

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

State Update

The House returned on April 13, and the Senate is set to reconvene next week on April 20.

On April 21, the House Education Committee will host an informational meeting in Pittsburgh to explore the role of AI in K-12 education.



Student Teacher Support Program

- ***Senator Hughes, Education Leaders Announce Opening of Student Teacher Support Program for '26-27 Academic Year***
- Senator Vincent Hughes, Senate Democratic Appropriations Chair, along with education leaders, announced that applications for student teacher stipends will open on Thursday, April 16, at 4PM for '26-27 academic year placements.
- [Click here](#) for full press release.
- ***Source: Pennsylvania Senate Democrats, Press Release, April 13, 2026.***

- ***Pennsylvania Offers \$10,000 Stipends for Student Teachers***
- The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) is offering \$10,000 stipends to student teachers in the state. To qualify, applicants must maintain a 3.0 GPA in college and commit to teaching in Pennsylvania for three years. The program has been popular, with demand outpacing the available funding in its first two years.
- [Click here](#) to view the full article.
- ***Source: Philadelphia Today, April 13, 2026.***

During Pa. visit, US Education secretary calls on Gov. Shapiro to join federal school choice program

U.S. Education Secretary Linda McMahon joined Pennsylvania Congressman Scott Perry (R-10) and a group of Republican state lawmakers

in Harrisburg to advocate for the commonwealth's participation in a federal school choice program.

[Click here](#) to view the full article.

Source: *Pennsylvania Capital Star*, April 10, 2026.

PA Department of Education Investments in Migrant Education Help 7,000 Students Each Year Chart Their Own Course to Success

Secretary of Education Dr. Carrie Rowe highlighted how the \$3 million Pennsylvania has invested into migrant education has helped thousands of children whose families move frequently overcome disruptions to their schooling, succeed in the classroom, and graduate with the skills they need to chart their own course to success in the workforce.

[Click here](#) to view the full press release.

Source: *PA Department of Education, Newsroom*, April 10, 2026.

Additional Structured Literacy FAQs

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has shared additional guidance to support local education agencies (LEAs) in implementing the structured literacy provisions enacted as part of Act 47 of 2025.

Structured Literacy FAQs

New questions have been added to the [Structured Literacy FAQs](#), providing further clarification on key provision. These updates are intended to support LEAs as they continue planning for and implementing structured literacy requirements.

Source: *Amy Lena, Deputy Secretary, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, PA Department of Education*, March 30, 2026.

BASIC BILL ACTIONS

- **HB2358** - *An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in charter schools, further providing for funding for cyber charter schools.*
- **Sponsor: Rep. Nikki Rivera (D)**
- **Action Taken: 04/06/2026 - Referred to House 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

First grants announced under Labor Dept elementary and secondary ed partnership

The U.S. Department of Education on Wednesday announced some of the first **elementary and secondary grant competitions** under its new partnership with the Department of Labor. The partnership announced in November offloaded certain Elementary and Secondary Education Act education programs, including programming for low-income school districts, homeless youth, migrant students, academic supports, afterschool programs, districts receiving Impact Aid and other activities.



[Click here](#) for the full article.
Source: K-12 DIVE, April 10, 2026.

President's budget proposal would slash funding for professional learning

On April 3rd, President Trump **released** his fiscal year 2027 (FY27) **budget request**, which includes requests for the **U.S. Department of Education**. Although the budget request maintains funding for some major education programs like Title I and IDEA, it requests that Congress enact significant cuts to other programs including Title II-A, the primary federal funding stream for professional learning.

[Click here](#) for the full article.
Source: Learning Forward, April 10, 2026.

Trump's budget proposes billions in K-12 cuts. Will they happen?

President Donald Trump is once again proposing to slash more than \$8 billion from federal programs for K-12 education.

[Click here](#) for the full article. (*Subscription may be required.*)
Source: Education Week, April 7, 2026.

Trump admin terminates agreements to protect transgender students with Pa. district, other schools

The Education Department said Monday it has terminated agreements with five school districts and a college aimed at upholding protections for **transgender students**, backing away from requirements negotiated by previous administrations that took a different interpretation of civil rights.

[Click here](#) for the full article.
Source: Associated Press, April 7, 2026.

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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