

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

State Update

The House and Senate are currently in recess. The House will return on April 13, and the Senate will reconvene on April 20.

The House Education Committee will hold an informational meeting on Tuesday, April 14, at 9:00 a.m. to discuss educational tax credit programs. On April 21, the committee will hold another informational meeting in Pittsburgh to discuss AI in K-12 education.



Bill would keep Pennsylvania public schools from funding some cyber charter students

A new bill in the Pennsylvania State House looks to tighten cyber charter regulations in the state by preventing districts from being forced to foot the bill for students to attend cyber school outside their own district.

[Click here](#) to view the full article.
Source: *ABC27 WHTM*, April 6, 2026.

Pa. lawmaker introduces bill that could change postseason play for high school sports

A hot topic of conversation for high school sports is back in the mix, but this time it's going from the court to the state Capitol.

Sen. Marty Flynn has introduced a bill that he says will create a fair playing field in the postseason.

[Click here](#) to view the full article.
Source: *WGAL8*, April 6, 2026.

Shapiro Administration Awards More Than \$11 Million in Keystone Grants to 27 Public Libraries to Improve Library Facilities

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) Office of Commonwealth Libraries (OCL) [today] awarded more than \$11 million to 27 libraries in 15 counties to improve public library facilities. Supporting public libraries is part of the Shapiro Administration's work to invest in Pennsylvania communities and create opportunities across the Commonwealth.

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

Source: Commonwealth of PA, Department of Education Newsroom, April 3, 2026.

Ad Hoc Committee on Recess for Elementary Students - Today (April 7) Meeting Agenda

Governor Shapiro has requested that the Pennsylvania State Board of Education provide him with recommendations regarding the importance of recess in grades Kindergarten through 5. The State Board of Education has formed a new **Ad Hoc Committee on Recess (for Elementary Students)** that will take the lead in exploring this issue and in developing recommendations for consideration by the State Board as a whole.

The first meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Recess will be held today, April 7, 2026, at 1 p.m.

[Click here](#) for the meeting agenda. *(Please note: The Zoom meeting link is included in the agenda.)*

Source: Pennsylvania State Board of Education, March 30, 2026.

Adequacy funds are at the center of Pa. ed budget debates. See how your school district uses them.

Top Pennsylvania lawmakers say they want to see school districts show improved results before guaranteeing additional rounds of adequacy dollars, set aside for historically underfunded school districts in the commonwealth.

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

Source: 90.5 WESA, April 1, 2026.

Pa lawmakers propose study of Keystone Exams, alternatives for graduation requirements

Pennsylvania's requirement that public school students pass Keystone Exams to graduate from high school is again drawing scrutiny in Harrisburg, where lawmakers are proposing a study to determine whether there are better ways to assess student performance.

House Bill 1752 was tabled [last week] in the Pennsylvania House.

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

Source: WJAC 6, March 31, 2026.

PA schools could have hunting, trapping education courses under new bill

Pennsylvania Representative is looking to introduce a hunting and trapping education program.

“Educating the youth of the Commonwealth in the proper methods and practices associated with these endeavors will produce safe, responsible, knowledgeable, and involved hunters and trappers,” [Rep. Anita Kulik wrote in her newest memo.](#)

[Click here](#) to view the full article.
Source: *WTAJ*, March 31, 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

- **[HB1042](#)** - *An Act amending Titles 61 (Prisons and Parole) and 63 (Professions and Occupations (State Licensed)) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general administration, providing for earned vocational training and education credit; in Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, further providing for parole power and for short sentence parole; and, in powers and duties, further providing for consideration of criminal convictions.*
- **Sponsor:** Rep. Napoleon J. Nelson (D)
- **Action Taken:** 03/30/2026 - Referred to Senate Judiciary

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- **[HB 2325](#)** - *An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for educator expenses tax credit.*
 - **Sponsor:** Rep. John C. Inglis (D)
 - **Action Taken:** 03/30/2026 - Referred to House Finance

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- **[HB 2338](#)** - *An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for safeguarding personal expression at K-12 schools.*
 - **Sponsor:** Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)
 - **Action Taken:** 03/30/2026 - Referred to House Education

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- **[HB 2339](#)** - *An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in assault, further providing for the offense of aggravated assault.*
 - **Sponsor:** Rep. Ed Neilson (D)
 - **Action Taken:** 03/31/2026 - Referred to House Judiciary

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- **HB 2352** - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in Student Teacher Support Grant Program, further providing for program establishment and duties of agency.
 - **Sponsor:** Rep. Jason Ortitay (R)
 - **Action Taken:** 03/31/2026 - Referred to House Education

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- **HB 2353** - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in certification of teachers, further providing for out-of-State applicants for certification.
 - **Sponsor:** Rep. Jason Ortitay (R)
 - **Action Taken:** 03/31/2026 - Referred to House Education

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- **HB 2354** - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in certification of teachers, further providing for evaluation of applications for certification.
 - **Sponsor:** Rep. Jason Ortitay (R)
 - **Action Taken:** 03/31/2026 - Referred to House Education

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- **HR 408** - A Resolution recognizing the month of April 2026 as "Financial Literacy Month" in Pennsylvania.
 - **Sponsor:** Rep. Carol Hill-Evans (D)
 - **Action Taken:** 04/01/2026 - Press Conference Held - Financial Literacy Awareness Month

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- **SB 366** - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in career and technical education, providing for temporary waiver.
 - **Sponsor:** Sen. Lindsey Marie Williams (D)
 - **Action Taken:** 03/30/2026 - Referred to Senate Education

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- **SB 1253** - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in interscholastic athletics accountability, providing for playoffs and championships.
 - **Sponsor:** Sen. Marty Flynn (D)
 - **Action Taken:** 03/30/2026 - 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

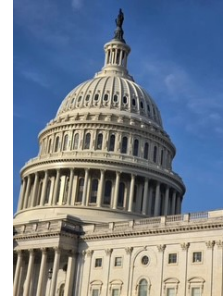
Trump administration ends transgender protections in some school districts, including

in Pa.

The Education Department said Monday it has terminated agreements that previous administrations reached with five school districts, including one in Pennsylvania, and a college aimed at upholding rights and protections for transgender students.

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

Source: *PennLive / Associated Press, April 6, 2026.*



Trump Again Proposes Major Education Cuts in New Budget Proposal

Just two months after Congress maintained steady year-over-year federal funding for most education programs, the second Trump administration is asking lawmakers to once again consider major cuts that would take effect for the 2027-28 school year.

[Click here](#) for the full article. (*Subscription may be required.*)

Source: *Education Week, April 3, 2026.*

Educational equity on the chopping block in Trump FY 2027 budget request

President Donald Trump took another swing at longtime diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives in education, this time through his fiscal year 2027 budget request released [Friday]. The proposal would slash the Office for Civil Rights, which is tasked with protecting students from discrimination in education programs, by 35% from \$140 million in FY 2025 to \$91 million.

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

Source: *K-12 DIVE, April 3, 2026.*

MEGA: 'Make Education Great Again' grants proposed in new federal budget

For superintendents navigating tight district budgets, a new federal budget proposal signals a significant realignment of how federal dollars will flow to local schools, with fewer programmatic strings attached but also fewer dedicated funding streams.

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

Source: *District Administration, April 3, 2026.*

ESSER pandemic spending is over. What will its legacy be?

As the last of the historic \$189.5 billion infused into the K-12 system during COVID-19 is being spent this month, education experts say it's difficult to sum up how effective the massive federal relief package has been in helping schools and students recover from the pandemic.

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

Source: *K-12 DIVE, March 30, 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.](#)

[FIND YOUR STATE LEGISLATORS](#)

[FIND YOUR FEDERAL LEGISLATORS](#)



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