

Superintendents from Fulton, Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata County School Districts join the Pennsylvania Association of Rural and Small Schools in Calling for Reforms to PA’s Charter School law

When: January 27, 2020 at 11:00 AM

Where: Tuscarora Intermediate Unit 11
They will join members of the Pennsylvania Association of Rural and Small Schools in 152 school districts encompassing 34 counties and 16 intermediate units in holding press conferences during the week of January 27-31.

Who:	Tara Will	SFSD Superintendent
	Fred Foster	HASD Superintendent
	Faith Swanson	HASD Business Manager
	Dr. Ron Long	HASD Board President
	Dr. Amy Smith	MUASD Superintendent
	Dolly Ranck	MUASD Board President
	Dawn Shields	MUASD ACL
	Dwayne Northcraft	SHCSD Superintendent
	Ramonda Zinobile	SHCSD Online Learning
	Maria Scott-Bollman	FRSD Superintendent
	Kristie Hohman	FRSD Business Manager
	Dr. Joseph Clapper	PARSS
	Dr. Mark DiRocco	PASA
	James Estep	MCSO Superintendent
	Chris Gill	MCSO Alpha/MCO
	Dr. Kevin O’Donnell	MCSO Elementary Principal
	Terry Styers	MCSO Board President
	Mike Zinobile	JVSD Superintendent

Details: Superintendents from school districts in Fulton, Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata counties will be holding a press conference to call attention to the urgent need for reforms to Pennsylvania’s charter school law and to share the adverse impact that inflated charter and cyber charter school tuition payments have on students and taxpayers in their communities.

- Charter schools are primarily funded by local tax dollars paid to them as tuition by school districts.
- Charter and cyber charter school tuition payments have an adverse fiscal impact on school districts, often causing them to cut services and/or to raise tax rates.
- Under current law, state-mandated tuition rates for cyber charter students and for special education students in both brick-and-mortar and cyber charter schools are not based on actual costs, but instead are based on a broken formula

that creates inflated tuition payments to charter and cyber charter schools and wastes taxpayer money.

- The wasteful spending and harm experienced by students and communities would be curbed by setting a single, statewide tuition rate for cyber charter schools and matching special education tuition rates with the actual cost of services for students with disabilities in charter schools.

Speakers are calling on parents, staff, and community members to contact local legislators and ask them to enact funding reforms to PA's charter school law that include matching payments school districts make to charter schools with the actual cost of educating these students.

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