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**CV has historically received less state funding per student than almost every other district in the state. What efforts have you supported or will you support to remedy this?**

**CV CUREs PERSPECTIVE:**

A few years ago, a provision was written into the adequacy gap funding formula that specifically targeted CV and withheld millions of dollars in funding to the district. Due to advocacy efforts, that provision no longer exists, but the legislature failed to reinstate the roughly \$2.3 million that was withheld from CV. This funding compounds year-over-year and it is the position of CVCures that this money should be added to the foundation of CV's annual appropriations from the state.

**PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATE - DISTRICT 34****GREG ROTHMAN**

Pennsylvania State Senate - District 34

There is no state legislator that cares more or is more invested in Cumberland Valley School District. I am a proud graduate and the father of 3 CV graduates with 2 more children still enrolled in our great CV schools. Every year since being elected to the state legislature, I have advocated and voted for every funding increase for Cumberland Valley School District. In the 2025-2026 state budget, I successfully advocated for a needed fix to the funding formula that penalized CV, and in the 2026-2027 budget, I secured a higher increase than 99% of the school districts in Pennsylvania received. When school field trips were canceled, I secured additional funding to ensure field trips would continue for our kids. I will always fight for Cumberland Valley and proudly share its high-quality education.

**NATHAN WOOD**

Pennsylvania State Senate - District 34

I support the fair funding formula, from which Cumberland Valley was previously excluded. Cumberland Valley is a fast growing and important part of our region's education, and I believe it deserves the full resources to which it is entitled to carry out its mission to educate our region's children.

## PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 87

### THOMAS KUTZ

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 87

I have been the leading voice in state government for funding for Cumberland Valley schools. The first step is listening to board members and administrators and taking their concerns to the Capitol. I meet regularly with both board members and district administrators, and these meetings have been fruitful in developing a strategy for a collaborative approach to helping CV secure more state funds. As a Member of the House Appropriations Committee, I have raised this issue directly with the Secretary of Education during budget hearings and privately both at the Capitol and while touring local schools and the CPACTC. Often times these issues are ultimately resolved behind the scenes and during budget negotiations. I am proud of the small role that I played in speaking with Members of House and Senate leadership, including key negotiators in the school code, to secure additional funding for Cumberland Valley. Most importantly, my votes reflect my commitment to this funding. I have supported school codes which have provided strong first steps to placing CV on equal footing with other districts while continuing to advocate for a level playing field when these improved numbers still have fallen short. I am committed to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to continue fighting for Cumberland Valley and to ultimately bring more funding home to our district.

### JESSICA ST CLAIR

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 87

The quickest path to addressing school funding is through the state budget. As a teacher for the past 16 years, I have seen firsthand how an unpredictable, ever-changing budget process undermines a school district's ability to plan for and deliver a quality education to our students.

A second remedy is fixing how charter schools, especially cyber charter schools, are funded. Right now, Cumberland Valley pays significantly more per student for cyber charter tuition than what it actually costs to educate a child online, and that money is not fairly accounted for. A proposal to set a flat, reasonable statewide rate for cyber charter tuition would deliver an estimated \$1.5 million a year back to Cumberland Valley alone. I support that kind of reform, along with holding charter schools to the same rigorous academic and financial standards as our public schools.

## PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 199

### BARB GLEIM

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 199

*No response received.*

### TAWANDA STALLWORTH

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 199

Cumberland Valley has been intentionally shortchanged for years. Districts that grow quickly get funded on outdated numbers, and the district's only options are to make cuts to programs, staff, and administrators or for CV families to make up the difference through local property taxes.

I'd push to make the fair funding formula apply to all state education dollars, not just the slice added each year, so districts like CV stop being penalized for growth. I'd also support fully funding the adequacy gap the Commonwealth Court identified, and increasing state reimbursement for special education and charter costs, as these are two areas where CV absorbs expenses the state should be carrying.

## PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 88

### JEFF CLARK

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 88

*No response received.*

### SARA AGERTON

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 88

I will work with the state to advocate a fair funding model for adequate funding for students. There should be equal funding for children no matter the zip code. I will be willing to partner with those who share the interest of promoting the well being of our children's educational interests.

2

**What is your view on partisan politics in school board elections? Would you support efforts to make school board elections non-partisan? If so, how?**

**CV CUREs PERSPECTIVE:**

CV CUREs believes school-board debates should focus on local facts, performance and students rather than national political agendas. Partisan political influence has degraded support for educators and responsible management. We favor open elections and removing party designation.

**PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATE - DISTRICT 34****GREG ROTHMAN**

Pennsylvania State Senate - District 34

School board elections should, first and foremost, be about quality education and the children who need it. I am proud to have worked with members of both parties for the benefit of our schools and children, and will always do so.

**NATHAN WOOD**

Pennsylvania State Senate - District 34

Michael R. Ford Brooking Institute published research for Brooking Institute which find that school board members often identify with a political ideology despite being officially nonpartisan. So the primary value of having nonpartisan elections is not to remove all politics from governing (we cannot), but rather to remove a barrier to the board doing its job; namely, partisanship can shut down conversation and real negotiation.

I'd happily support efforts in response to evidence correlating non-partisan school board elections with better outcomes for the district - absent that data, I differ to the wishes of residents.

## PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 87

### THOMAS KUTZ

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 87

School board elections should be rooted in ensuring our children receive the highest possible quality education from our local schools. Each of my districts has substantive voices from members of both major political parties, and I am proud to work alongside any board member--regardless of party--to deliver a child-focused quality education.

### JESSICA ST CLAIR

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 87

Some would argue that party labels give voters useful shorthand about a candidate's values and priorities, and that keeping school board races partisan keeps candidates accountable to the same voters and structures as every other office. I understand that reasoning, but I don't think it holds up for school boards specifically.

If it were up to me, all politics would be less partisan. At every level, most of us share similar values and want similar things for our community. But school boards sit closest to home. Board members need to be focused on students, teachers, and the community, not on what is happening in Harrisburg or Washington. We are neighbors, and neighbors need to work together, especially as politics becomes more tribal and pulls people away from that.

Pennsylvania already allows school board candidates to cross-file, running on both party ballots, and I support keeping that in place. I would also look at opening our primaries so that all registered voters, not just those in one party, can have a say in choosing their local school board.

## PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 199

### BARB GLEIM

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 199

### TAWANDA STALLWORTH

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 199

Continued: What is your view on partisan politics in school board elections? Would you support efforts to make school board elections non-partisan? If so, how?

## PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 199

### BARB GLEIM

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 199

*No response received.*

### TAWANDA STALLWORTH

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 199

I'd support making school board races non-partisan. School boards handle budgets, buildings, and curriculum. The work is local and practical, and party labels don't tell voters anything useful about who will do it well.

Pennsylvania already allows candidates to cross-file, which shows that party affiliation isn't essential to the office. Making the change would take legislation amending the Election Code to move school board races to a non-partisan ballot. I would co-sponsor and support legislation to get this done.

In order for a school district - especially one the size of CVSD - to function effectively and efficiently, school board directors need to be able to set aside their differences and focus on the issues that will ensure educators, administrators, and support staff are supported while our kids get an education that prepares them for their future. There is no room for divisiveness and hyper-partisan talking points in those discussions.

## PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 88

### JEFF CLARK

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 88

### SARA AGERTON

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 88

Continued: What is your view on partisan politics in school board elections? Would you support efforts to make school board elections non-partisan? If so, how?

## PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 88

### JEFF CLARK

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 88

*No response received.*

### SARA AGERTON

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 88

I believe that school board should support all children regardless of political affiliation. School board members should put aside politics to further efforts to provide supportive educational environments for children. Schools should promote equality, diversity, inclusion while forming a healthy community for all kids.

3

## What is your position on House Bill 1649 and its proposed changes to Pennsylvania's school tax system?

### CV CUREs PERSPECTIVE:

HB 1649, co-sponsored by Rep. Barb Gleim, would eliminate school property taxes—including those paid by commercial development—and replace them with expanded taxes on wages, retirement income, and purchases. The PAX-1 data center alone could save up to \$45 million annually. CV CUREs is concerned that this approach would result in a dramatic increase for residents and redistribute county-generated replacement revenue rather than preserving CV's local control.

### PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATE - DISTRICT 34

#### GREG ROTHMAN

Pennsylvania State Senate - District 34

I have long supported property tax relief and believe we need to carefully review every proposal for its impacts on the overall tax burden on residents and its impact on local control of education funding. I support reducing tax rates and expanding existing tax relief services. I also believe our local schools should benefit from the resources generated in our community. I would not support a proposal that reduces local control or results in Cumberland Valley dollars being redistributed elsewhere.

#### NATHAN WOOD

Pennsylvania State Senate - District 34

Only eight states pay a lower share of public school costs than PA (37%). That's why local property taxes are so high – because the state's investment is so low comparatively. If we raise the state's investment, local governments can lower the investment demanded of homeowners.

There are no large developed Western nations without any form of property tax. When presented with a model that works without hurting middle and lower income families, I'll support it. In the meantime, let's look at data-driven options that we know can provide tax relief without throwing out well-established methods of marshalling community resources.

## PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 87

### THOMAS KUTZ

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 87

Property tax relief is a real concern, and we need to review every proposal to determine the overall shift in tax burden and its effect on funding public education. I support reducing tax rates for all of my constituents, and I support local control of education funding. Our local schools should benefit from our local community, and I would not support a proposal which would reduce local control and take revenue from Cumberland Valley to be distributed to other districts.

### JESSICA ST CLAIR

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 87

I understand the case for HB 1649. Property taxes are one of the most regressive, painful taxes we have. They hit seniors and low-income residents hardest, because the bill doesn't shrink when someone's income does, and there are school districts across Pennsylvania that simply don't have the tax base to fairly educate their students no matter how the money is raised locally. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has already ruled that we have a constitutional obligation to fund our schools fairly, and I take that seriously.

But the way HB 1649 and its companion, SB 962, are written, they don't fix that problem, they just move it. Both bills eliminate school property taxes and replace that revenue with a 1.88% increase in the personal income tax and a 2% increase in the sales tax. That means commercial property owners and large corporations, who currently help fund schools through property taxes on their real estate, would no longer be contributing that way. The cost shifts onto income and purchases, which falls on everyday Pennsylvanians rather than on the businesses and corporations that also benefit from an educated workforce and strong local schools. Rather than fairly funding our schools, this would actually increase the tax burden on individual citizens. I don't have a perfect answer for how to fix our school funding system, but I do not support HB 1649.

## PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 199

### BARB GLEIM

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 199

*No response received.*

### TAWANDA STALLWORTH

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 199

The problem HB 1649 is trying to solve is real. People in this district are getting taxed out of homes they've owned for decades, and anyone who dismisses that isn't listening.

But I cannot support this bill. It eliminates the property tax and replaces it by raising income tax and sales tax, which shifts the burden onto working families and takes local control away from communities like ours.

It also doesn't answer the question that matters most for Cumberland Valley: under this plan, does CV get more than it does now, or less? A district that's already shortchanged by the state formula would be handing the state full control of its funding.

I'd rather fix what's broken: expand the property tax and rent rebate program for seniors, fund the adequacy gap so districts don't have to keep raising local taxes, and make the state pay its share.

My opponent has co-sponsored HB 1649. CV families deserve to know what it would mean for their schools before anyone signs on.

## PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 88

### JEFF CLARK

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 88

*No response received.*

### SARA AGERTON

Pennsylvania House of Representatives - District 88

I do not support the House Bill 1649. We must fund our schools. Public education is key is to healthy and strong community. The state should be responsible for the gap in funding as the PA constitution education is a right of our children.