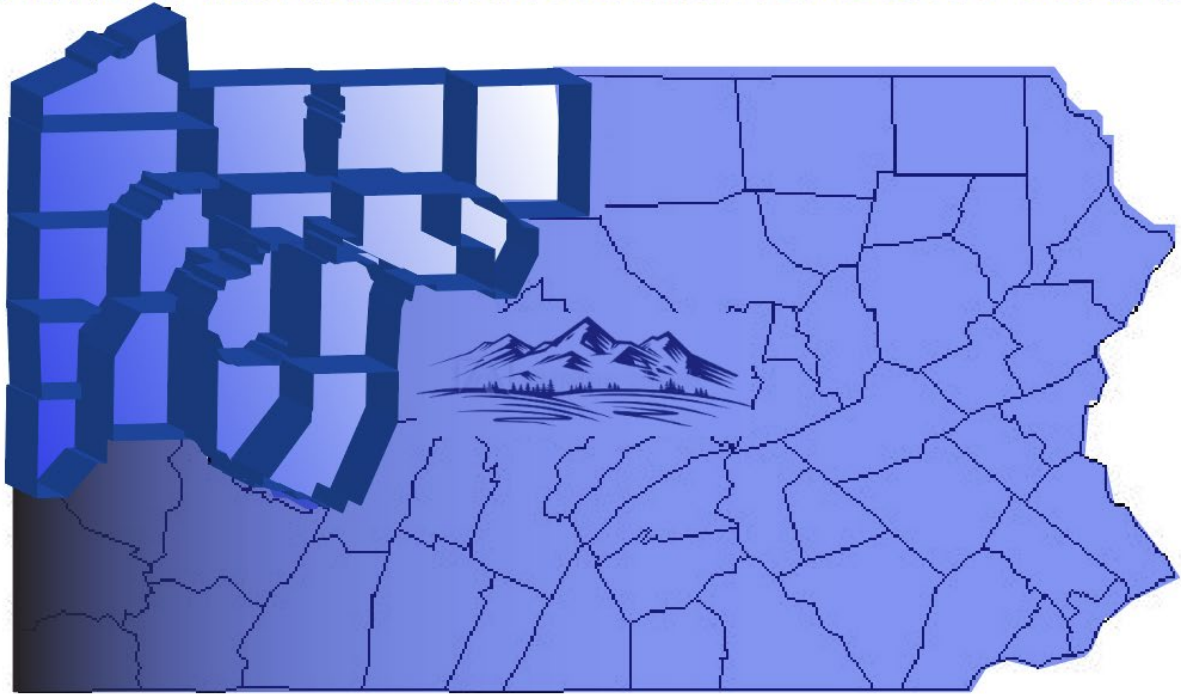


## NORTHWEST PENNSYLVANIA SUPERINTENDENTS' SUMMIT



INTERMEDIATE UNITS 4, 5, 6, 9, 27, & 28

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### **Northwest Pennsylvania Superintendents' Summit**

The Northwest Pennsylvania Superintendents' Summit was founded in 2015 for the purpose of educational collaboration regarding current education news, initiatives, and education challenges. Further, the organization was established to create a political presence that recognizes Northwestern Pennsylvania and represents our **101 School Districts** from **6 Intermediate Units** serving **approximately 190,000 Students** regarding legislative concerns in Harrisburg.

### **Basic Education Funding**

Provide adequate and equitable funding to meet the needs of rural school districts.

Winner and Losers in Governor's Budget Proposal are extreme with a significant negative impact on smaller and rural schools. Tax Equity is problematic; negating or even reversing Hold Harmless.

Focus on Instructional Equity should be prioritized.

### **Education Staffing Shortages**

Focus on what can be done to make careers in education more attractive to potential teachers and principals.

Support efforts to rebuild Pennsylvania's pre-service teacher programming.

Review regulations limiting entry into crucial, non-teaching positions such as School Nurse and Social Worker.

Provide funding to allow districts to pay educators more.

Enhance loan forgiveness programs for education professionals.

Promote public education as a career choice. Government officials need to positively promote and support education as an important and worthy career.

**Mandate Relief**

Remove state mandates above and beyond federal mandates including in special education.

Support return of control to local school districts and level the field with cyber and charter schools through the pause or elimination of any mandates blocking local control or holding districts to a higher standard than cyber and charter schools.

Support including Cyber Charter Schools in calculation of lowest performing public schools for needs improvement.

**Charter/Cyber School Funding Reform**

Support Reform of Charter School Funding Formula and Cap on Per Student Cost in Charter Schools

Support new legislative proposal to require students to attend the district of residence cyber program if one is offered. If parents/student choose not to do so, payment responsibility will rest with the parents, not the school district.

Support Cyber Charter Reform to set academic standards and end severe performance deficiency compared to Public School Districts

**Special Education Funding**

Support additional funding for Special Education, particularly for the high-needs/high-cost students.

Support efforts to contain/reduce special education costs.

**Safety Grants**

Support equity in distribution of funding to all districts as non-competitive grants.

**Multi-County Tax Equalization Formula Reform**

Reform is needed in the Multi-County Tax Equalization Formula to prevent loss of revenue to multi-county districts as a result of Act 672 and Act1 interplay with cross county millage rebalancing impacts. This flaw in the interplay of these two acts forces loss of natural tax growth for all multi-county school districts in Pennsylvania.

**Career and Technical Education**

Support funding for Renovation / Expansion of Career and Technical Education (CTE) centers. CTEs are unable to meet the growing demand for student enrollment, turning away hundreds of applicants while Industry is screaming for these skilled workers.

Support streamlining the Certification Process to accelerate the process for individuals who want to enter the CTE teaching field. This will encourage more individuals to pursue careers in CTE education, expanding the talent pool and strengthening our training capacity.

Support creation of Diverse Pathways and Experience credits for potential CTE educators to boost the number of highly qualified CTE educators to meet the growing demand for enrollment and skilled workforce.

Thank you for supporting the education of children as the future of this great state.