

State Representative

MIKE SCHLOSSBERG

FIGHTING FOR YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY



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Fall 2022

Allentown School District
will receive
\$187 Million
26% more than last year +
95% more since taking office

Rep. Mike Schlossberg

Delivering for our Students

The 2022-23 state budget includes record increases in funding to support schools in our communities. This includes an *increase of \$37.7 million* in new resources for students in the Allentown School District, a total of \$187 million to support students in one of Pennsylvania's most financially strapped districts. That's 26% more than last year and a 95% increase since I took office in 2013. Statewide, basic education funding saw an increase of \$525 million and my Level Up funding support efforts for Pennsylvania's poorest school districts saw an increase of \$225 million. Special education funding support saw an increase of \$100 million. The budget also saw increases in funding for school-based mental health services and school-based security improvements.

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?
YOUR VOTE MATTERS
Visit vote.pa.gov to:

- ✓ Register to vote
- ✓ Request mail-in/absentee ballot
- ✓ Find polling places

vote.pa.gov

Get Ready to Vote

Polling Locations: vote.pa.gov/polls

Request Absentee or Mail-in Ballot:
vote.pa.gov/mailballot

Key Dates:

Last day to Register to Vote: Oct 24, 2022

Last Day to Request Mail-In/
Absentee Ballot: Nov 1, 2022

Election Day: November 8, 2022

Polls Open 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

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Fall 2022

Parkland School District
will receive
\$16 Million
23% more than last year +
66% more since taking office



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Delivering for our Students

The 2022-23 state budget includes record increases in funding to support schools in our communities. This includes an *increase of \$2.49 million* in new resources for students in the Parkland School District, a total of \$16 million to support students in one of Pennsylvania's most successful public school stories. That's 23% more than last year and a 66% increase since I took office in 2013. Statewide, basic education funding saw an increase of \$525 million and my Level Up funding support efforts for Pennsylvania's poorest school districts saw an increase of \$225 million. Special education funding support saw an increase of \$100 million. The budget also saw increases in funding for school-based mental health services and school-based security improvements.

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MENTAL HEALTH CORNER

PA Budget Includes New Funding for Mental Health

In June, I introduced my HOPE for PA plan. This \$100 million proposal would increase mental health services for public safety and provider shortages. The 2022-23 state budget included that \$100 million to allow Pennsylvania to help communities and individuals be better equipped to save lives and livelihoods. Recently, I was appointed to serve on the Behavioral Health Commission for Adult Mental Health, the group which will determine how this funding will be spent. We should be proud of the work we are doing to fix our broken mental health care system.

Mental Health Resources

- Experiencing a Mental Health Crisis? Call Crisis Intervention: 610-782-3127 or 911
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-Talk (8255)
- National Alliance on Mental Illness-Lehigh Valley: www.nami-lv.org

Use 988 for Mental Health Crisis

On July 16th, the nationwide Suicide Prevention and Crisis Lifeline was launched. It is a tool intended to provide 24/7 support for individuals facing a mental health crisis. Make no mistake: it does not fix our broken mental health care system. Only a continued commitment to ensure adequate resources necessary to provide mental health care can do that. Still, knowing we are building tools intended to make accessing care in a crisis easier is encouraging.



Protecting PA's Natural Resources

"The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic, and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people." Pennsylvania Constitution

Helping Pennsylvania Grow Greener

Pennsylvania has wonderful state parks, outdoor recreational spaces and impressive waterways. We often take for granted how important our environmental resources are. We also tend to forget to invest in their maintenance and improvement. That is why we allocated more than \$695 million in new funds in the 2022-23 state budget to support the Clean Streams Fund, increase funding for state parks and outdoor recreation, and support water and sewer projects which will better protect our water quality. These investments will serve Pennsylvania now and long into the future.



The 2022-23 PA Budget

Invests federal funds to preserve and protect Pennsylvania's natural resources like parks, trails, and streams



SUPPORTING FIRST RESPONDERS

Fighting for First Responders' Mental Health

The people who respond to our needs in a crisis often do so at great personal expense. Police, firefighters, emergency medical responders and others come to our aid and deserve our gratitude. That is why I fight to support their mental health needs when they need it most. Studies show first responders have higher rates of depression, alcohol abuse, sleep disturbances, anxiety disorders and suicidal thoughts. These aren't signs of weakness. They are signs of heroes absorbing the shock of repeatedly being heroes.

Last session, the General Assembly approved and Governor Tom Wolf signed my legislation to establish peer-to-peer support programs, training for peer support efforts, a toll-free helpline, statewide and regional stress management support, trauma and suicide awareness training and support for non-profit organizations already doing this work.

First Responder Peer Support Hotline

1-267-893-5400 (Operated by the PA-based Lenape Foundation)

National Safe Call Now

1-206-459-3020 (confidential, comprehensive, 24-hour crisis referral service for public safety employees, all emergency services personnel, and their family members)



Increased Funding for EMS Services

When an emergency happens, providers like Cetronia Ambulance Corps and Allentown EMS are there to help save the lives of people in their critical hour. Unfortunately, the critical funding needs of these providers have not kept pace with the costs of providing the services. The 2022-23 state budget takes significant steps to support EMS services, increasing basic life support service fees by almost 80% and advanced life support services by 33%. These increases will allow EMS companies like Cetronia and Allentown to best serve our communities.

Pennsylvania Leading Charge Against Opioid Epidemic

The opioid epidemic continues to tear through our country, robbing us of family, loved ones and neighbors at an alarming rate. Overdoses caused by addiction, downplayed by pharmaceutical manufacturers, have driven the wave of deaths. States have faced not only the cost of death, but the cost of saving lives and helping individuals recover from substance use disorders.

Led by Attorney General Josh Shapiro and proactive district attorneys, Pennsylvania has taken aggressive action to hold

drug manufacturers accountable for downplaying the risks of what they produced and marketed to doctors and patients. As a result, billions of dollars have been secured to help communities impacted by the opioid epidemic. In Lehigh County, this will result in more substance use recovery services and support for people as they work to rebuild their lives. I am grateful for the hard work by Attorney General Josh Shapiro in helping to secure the resources we need to save lives.



Putting a Stop to Mega Development

The Lehigh Valley is a wonderful place to live, but mega-real estate developers are threatening to turn open space and farmland into one massive warehouse after another. Reasonable and responsible development are important for creating jobs, economic opportunities, and needed housing in our growing region. But that development impacts the rest of us. When we are stuck in traffic on Route 22 or 222, late to pick up your kids after school or to get to a doctor's appointment, we know how dire the problem has become.

I recently introduced legislation to give municipalities the tools they need to determine the effects of large-planned development projects in the Lehigh Valley. It would allow the municipality to identify the potential adverse impacts and costs of the development so developers pay for cost-effective measures to protect our communities, our environment, and our homes.



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Renew or Replace Disability Parking Placard Online

If you have a Disability Parking Placard set to expire soon or in need of replacement, you can now renew or replace it online. Visit dmv.pa.gov/Vehicle-Services and click on the "Persons with Disabilities Information" link. Requests for an initial disability parking placard still require a paper application, which needs to be signed by a physician and notarized. My office can assist with notarizing this form at no cost, but please call (610-821-5577) to make arrangements.



Customers can now **renew and replace** permanent Persons with Disabilities placards online.

dmv.pa.gov

SAVE LIVES



ORGAN DONOR

Donate the Gift of Life

Each day, 20 people in the United States die while waiting for a life-saving organ transplant. One organ and tissue donor can save up to 8 lives and enhance the lives of more than 75 people. If you have registered to be an organ donor, thank you! If you are not, consider this life-saving act. Visit www.donors1.org to learn more and register or give my office a call (610-821-5577) and we will send you information on how to become a donor.

Update Emergency Contact Information

Accidents happen and first responders often need to be able to reach somebody who can speak for you or be informed when you cannot speak for yourself. You can upload your emergency contact information by visiting dmv.pa.gov and clicking on the "Update Emergency Contact Info" on the homepage. You can add contact information for loved ones who can be notified by responders on your behalf in an emergency. If you would like a brochure for the Emergency Contact Information system, please call my office (610-821-5577).



Upload Emergency Contact Information

Advanced Medical Directives

What plans have you made in the event you cannot make medical decisions on your own? Regardless of your age, there may be times in your life when you cannot make your own health care choices.



An Advance Directive for Health Care Act allows you to plan these decisions. It also allows you to appoint someone as a health care power of attorney should you be unable to make health care decisions.

My office has brochures for you to better understand what decisions you want made on your behalf should you become incapacitated. While these materials are

Affordable Connectivity Program

Seemingly everyday activities like paying bills and accessing medical information are not only made easier with the internet, in many instances they can only be done with access to the internet. When Congress and President Joe Biden approved the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, it created the Affordable Connectivity Program, which provides eligible households \$30 per month off their broadband service. Households can qualify based on income (household of 1, limit of \$27,180; 2, limit of \$36,620; 4, limit of \$55,500), if they qualify for public assistance benefits, or if they meet the eligibility criteria established by broadband providers. For more information about this program, visit www.whitehouse.gov/GetInternet or fcc.gov/ACP.

helpful, it is best to discuss this matter with your doctor and contact an attorney to prepare your advance health care directives (often called a living will). My office cannot make recommendations or referrals to attorneys, however, if you need help finding an attorney, the Lehigh County Bar Association does provide a Lawyer Referral Service for a fee (currently \$35). More information is available at www.LehighBar.org or by calling 610-433-7094. My office has copies of the application for that service and can send one to you.

AROUND THE DISTRICT



Left: Congratulations to Eagle Scout Andrew Erney from Boy Scout Troop 555. Andrew removed an old flag pole and installed a new one for his Eagle project at Woodlawn Fire Department, where he is also a volunteer firefighter.



Right: I love when organizations invite me to help at community events or with youth activities. If you need a helping hand for a shift at a snack stand or community clean up effort, give my office a call (610-821-5577) or email me (RepSchlossberg@pahouse.net) with details so we can get something scheduled.



Congratulations to the graduates of the South Whitehall Township Youth Law Enforcement Academy and thank you for learning about your community. Thank you also to the police department for investing in our youth and the families who made sure youth were able to take advantage of this unique and wonderful opportunity. I had the chance to attend the graduation ceremony and was thoroughly impressed by the youth who participated.



The City of Allentown celebrated the Puerto Rican flag raising in July. The gathering always brings together a great crowd to celebrate Allentown's diversity. It was a pleasure to join Mayor Matt Tuerk, leaders of Puerto Rican Cultural Preservation, Inc. and other community leaders to celebrate the flag raising and parade that followed.



The mission of the Parkland CARES Food Pantry is to feed and serve every member of our community affected by and suffering from hunger. The group organizes collection and distribution of food on a regular basis. It was a pleasure to join the distribution efforts this spring and see a very well-organized effort to serve our neighbors through compassion and generosity. For more information about Parkland CARES, visit www.ParklandCARESfp.org.



Using basketball as a platform, Healthy Hoops provided students at Central and Washington Elementary in Allentown the opportunity to have fun, be active, learn teamwork and enjoy a healthy lifestyle—on and off the court. I had a chance to visit the court and watch the kids in action. What a wonderful way for kids to spend their summer!



National Night Out is an opportunity for communities to come together for some summer fun. Thank you to the local police and municipal workers who made this possible in Upper Macungie, Allentown, South Whitehall and across Lehigh County.



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lpo.km.0922

UPCOMING TOWN HALLS

This fall, I will host two in-person Town Hall events:

September 29 | 7 p.m.

Upper Macungie Township Building
8330 Schantz Road, Breinigsville, PA

October 11 | 7 p.m.

Parkland Library
4422 Walbert Ave., Allentown, PA



My Priorities for Parkland & Allentown



World-Class Education for ALL

Health Care and Mental Health



Safe Environment

Strong Economy with Jobs that Pay

