



## **An Effective Basic Education Funding System Starts With Students**

### **PENNSYLVANIA'S PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING SYSTEM IS FAILING OUR CHILDREN:**

- It does not provide enough resources to educate all students to academic standards.
- It contributes to deficiencies in equal opportunity based on factors like income and race.
- It is so unpredictable that school districts cannot effectively budget or plan.

### **IN ORDER TO GIVE EVERY STUDENT IN PENNSYLVANIA ACCESS TO A QUALITY EDUCATION NO MATTER WHERE THAT STUDENT LIVES, PENNSYLVANIA'S BASIC EDUCATION FUNDING SYSTEM MUST:**

- Be based on an accurate count of students attending public schools in each district.
- Support the real and actual costs of educating students to meet academic standards, starting with a base rate.
- Address the challenges some students face by adjusting the per-pupil cost based on the number of children in a school district who live in poverty, are English Language Learners (ELL), or are homeless or in foster care.
- Account for district factors like district size and student population sparsity.
- Account for the number of charter school students in a district and related costs.
- Adjust for local tax effort and district wealth.
- Correct racial and income disparities in state funding of public schools.

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*The right basic education funding system will enable every student to meet state academic standards, be prepared for post-secondary success, and become productive, knowledgeable, and engaged adults.*

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