



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Testimony
House Appropriations Committee
Carolyn C Dumaresq, Ed. D.
Acting Secretary of Education
February 18, 2014

Chairman Adolph, Chairman Markosek and members of the House Appropriations Committee, thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit comments regarding Governor Corbett's 2014-2015 Executive Budget for the Department of Education. Along with the Governor, the Department of Education believes that every Pennsylvania child deserves access to a high-quality education. This budget reflects the Governor's commitment, as well as my own, to ensuring that every Pennsylvania student graduates from high school equipped with the skills necessary to be career and postsecondary ready.

The Governor's commitment to education is evident in the fact that he has proposed the highest level of state funding for education in the history of the commonwealth. The Governor's proposal represents \$12.01 billion in funding for education, a \$387 million increase from the prior year. This number accounts for over one third (41%) of the entire state budget. Included in this investment is a \$368.6 million increase in support for our public schools, \$20 million of which will be driven to students receiving special education services. This is the first increase to special education over the last six years. Since taking office Governor Corbett has increased state support of public schools by \$1.55 billion, or 18.1 percent, as well as increased the state's investment in early childhood education by \$72 million, or 24 percent.

Over the last three years, Governor Corbett's Ready to Learn education agenda has been transforming Pennsylvania's public education system by: Increasing accountability and transparency in schools; Infusing stronger educational resources into classrooms; and Focusing financial resources on supporting students at all levels. As a result, Pennsylvania students are ready to learn, ready to grow and ready to succeed in the 21st century global economy.

The Governor's Ready to Learn agenda includes the following primary initiatives:

Ready to Learn Block Grant. This budget provides \$341 million in total funding, including \$241 million in new *Ready to Learn* funding for public schools that focus on student achievement and academic success, and funding for the successful Accountability Block Grant that supports pre-kindergarten, full-day kindergarten and other proven educational programs at the current level of \$100 million. As part of this budget, school districts will be authorized to use their Accountability Block Grant for purposes allowed in the Ready to Learn Block Grant, ultimately increasing flexibility for public schools and improving learning outcomes for students.

A total of \$240 million of the *Ready to Learn* block grant funds will be allocated through a student-focused funding formula to enhance early learning opportunities for students and provide resources for schools to innovate at the local level. Public schools will be able to use their *Ready to Learn* allocation for programs, such as:

- ✓ **Ready by 3rd Grade** to ensure that every student in Pennsylvania is performing at grade level in both reading and math by third grade;
- ✓ **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) Education** to support STEM-related academic programs, which are the key growing job fields of the future; and

- ✓ **Supplemental Instruction** to enable more flexibility for schools to provide customized instruction for students.

The other component of the Ready to Learn Block Grant, **The Governor's Expanding Excellence Program**, will provide \$1 million in competitive grant funds for Pennsylvania's high-achieving public schools to analyze and publish best practices that have proven to increase student achievement. Grants will be awarded to high-achieving schools that are willing to share their strategies and techniques and support schools throughout the commonwealth as they strive to increase student achievement through these identified best practices.

Pennsylvania Hybrid Learning Grants. This budget provides \$10 million in new funding for competitive grants to support schools in developing and implementing new educational strategies in the classroom that customize a student's education and improve student performance. Hybrid learning, which blends traditional and digital learning, has proven successful in K-12 education across the country. This funding enables 100 schools in Pennsylvania to implement a hybrid learning model that best meets the needs of their students.

Governor's Schools of Academic Excellence. This budget provides \$350,000 to support three Governor's Schools in agricultural sciences, science and technology and engineering. This initiative will provide talented high school students a unique summer opportunity on a college campus to engage in hands-on experiences working with leading experts and educators in each of the three fields. Each program will stress innovation and cutting-edge instruction in professional and laboratory settings.

Ready to Succeed. This budget provides \$25 million through the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency for *Ready to Succeed* scholarships, to make post-secondary educational opportunities more affordable to middle-income Pennsylvania families. The *Ready to Succeed* program will be merit-based and will enable eligible students to pursue two-year or four-year post-secondary degrees at any Pennsylvania college, university or technical school.

These initiatives, along with the proposed budget show a commitment to education that moves our students in the right direction. I thank you for allowing me to share these initiatives with you and look forward to working together to help provide the best educational experience we can to Pennsylvania's students.

READY TO LEARN – EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN PENNSYLVANIA

GOVERNOR CORBETT'S 2014-15 EDUCATION BUDGET

CAROLYN C. DUMARESQ, ED.D.
ACTING SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS HEARING

FEBRUARY 18, 2014

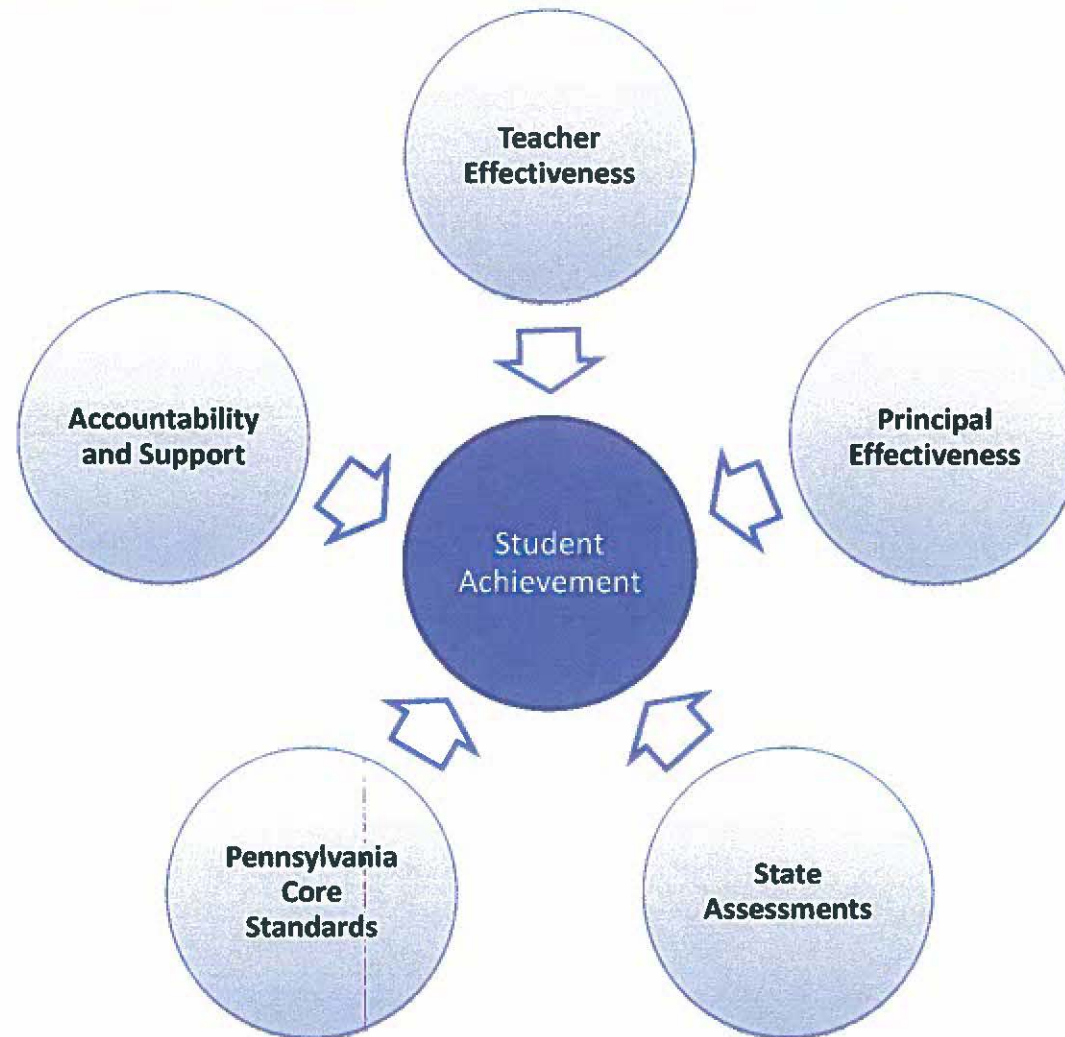
www.education.state.pa.us

GOVERNOR CORBETT'S READY TO LEARN AGENDA 2011 TO 2013

- Over the last three years, Governor Corbett's **Ready to Learn** education agenda has been transforming Pennsylvania's public education system.

- **Ready to Learn** has:
 - Increased accountability and transparency in schools;
 - Infused stronger educational resources into classrooms; and
 - Focused financial resources on supporting students at all levels.

- As a result, Pennsylvania students are **Ready to Learn, Ready to Grow** and **Ready to Succeed** in the 21st century global economy.



Pennsylvania Core Standards

- A set of academic standards designed by Pennsylvania educators to set direction for postsecondary and career-ready graduates.

State Assessments

- Assessments aligned to the PA Core Standards (spring 2015).
- Keystone Exams.
- Project-Based Assessments.



**Teacher
Effectiveness**



**Principal
Effectiveness**

- Designed to reform the way school professionals are evaluated.
- Identifies and supports the critical components of training and professional growth.

Accountability and Support

- State Accountability – School Performance Profile (SPP)



 Pennsylvania School Performance Profile

 **pennsylvania**
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Tom Corbett, Governor | Carolyn C. Demarzio, Acting Secretary

Welcome

Welcome to the Pennsylvania School Performance Profile website.

The Pennsylvania School Performance Profile offers a web-based resource for districts/schools to communicate performance results to various constituencies and assist districts and schools in aligning and focusing resources for continuous improvement.

This PA School Performance Profile also serves several other purposes:

- Provides a building level academic score for educators as part of the Educator Effectiveness System as required by 24 P.S. § 11-1123 - Act 82 - 2012
- Provides information used in determining federal accountability status for Title I schools as required by the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act section 1111(h)(1) and (h)2
- Informs the public of the academic performance measures of each school, comprehensive career and technical center, cyber charter and charter school in Pennsylvania
- Provides resources to support schools as they seek to improve academic performance

Please take this opportunity to learn more about the schools across our state.

Choosing your primary role will assist us in identifying user needs and making future upgrades. Your selection does not change the displays that are available for your viewing.

-- Role --

Get Started!



Negative links

- Click on any underlined element name to view more detail about that element.
- To return to the Landing Page, click on the blue top bar at the top of any page.
- Click on any underlined performance measure to view more detail about that measure.
- A school must have at least 25 possible points to have an academic performance score.
- [Click here to view School Performance Profile in Español.](#)
- [Data for Printout](#)

Data Quality Statement

The data presented in the School Performance Profile has been provided to each district/school for review. If errors are found with this data, the site will be updated as soon as possible to reflect the correct data.

www.paschoolperformance.org

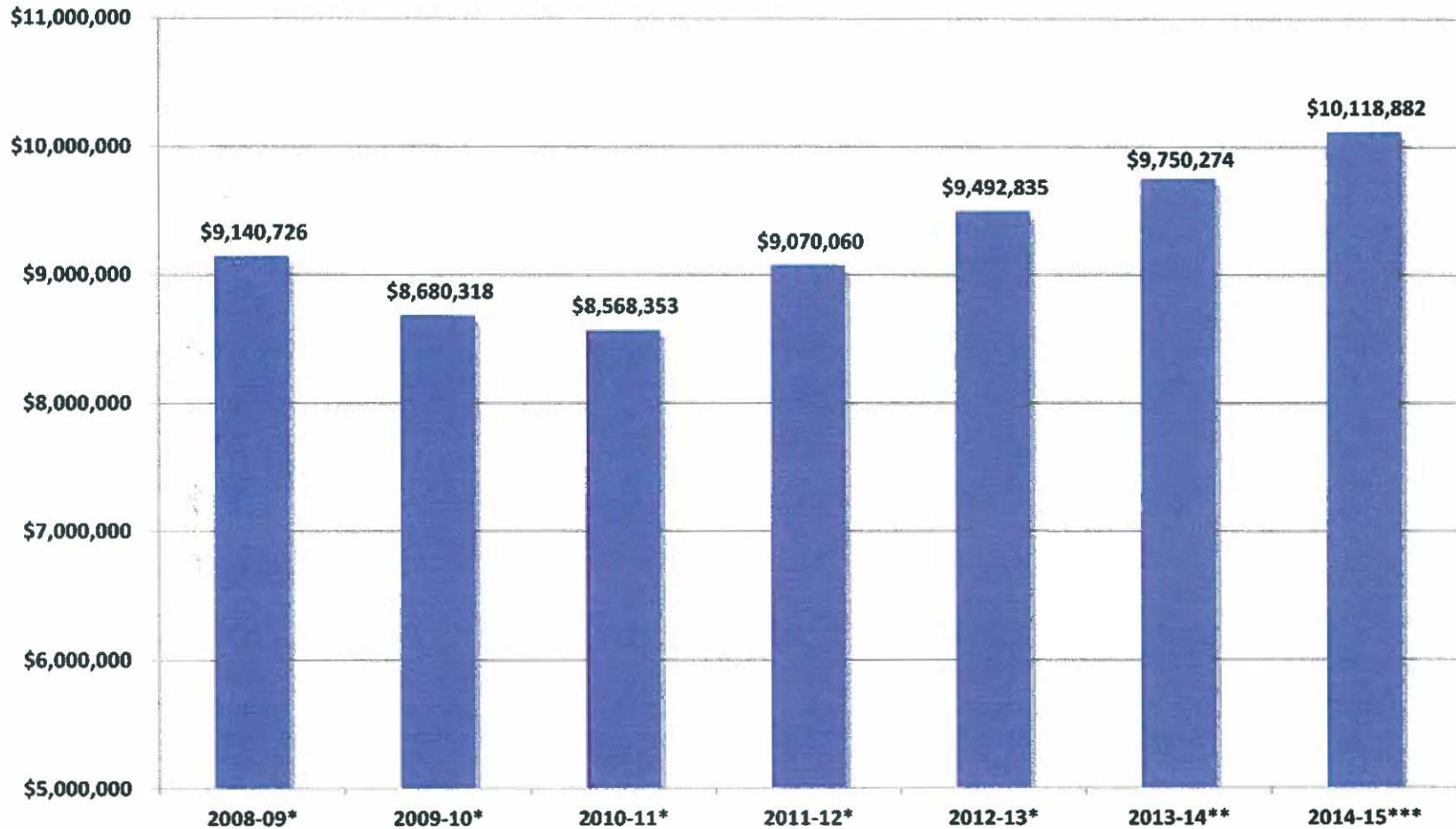
EDUCATION BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

\$12.01 BILLION

- **\$5.53 billion** – Basic Education Funding
- **\$341 million** – Ready to Learn Block Grant
- **\$10 million** – Hybrid Learning
- **\$1.05 billion** – Special Education
- **\$1.11 billion** – School Employees' Retirement
- **\$374 million** – Early Learning
- **\$350,000** – Governor's Schools of Academic Excellence
- **\$412.8 million** – State System of Higher Education
- **\$519.1 million** – State-Related Universities
- **\$212.2 million** – Community Colleges
- **\$345 million** – PHEAA Student Grants
- **\$25 million** – Ready to Succeed Scholarships
- **\$61.3 million** – Public Libraries

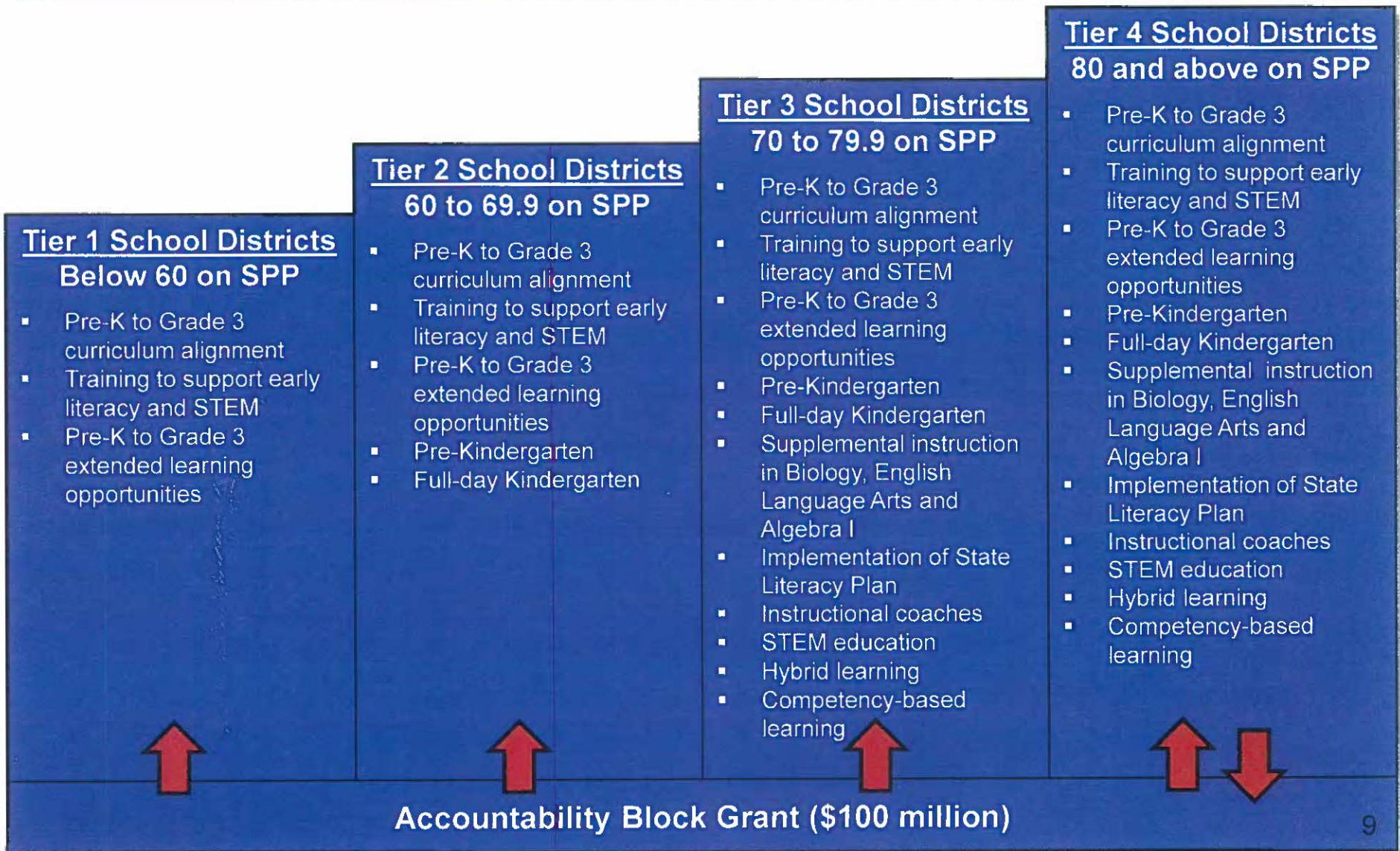
STATE SUPPORT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS



*Actual **Available ***Proposed

READY TO LEARN BLOCK GRANT - \$341 MILLION



GOVERNOR'S EXPANDING EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

\$1 MILLION

- Set aside of Ready to Learn Block Grant.
- Competitive grant program.
- Schools with a 90 or higher on the School Performance Profile.
- Analyze, publish and share best practices that have proven to increase student achievement.

HYBRID LEARNING

\$10 MILLION

- Competitive grant program.
- Blend of traditional and digital learning.
- Up to 100 schools to be awarded grant funds.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

\$1.05 BILLION

- **\$20 million** increase – 2 percent.
- First increase in six years.
- New dollars to be distributed based on categories of support for students with disabilities.

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOLS

\$350,000

- **Governor's School for the Sciences**
 - Carnegie Mellon University
 - \$50,000 continuation grant
- **Governor's School for Technology and Engineering**
 - \$150,000 grant
- **Governor's School for Agricultural Sciences**
 - \$150,000 grant

EARLY LEARNING

\$374 MILLION

- **Pre-K Counts – \$97.3 million**
 - \$10 million increase – 11.5 percent.
 - Additional 1,670 children to be served, 3- and 4-year olds.
 - Since 2010-11, increased by \$13.7 million – 16.3 percent.

- **Head Start Supplemental Assistance – \$39.1 million**
 - Since 2010-11, increased by \$1.5 million – 4 percent.

- **Early Intervention – \$237.5 million**
 - Includes \$9.5 million to provide services for an additional 1,500 children.
 - Since 2010-11, increased by \$56.9 million – 31.5 percent.

POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

\$1.62 BILLION

- **\$412.8 million** – State System of Higher Education
- **\$136.3 million** – University of Pittsburgh
- **\$214.1 million** – Pennsylvania State University
- **\$13.2 million** – Lincoln University
- **\$139.9 million** – Temple University
- **\$10.3 million** – Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology
- **\$15.6 million** – Pennsylvania College of Technology
- **\$212.2 million** – Community Colleges
- **\$345 million** – PHEAA Student Grants
- **\$25 million** – Ready to Succeed Scholarships

READY TO SUCCEED SCHOLARSHIPS

\$25 MILLION

- Students of families with an adjusted gross income up to \$110,000.
- Merit-based scholarship.
- Maximum amount of \$2,000.
- For use at a postsecondary institution in Pennsylvania.

LIBRARIES

\$61.3 MILLION

- **\$1.9 million** – State Library
- **\$54 million** – Public Library Subsidy
 - \$500,000 increase – 1 percent
- **\$2.8 million** – Library Access
- **\$2.6 million** – Library Services for the Visually Impaired and Disabled

FEDERAL GRANTS FOR EDUCATION IN PENNSYLVANIA

\$283 MILLION

- **Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy – September 2011**
 - \$190 million – approximately \$38 million each year for five years
 - Align literacy instruction from Pre-K to grade 12.
 - Supports and resources to guide instruction.
 - Development of State Literacy Plan

- **Race to the Top-Phase 3 – December 2011**
 - \$41.3 million
 - Supports new teacher and principal evaluation system.
 - Further development of the Standards Aligned System.
 - Provide students with access to online courses, such as biology, mathematics and English language arts.

FEDERAL GRANTS FOR EDUCATION IN PENNSYLVANIA

\$283 MILLION

- **Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge – December 2013**
 - Total of \$51.7 million
 - Increase availability of high-quality early learning programs for Pennsylvania's youngest students.
 - **Kindergarten Entry Inventory** – better understand the academic needs of children upon kindergarten entry.
 - **Governor's Institutes** – enhance the teaching practice for Pre-K to grade 3 educators.
 - **Early Childhood Education Community Innovation Grants**
 - Increase family support and engagement.
 - Develop stronger relationships between community-based early childhood education programs and local school districts.
 - Grants will be targeted to communities that serve low-performing elementary schools.

Additional information on the department's website: www.education.state.pa.us.

Estimated funding by school district is available at www.investinginpastudents.com.

For more information about Governor Corbett's 2014-15 budget, visit www.budget.state.pa.us.