. Ciresi asked about the cost of running their own cyber program within the school district, highlighting the redundancy of public schools covering tuition for charter schools when they offer similar programs in-house. Butera said he did not know. Rep. Ciresi noted it costs a public school \$6,500 on average to run a cyber program, contrasting with the higher expenses for other programs.

Rep. Pashinski emphasized the need for cyber charter schools to operate under the same regulations as public schools, highlighting the significant financial impact on taxpayers and the importance of equitable education funding. He said he was willing to stay to discuss with audience members and have them tell their stories to him.

Rep. Haddock discussed the challenges and considerations involved in potentially merging two rival school districts, the Pittston area and the Wyoming area, due to financial constraints and differing economic conditions. He highlighted the "courage" of Butera, who proposed a study to explore the merger. Butera mentioned the long-term financial sustainability of his district as a primary concern, highlighting that raising taxes for 16 consecutive years had not resolved the financial challenges, pointing out a potential \$1.5 to \$2 million deficit. Rep. Haddock asked what \$1 million could bring to Butera's area. Butera mentioned that the effective property tax rate in the Wyoming area is currently 2.18%, which has nearly doubled from the 1.19% rate 16 years ago. Rep. Haddock discussed the challenges and outcomes of last year's budget negotiations in Pennsylvania, mentioning the late achievement of a \$124,000 savings for school districts through cyber charter reforms, contributing to a projected \$75 million total savings across

Pennsylvania schools as per the governor's recent budget proposal. He inquired about the impact of these savings on the Wyoming area school district and its board. Butera expressed his appreciation, but said, "To be completely honest with you, like I said, it's just not nearly enough for what we need." Rep. Haddock described the challenges faced by the 500 school districts in Pennsylvania, including the need to raise taxes for sustainability. He compared the situations in the Wyoming and Pittston areas within his own district, noting Pittston's advantageous tax base and growth. Butera discussed the sustainability issues of relying on property taxes for school funding, pointing out his district's high tax rate of 2.18%, which is significantly higher than the second-highest rate in the county of 1.88%.



House Republican Policy Committee

02/12/2026, 9:30 a.m., Crayola, 1100 Church Lane, Easton

Julia Walters, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee held a public hearing on House Bill 1596, aiming to make back-to-school affordable.

[HB 1596](#) - (PN 1908) Amends the Tax Reform Code, in sales and use tax, further providing for exclusions from tax. Provides sales tax exclusions for computer equipment under \$1,500 and select school supplies under \$50 from the first Saturday in August to and including the third Saturday in August. Provides definitions. Permits the Department of Revenue to promulgate regulations to include additional items. Effective immediately.

Chair David Rowe (R-Snyder) highlighted the public hearing's purpose to consider HB 1596 to create a "tax holiday" for families with children going back-to-school shopping.

Rep. Ann Flood (R-Northampton), the bill's prime sponsor, highlighted Crayola for being a "major employer" throughout the Lehigh Valley. She stated the venue was apt for the topic of her bill relating to back-to-school affordability. Rep. Flood described school supplies shopping as becoming "increasingly expensive," notably for families with multiple children. "I introduced House Bill 1596 legislation to establish an annual back-to-school sales tax break or holiday in Pennsylvania," she said. Rep. Flood mentioned her bill would provide "meaningful, targeted relief" for families and educators while supporting local businesses.

Mikal Sabatine, director, Families First of Pen Argyl, said his organization is a non-profit that provides various services and resources to families in the Pen Argyl Area School District. He mentioned the school district experienced a 76% poverty growth increase in 2023, which contributes to the "colossal challenge" of back-to-school shopping. Sabatine noted Families First had their first "Back-to-School Bonanza" where they collaborated with local partners to donate a "plethora" of supplies and clothing. "Any level of consideration to a reprieve from a taxable status on back-to-school supplies would provide a measurable benefit to the families incurring these costs," Sabatine said.

Sarah Whitworth, counselor, Moore Elementary School, described starting Moore Elementary School's Backpack Program seven years ago at the request of a parent. She stated the program began by providing easy, healthy meals and snacks for students over holidays or long weekends. Whitworth mentioned how the program has grown in recent years and currently serves 27 students each week. She explained they receive a backpack at the beginning of the year and can fill it with food every Friday for the weekend. "We receive emails every month from parents who are very appreciative and just can't say enough about the help that it gives them," Whitworth emphasized.

Marisa Elias, parent, Forks Township, stated that she and her husband are parents to six children, and the tax legislation would give tax relief to her family. She noted they are a single-income family and highlighted the stress of the back-to-school season. Elias said it "used to feel exciting," but now feels "similar to the stress of mortgage." She remarked how small costs add up to "hundreds of dollars" with five school-age children attending school. Elias praised HB 1596 for supporting working families.

Rep. Flood asked what kinds of supplies families request the most. Sabatine said the supplies are dictated by the Penn Argyl school district rather than the families. He noted that headphones and binders are the most expensive items that Families First provides. Rep. Flood remarked that technology, especially for higher-level math courses, is often expensive. She asked what the "biggest cost drivers" are beyond school supplies. Elias mentioned that shoes and school uniforms are her largest expenses. Whitworth noted that students grow quickly at the elementary level and need new clothes more frequently, which poses a larger challenge. Rep. Flood inquired what items other than food Moore Elementary's Backpack Program provides. Whitworth stated they give out

toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoos and conditioners. Heather Shaner, teacher, Moore Elementary School, added that the program receives donations of winter clothing, underwear and other toiletry items. She described how the program has a “birthday cake kit” where students may take home cake mix and a can of soda home to bake a cake without any extra ingredients needed. “One child wrote us the sweetest, most adorable thank you card for making her birthday so special,” Shaner added.

Rep. Robert Leadbeter (R-Columbia) remarked that “school board members anticipate the teachers’ unions coming to meet with them and expect a two to 4% step increase in salaries year over year.” Rep. Leadbeter questioned if there had been efforts to “reallocate that funding toward the needs” of the students during the collective bargaining conversations. Shaner said she was not aware but added that teachers “spend quite a bit of their own money” on school supplies each year. Rep. Leadbeter urged lawmakers to use the testimony given today and “think outside the box” to solve problems differently.

Rep. Jonathan Fritz (R-Susquehanna) asked if HB 1596 was modeled after other legislation. Rep. Flood responded in the negative and mentioned the idea came to her due to a conversation with a constituent. She added that the bill is bipartisan and similar legislation is present in 17 other states. She noted Rep. Bob Freeman (D-Northampton) is her co-prime sponsor. Rep. Fritz praised Rep. Flood for the bill and called it “brilliant.”

Rep. Doyle Heffley (R-Carbon), minority chair, House Human Services Committee, remarked that Pennsylvania “needs more babies.” He opined that families are having fewer children due to rising prices. Rep. Heffley explained lawmakers need to support policies that “help young families be successful.”

Rep. Brenda Pugh (R-Luzerne) noted how her grandchildren bring home lists every year of school supplies for families to buy. She mentioned how teachers set up “Amazon accounts for the parents to go in and pay for the supplies for the classroom.” Rep. Pugh continued, “That concerns me a little bit on the funding and how things are actually fluctuating around.” She thanked Rep. Flood for the bill and the panelists for their work providing school supplies for their communities.

Rep. Zachary Mako (R-Northampton) mentioned the closure of Moore Elementary School for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year. He inquired if the Backpack Program would continue in another capacity or serve another school district. Whitworth stated the program will move to East Allen Elementary School. Rep. Mako asked if the program would expand to the entire school district. Whitworth mentioned each school in the district has “some form” of a backpack or pantry program and functions slightly differently between schools.

Rep. Sheryl Delozier (R-Cumberland) mentioned how school districts in Cumberland County work with the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank over the summer to help supply food to students. She noted that over the summer, one school building operates the program administratively to save electricity costs. Rep. Delozier asked if the various programs represented at the public hearing operate in a similar manner. Sabatine stated Families First operates on a tier system ranging from the “standard” program, where students take home food every Friday, a “monthly food box” and their “summer foods program.” He stated the summer program includes vouchers for local farmers’ markets. Sabatine noted they were expanding their program to include relief for household expenses such as paper towels, toilet paper and detergent. He added a “huge percentile” of families supported by Families First are grandparents on “fixed incomes,” putting their grandchildren through school.

Rep. Delozier asked, “What is the determination of those families?” She continued, “Do you go by income with Title 1?” Sabatine said yes and added, “Anyone who qualifies for free and/or reduced lunch is a recipient of our programs.” Rep. Delozier highlighted the importance of considering the summer months for families who struggle with the rising cost of living. She praised HB 1596 for helping families across Pennsylvania.

Rep. Joe Emrick (R-Northampton) thanked the speakers for their “incredible” work in supporting families and students. “As we know, the more successful you are in the classroom, the statistics bear out, the more successful you are in life,” he emphasized. Rep. Emrick thanked Rep. Flood for a “great piece” of legislation.

Sen. Coleman thanked Rep. Flood for HB 1596. He noted that some tax relief bills only impact certain people, but HB 1596 will help all Pennsylvania families. “We see the increasing rates of poverty in the state, and we need to address ways to empower them to get out of there,” he said.

Rep. Flood thanked members and speakers for being present at the public hearing. She urged committee members to “sign on to House Bill 1596.” She emphasized the significance of the bill for school supplies and “everyday needs.” Rep. Flood stressed that “conversation matters” to ensure policies reflect the real-life experiences of Pennsylvanians.

Chair Rowe thanked members for being present and noted that panelists will be available for questions after the public hearing. He thanked the speakers for their testimony and added, “Affordability is not a partisan issue.” Chair Rowe thanked Rep. Flood for her

bill and noted it was bipartisan with nine Republican and nine Democratic sponsors. “Her bill deserves very serious consideration as we look for practical ways to bring relief to Pennsylvania families,” he said.



Bullet.in.Points

No Bullet.in.Points this week.

Cosponsor Memos

HCO3106 - Preventing Public Schools from providing Financial Incentives for Enrollment

Sponsor

Rep. Roman Kozak (R)

Summary

Aims to prevent any public school entity from using taxpayer funds to pay students or their families to attend their school.

Intro Date

02/06/2026

Last Action

02/06/2026 H - Cosponsor memo filed

HCO3109 - Protecting School Crossing Guards

Sponsor

Rep. Ed Neilson (D)

Summary

Aims to codify protections for crossing guards.

Intro Date

02/06/2026

Last Action

02/06/2026 H - Cosponsor memo filed

HCO3130 - Elimination of Outdated NETS Reporting Requirements

Sponsor

Rep. Mary Isaacson (D)

Summary

Repeals reporting section of the New Economy Technology Scholarship (NETS).

Intro Date

02/12/2026

Last Action

02/12/2026 H - Cosponsor memo filed

HCO3131 - Allowing More Time for an IEP Evaluation

Sponsor

Rep. Tarah Probst (D)

Summary

Extends individualized education program (IEP) timeframe to 60-school days.

Intro Date

02/12/2026

Last Action

02/12/2026 H - Cosponsor memo filed

SCO1541 - National Board Certified Teacher Pilot Grant Program

Sponsor

Sen. Devlin J. Robinson (R)

Summary

Creates a pilot grant program to expand the number of National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) working in Pennsylvania's highest-need school districts.

Intro Date

02/06/2026

Last Action

02/06/2026 S - Cosponsor memo filed

Basic Ed Bill Actions

HB17 (Chapter 2) - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in terms and courses of study, further providing for subjects of instruction and flag code.

Sponsor

Rep. Dane Watro (R)

Summary

(PN 2) Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, further providing for subjects of instruction and flag code. Provides for every elementary public and private school to teach writing in print, joined italics and cursive handwriting. Allows the secretary of education to provide the teaching of subjects in a language other than English. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

01/08/2025

Actions

02/04/2026 H - Signed in House

02/04/2026 S - Signed in Senate

02/04/2026 G - Presented to the Governor

02/11/2026 G - Approved by the Governor

02/11/2026 G - Act No. 2 of 2026

HB1500 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in preliminary provisions, providing for Cyber Charter School Funding and Policy Council and further providing for advertising and sponsorships; in pupils and attendance, further providing for exceptional children and education and training; in charter schools, further providing for definitions, for funding for cyber charter schools, for powers and duties of department and for assessment and evaluation, providing for fund balance limits, further providing for cyber charter school requirements and prohibitions, providing for cyber charter school fund balance accountability, further providing for establishment of cyber charter school, for cyber charter school application, for enrollment and notification, for enrollee wellness checks and for applicability of other provisions of this act and of other acts and regulations and providing for cyber charter school moratorium; and, in reimbursements by Commonwealth and between school districts, further providing for extraordinary special education program expenses.

Sponsor

Rep. Mary Isaacson (D)

Summary

(PN 1829) Amends the Public School Code, in preliminary provisions, providing for Cyber Charter School Funding and Policy Council and further providing for advertising and sponsorships; in pupils and attendance, further providing for exceptional children and education and training; in charter schools, further providing for definitions, for funding for cyber charter schools, for powers and duties of department and for assessment and evaluation, providing for fund balance limits, further providing for cyber charter school requirements and prohibitions, providing for cyber charter school fund balance accountability, further providing for establishment of cyber charter school, for cyber charter school application, for enrollment and notification, for enrollee wellness checks and for applicability of other provisions of this act and of other acts and regulations and providing for cyber charter school moratorium; and, in reimbursements by commonwealth and between school districts, further providing for extraordinary special education program expenses. Establishes the Cyber Charter School Funding and Policy Council, providing for powers and duties. Requires the council to transmit recommendations no later than April 1, 2026. Provides for council members. Requires each public school entity to report to the Department of Education the entity's total expenditures for paid media advertisements and sponsorships of public events. Removes the provision for special education children and training under pupils and attendance. Provides that cyber charter schools

shall receive the statewide cyber charter school tuition rate of \$8,000, provides calculations for non-special education students. Further providing for cyber charter school requirements and prohibitions. Provides for cyber charter school fund balance accountability. Requires each cyber charter school to submit a statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the fiscal year. Further provides for the establishment of cyber charter school, for cyber charter school application, for enrollment and notification, including a proof of residency, for enrollee wellness checks and for applicability of other provisions of this act and of other acts and regulations. Allows for the department to require proof of compliance by a cyber charter school to ensure the well-being of the enrolled student in a cyber charter school and verify participation in the education program. Provides that beginning with the 2025-2026 school year through the 2029-2030 school year, the department may not review or act on any application for the establishment of a new cyber charter school. Further provides that no less than 1% of the special education appropriation may be distributed to school districts and charter schools for extraordinary special education program expenses under reimbursements by the commonwealth and between school districts. Provides for a cap on money distributed to a school district or a charter school. Makes a corrective change to refer to section 302 of the Taxpayer Relief Act, replacing section 301, in section 1725.1-A(f)(1)(ii) of the Public School Code. Effective immediately. (Prior PN: 1807, 1795)

Intro Date

05/30/2025

Actions

06/04/2025 H - Third consideration and final passage

06/06/2025 S - Referred to Senate Education

06/23/2025 H - Discussed at the School Funding Press Conference

06/25/2025 H - Discussed at the Philadelphia House Delegation Press Conference on School Funding

02/09/2026 H - Discussed during public hearing House Democratic Policy

HB1596 - An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in sales and use tax, further providing for exclusions from tax.

Sponsor

Rep. Ann Flood (R)

Summary

(PN 1908) Amends the Tax Reform Code, in sales and use tax, further providing for exclusions from tax. Provides sales tax exclusions for computer equipment under \$1,500 and select school supplies under \$50 from the first Saturday in August to and including the third Saturday in August. Provides definitions. Permits the Department of Revenue to promulgate regulations to include additional items. Effective immediately.

Intro Date

06/11/2025

Actions

06/11/2025 H - Introduced

06/11/2025 H - Referred to House Finance

02/03/2026 H - Meeting Scheduled - 02/12/2026, 9:30 AM - Public Hearing (House Republican Policy), Crayola, 1100 Church Lane, Easton, PA 18040

02/12/2026 H - Discussed during public hearing House Republican Policy

HB2206 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in school safety and security, providing for purchase of firearm detection technology.

Sponsor

Rep. Joe Hogan (R)

Summary

(PN 2899) Amends the Public School Code, in school safety and security, providing for purchase of firearm detection technology. Authorizes the purchase of firearm detection technology by a school entity with approval from the department. Outlines the mandatory characteristics of the leased or purchased firearm detection technology. Permits the technology to be managed directly by the vendor through a continuously monitored operations center that is staffed by analysts trained in detecting and identifying various types of firearms. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

02/09/2026

Actions

02/09/2026 H - Introduced

02/09/2026 H - Referred to House Education

HB2209 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in miscellaneous provisions relating to institutions of higher education, providing for communism and socialism education.

Sponsor

Rep. Brian C. Rasel (R)

Summary

(PN 2903) Amends the Public School Code, in miscellaneous provisions relating to institutions of higher education, providing for communism and socialism education. Stipulates institutions of higher education will require all students to take one credit education program on communism and socialism education beginning in the 2027-2028 school year. Provides curriculum details. Provides definitions. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

02/09/2026

Actions

02/09/2026 H - Introduced

02/11/2026 H - Referred to House Education

HB2217 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in terms and courses of study, providing for recess and lunch periods.

Sponsor

Rep. Danielle Friel Otten (D)

Summary

(PN 2911) Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, adding a section to provide for recess and lunch periods. Requires a school entity to provide each student at least 30 minutes of recess during each school day in full-day kindergarten through grade five, at least 15 minutes of recess during each school day in half-day kindergarten and at least 30 consecutive minutes of lunch during each school day in a full-day kindergarten through grade 12, outlining what the requirement is subject to. Defines "kindergarten," "recess" and "school entity." Effective July 1, 2027.

Intro Date

02/11/2026

Actions

02/11/2026 H - Introduced

02/12/2026 H - Referred to House Education

HB2218 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for comprehensive school counseling services.

Sponsor

Rep. Mandy Steele (D)

Summary

No summary available yet.

Intro Date

02/12/2026

Actions

02/12/2026 H - Introduced

Higher Ed Bill Actions

No Bill Actions this week.

Upcoming Events

MONDAY – 02/23/2026

9:30 AM, [Senate Appropriations](#)

Budget Hearing, Hearing Room 1, North Office Building
Budget Hearing with the Department of Education (PDE).

1:00 PM, [Senate Appropriations](#)

Budget Hearing, Hearing Room 1, North Office Building
Budget hearing with the Department of Education (PDE).

TUESDAY – 03/03/2026

9:30 AM, [Senate Appropriations](#)

Budget Hearing, Hearing Room 1, North Office Building
Budget hearing with state universities in Millersville, East Stroudsburg, West Chester and Indiana.

1:00 PM, [House Appropriations](#)

Budget Hearing, House Chamber
Budget hearing with the Department of Education (PDE).

WEDNESDAY – 03/11/2026

10:00 AM, [House Appropriations](#)

Budget Hearing, House Chamber
Budget hearing with the state-related universities.

1:00 PM, [House Appropriations](#)

Budget Hearing, House Chamber
Budget hearing with the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) and community colleges.

In the News

[02/06/2026 - Governor Shapiro Discusses Budget Proposal, Plans to Continue Pennsylvania's Rise in Every Corner of the Commonwealth, Speaking to Pennsylvanians in Every Major TV Market](#)

[02/06/2026 - Shapiro-Davis Administration Opens \\$20.7 Million Grant Program to Improve Safety , Expand Access to Mental Health Resources in Pennsylvania's Schools](#)

[02/10/2026 - Shapiro Administration to Serve Meals to Students Across Pennsylvania Once Again this Summer, Looking for Organizations that Want to Help](#)

[02/11/2026 - Attorney General Sunday Urges Congress to Pass Kids Online Safety Act](#)

[02/11/2026 - CCA's Graduation Rate Soars with Double-Digit Gains in a Single Year](#)

[02/11/2026 - Schuylkill Chamber Officials Participate in National Briefing on the Economic Impact of the Child Care Crisis](#)

[02/11/2026 - Langerholc Cursive Handwriting Initiative Becomes Law](#)

[02/12/2026 - Watro's Cursive Bill Becomes Law](#)

[02/12/2026 - Smith-Wade-El to Hold two Student Town Halls at Local Elementary Schools](#)

Education Recap is a comprehensive weekly report on legislative and executive actions on education related legislation in the Pennsylvania Capitol and is compiled and edited by PLS.

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