

Education Issues Update

Title I State Parents Advisory Council
Seven Springs, PA

July 11, 2017

Presented by Ronald Cowell
The Education Policy and Leadership Center

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Mission of EPLC

The Mission of EPLC is to encourage and support the development and implementation of effective state-level education policies in order to improve student learning in grades P-12, increase the effective operation of schools, and enhance educational opportunities for citizens of all ages.

www.eplc.org

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TOPICS

- K-12 Funding
- State Budget
- Other Policy Issues
- Charter Schools/Choice
- Keystone Exams & Graduation
- ESSA
- Arts and Education
- Career and Technical Education
- Teacher Recruitment and Retention
- Teacher Evaluation and Furloughs
- School Boards

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What's Wrong with Education Funding?

For K-12, we have arguably the worst system in the country.

And it may be getting worse.

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PUBLIC K-12 SPENDING

Per Pupil Amounts for Current Spending
2014-2015

| | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Rank</u> |
|----|---------------|-----------------|
| US | \$11,392 | --- |
| PA | \$14,717 | 9 th |

Source: US Census Bureau - 2017

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PUBLIC K-12 SPENDING

CURRENT EXPENDITURES PER STUDENT - 2014-15

Compared to contiguous states, spending in Pennsylvania was in the middle of the pack --- exceeding Ohio and West Virginia, a little more than Delaware and Maryland, and trailing New Jersey and New York.

| | | |
|-----------------|----------|------------------|
| • Pennsylvania | \$14,717 | 9 th |
| • National | 11,392 | |
| • Delaware | 14,120 | 12 th |
| • Maryland | 14,192 | 11 th |
| • New Jersey | 18,235 | 4 th |
| • New York | 21,206 | 1 st |
| • Ohio | 11,637 | 19 th |
| • West Virginia | 11,359 | 22 nd |

Source: US Census Bureau - June 2017

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State/Local Shares

Elementary/Secondary Public Education Revenue in 2014-2015

| | State Share % | Local Share % |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| • Pennsylvania | 36.9 | 56.5 |
| • National | 47.1 | 44.6 |
| • Delaware | 57.8 | 35.2 |
| • Maryland | 43.3 | 51.1 |
| • New Jersey | 40.4 | 55.5 |
| • New York | 40.8 | 54.7 |
| • Ohio | 43.3 | 49.6 |
| • West Virginia | 57.1 | 32.4 |

PA ranked 47th in nation.

Source: US Census Bureau and USDE - 2017

1% in PA in 2015-2016 = approximately \$280 million

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State Funding Appropriated Per Student

Source: US Census Bureau June 2017

| | 2014-2015 | |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|
| | State \$ per pupil | Rank |
| US | 6,238 | --- |
| PA | 6,627 | 24 |
| DE | 9,375 | 7 |
| MD | 7,170 | 18 |
| NJ | 8,530 | 10 |
| NY | 9,843 | 5 |
| OH | 6,355 | 26 |
| WV | 7,081 | 19 |

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RESULT: 2014-15 Burden on Local Property Taxes

| | <u>Total K-12 State-wide Revenues</u> | <u>Local K-12 Property Taxes</u> | <u>% from Prop Taxes</u> |
|----|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| US | \$642,637,584 | \$187,697,337 | 29.20% |
| PA | \$28,510,040 | \$ 12,862,103 | 45.11% |

(\$ in 000's)

Source: US Census Bureau - 2017

15.91% Difference = \$4.535 billion/year

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**RESULT:
Inequity for Students Across PA**

**Great Inequity for Students
Among 500 Districts**

In 2013-14, current spending per pupil in Pennsylvania school districts ranged

from \$9,515 (Juniata County SD) **to \$23,535** (Lower Merion)

This means, in an average classroom of 25 students, a **gap of \$350,500 per classroom per year.**

Inequitable and Inadequate Resources in a Standards-Based Environment with Equal Expectations for All Students

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State Support for Higher Education – 2016-2017

Per \$1000 of Personal Income:

National - \$ 5.40

Pennsylvania - \$2.61 – Ranked 48th

(Behind IL, NH)

(DE \$5.11; MD \$5.66; NJ \$3.77; NY \$4.83; OH \$4.44; WV \$7.12)

Per Capita:

National - \$259.18

Pennsylvania - \$132.44 – Ranked 47th

(Behind only NH, AZ, IL)

(DE \$246; MD \$362; NJ \$232; NY \$291; OH \$198; WV \$264)

Source: Grapevine Report – Illinois State University – January 2017
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What are the Financial Needs of Districts for Students?

2007 Costing-Out Study

2016 PILCOP Study

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“Educated Citizen” Cuts in Recent Years to Education-Related Items

- K-12 Basic Ed and Other Supports**
- Higher Ed**
- Early Ed**
- State Library & Public Library Subsidy**
- Adult Literacy**
- State Museum**
- Museum Assistance Grants**
- Grants to Arts Organizations**

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2017-2018 State Budget

- **Basic Education - \$100 million increase**
- **Special Education - \$25 million increase**
- **Early Education - \$25 million increase**
- **How to pay for state budget?**

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Related or Other Issues

- **State store system reform**
- **Pension reform**
- **Charter Schools**
- **Marcellus shale tax**
- **Property tax reform**
- **How to pay for budget in future years (sustainability)?**
- **Distressed Districts**

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Federal Budget and Health Care Reform

Potential Impact on School Districts ?

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Effects of Poverty

Effects of Trauma

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Every Student Succeeds Act

- Replaced NCLB
- Still waiting for specific regulations
- More state and local authority vs. federal
- Authorization vs. real budgets
- Emphasis on “well-rounded” education
- Importance of advocacy
- Planning process in PA

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Arts Education

- EPLC Project on Arts and Education
- Report available at www.eplc.org
- Value of arts education
- Arts & Education Symposium 11/2/17
- ESSA State Plan
- Twitter @artseducationpa

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Career & Technical Education

- EPLC Report in February 2016
- Report available online at www.eplc.org
- 43 recommendations for various audiences
- Options and value of CTE
- Issues of Image
- Issues of Opportunity
- Issues of State Funding
- Messages for parents

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Teacher Recruitment & Retention

- New EPLC Project on Teacher Recruitment and Retention
- Study Group – report late 2017
- Declining interest in teaching as a career
- Young people disinterested/discouraged
- Result: Decline in enrollments & cutback in PA teacher preparation programs
- Teacher shortages in some areas
- Few (and fewer) teachers of color

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School Boards

- 2017 School Board Elections
- Nearly 5000 elected board members in 499 districts (Philadelphia appoints)
- Recruiting Candidates
- Fostering Public Awareness and Participation
- Role/responsibility of Boards (in local control environment)
- School Board Accountability

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