



## **PARSS Legislative Update**

**February 5, 2025**

### **What the Governor Said About Education in the Budget:**

#### **A Quick Look at the Numbers**

Governor Shapiro presented his third budget to the General Assembly yesterday and again proposed a major investment of slightly more than a half billion new dollars in adequacy and tax equity components of state assistance to schools. The Governor told legislators convening in a joint session that "...last year, we made a commitment to not only invest a record amount of money in public education but create a brand-new formula that drives that money out to the schools that need it most. You

voted for that, I signed it into law, and we agreed to keep doing it until we meet our obligation set forth in Article 3, Section 14, which guarantees every Pennsylvanian access to a ‘thorough and efficient system of public education.’”

He also said, “because of our work, we've certified more new teachers than any other time in the past seven years. We identified the teacher shortage issue as a looming crisis and we did something together to address it. We created a new initiative to fund student teacher stipends to make sure those who are just getting started in this profession are paid for their hard work.”

Here is a quick snapshot of major line items in the Governor’s proposal for education. PARSS will be providing more detailed analysis in the coming weeks.

(All dollars in 000's)	Current Fiscal Year	Gov's Proposal FY 25-26	Change from Current \$	Change from Current %
<b>Basic Ed Funding (BEF)</b>	8,157,444	8,232,444	75,000	0.9%
<b>School Employee Retirement</b>	3,089,000	3,239,000	150,000	4.9%
<b>Special Ed Funding (SEF)</b>	1,486,815	1,526,815	40,000	2.7%
<b>Homestead/Farmstead</b>	931,500	1,052,400	120,900	13.0%
<b>RTL Block Grant— Adequacy and Equity Supplements</b>	821,500	1,347,500	526,000	64.0%
<b>Pupil Transportation</b>	702,315	725,837	23,522	3.3%
<b>School Employee Social Security</b>	644,456	666,511	22,055	3.4%
<b>PreK Counts</b>	317,284	334,313	17,029	5.4%
<b>Career and Tech</b>	144,138	149,626	5,488	3.8%
<b>Non-Public Services</b>	101,839	101,839	-	0.0%
<b>School Facility Improvement Grants</b>	100,000	125,000	25,000	25.0%
<b>Cyber Charter Reimbursement</b>	100,000	-	(100,000)	- 100.0%
<b>Physical and Mental Health Grants</b>	100,000	100,000	-	0.0%
<b>School Food Services</b>	98,792	109,577	10,785	10.9%

There is no funding for cyber charter tuition in reimbursement in this budget. There is a proposal, again, to provide a statewide charter tuition rate of \$8,000.

To see your BEF, SEF, CTC, and Ready to Learn Block numbers, [go to this page](#)