

# City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia  
Office of the Chief Clerk  
Room 402, City Hall  
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 130638)

## RESOLUTION

Calling on the Philadelphia City Council Committee on Education to Hold Hearings Concerning the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Approach to Education Funding.

WHEREAS, The 2013 - 2014 enacted early, basic and higher education budget for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania totals \$11.63 billion, with \$9.75 billion going to support public schools, \$1.59 billion allocated to higher education, and \$61.1 million appropriated to libraries (Pennsylvania Department of Education, 2013 – 14 Enacted Education Budget); and

WHEREAS, Of the \$9.75 billion allocated to support public schools, \$5.52 billion is for basic education funding, \$100 million is for accountability grants, \$62 million is for career and technical education, \$3 million is for career and technical education equipment grants, \$864,000 is for mobile science and math education programs, \$1.03 billion is for special education, \$495 million is for school employees' social security, \$1.02 billion is for school employees' retirement, \$221.9 million is for early intervention, \$87.3 million is for Pre-K counts, and \$39.2 million is for Head Start supplemental assistance (Pennsylvania Department of Education, 2013 – 14 Enacted Education Budget); and

WHEREAS, Of the \$1.59 billion appropriated to higher education, community colleges will receive \$212.1 million, state-related universities will receive \$503.4 million, the state system of higher education will receive \$412.7 million, and \$344.8 million will be distributed through Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency grants (Pennsylvania Department of Education, 2013 – 14 Enacted Education Budget); and

WHEREAS, Of the \$61.1 million allotted for libraries, \$53.5 million is for public library subsidies, \$3 million is for library access, and \$2.6 million is for library services for the visually impaired and disabled (Pennsylvania Department of Education, 2013 – 14 Enacted Education Budget); and

WHEREAS, On average, state governments across the country fund 43.5% of the total amount spent on public elementary and secondary education (United States Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: School Year 2009 – 2010*); and

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*RESOLUTION NO. 130638 continued*

WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is below the national average with regards to funding public elementary and secondary education, contributing 35.8% (United States Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: School Year 2009 – 2010*); and

WHEREAS, In the City of Philadelphia, school libraries continue to close, school counselors and nurses are assigned to more than one location, school offices are understaffed, and the student-to –teacher- ratio is increasing; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Philadelphia City Council Committee on Education shall hold hearings concerning the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s approach to education funding.

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*RESOLUTION NO. 130638 continued*

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*RESOLUTION NO. 130638 continued*

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the nineteenth day of September, 2013.

Darrell L. Clarke  
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmembers Blackwell and Johnson

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Blackwell, Johnson Bass, Kenney, Goode, Oh, Greenlee, Jones, Quiñones Sánchez, Green, Henon, Reynolds Brown, O'Neill, Squilla and O'Brien