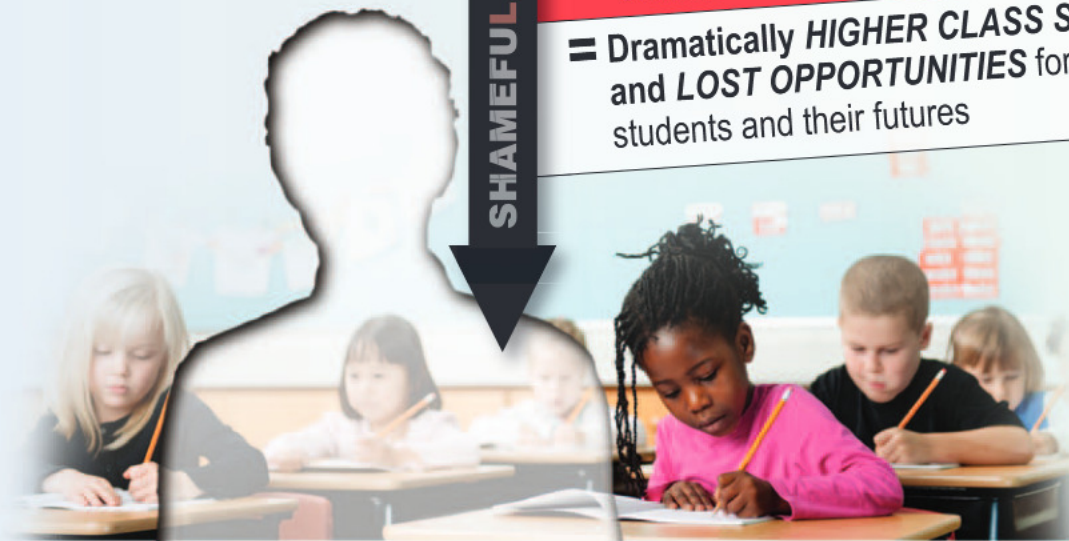


SHAMEFUL FREE-FALL

1.8 MILLION PENNSYLVANIA STUDENTS

- 14,000 teacher and education staff
POSITIONS ELIMINATED under
Corbett's first budget

= Dramatically **HIGHER CLASS SIZES**
and **LOST OPPORTUNITIES** for our
students and their futures



Governor Corbett's Education Budget: A shameful free-fall risks years of academic progress and the future of our students.

Fewer teachers, staff, and programs. Increased class sizes, resulting in far less individualized attention for students. Cuts to tutoring programs. Cuts to art and music. Cuts to all-day kindergarten.

You and your students are living this story every day because of the \$860 million cuts imposed on our schools by Governor Corbett's first budget. And there is no relief in sight; he has just released his new budget proposal, further threatening academic quality and risking our students' futures (*read Voice articles for details*).

Pennsylvanians agree money matters: Public Education is a wise investment. Students, families, and communities deserve better.

- 95% believe all students are legally entitled to the opportunity to receive a quality education;
- 88% believe state government has a responsibility to ensure adequate funding for all school districts so students in all areas of the state, regardless of the wealth of their local school districts, have an opportunity to learn and succeed;
- 82% say it is the responsibility of our state government to adequately fund school districts in both good and poor economic times even if it means increased taxes or cuts to other state programs.

These statistics are among the results of research conducted by Susquehanna Polling and Research and released in November 2011 by the Education Policy and Leadership Council, www.eplc.org.



It's time to change this destructive course and invest in students and public education.

What Can I Do?

You can be bold, and speak up. The public trusts you. Your expert and trusted voice is one of genuine influence, so use it.

Your Role: Reach Out and Speak Up!

There are several important actions that every PSEA member must take.

- **Be actively involved and stay informed.** Read PSEA's publications and email advisories. Sign up for urgent text alerts at www.psea.org/textalerts. Take action when called upon.
- **Understand the role of politics in your school.** Recognize that elected officials make school funding decisions that determine the level of resources available to students and educators. That's why it is essential to be involved in the political process and PSEA's programs for positive change.
- **Invest in your PSEA-Political Action Committee for Education.** Your contributions to PSEA-PACE are an investment in a strong voice for children and public education, as well as your professional well-being. Donating is simple and secure at www.psea.org/pace.
- **Vote for candidates who support Public Education.**
Go to www.psea.org/recommendedcandidates.
- **Broaden support for public schools.**
Help extend our influence by recruiting parents, neighbors, and community leaders to join PSEA's Partners for Public Education (PPE). For just \$1, PPE members will receive a five-year membership – go to www.partnersforpubliced.org for enrollment and related information.



THANK YOU for reaching out to colleagues, friends and family, community members, and elected leaders!