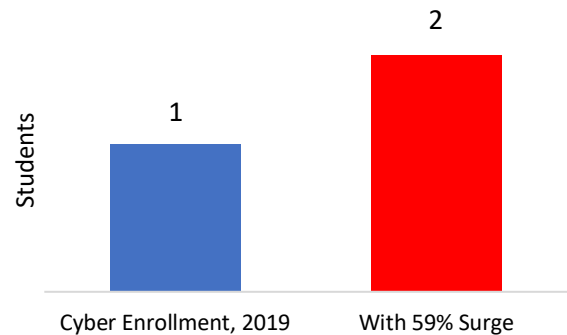


Jenkintown School District

Cyber charter costs up an estimated \$36,000 in Jenkintown School District intensifying pressure on property taxes

Cyber charter costs are growing rapidly. Before the pandemic, 1 student living in the Jenkintown School District was enrolled in cyber charters. Last year cyber enrollment surged by 59% statewide, which translates to a projected 2 District students in cyber charter schools.



Rising cyber enrollment inevitably intensifies pressure on local property taxes. **The \$36,000 hike in cyber tuition payments is the equivalent of a 0.3% increase in property taxes in the Jenkintown School District.**

The current system of setting charter school tuition rates is broken. Jenkintown currently pays cybers \$36,905 for every special education student and \$17,007 for other students. That is significantly more than the actual costs of providing an online education and is a boon to cyber charter operators.

HB 272 and SB 27 will save local taxpayers \$21,432 by bringing charter school tuition more in line with actual costs. The bill standardizes cyber charter tuition at \$9,500 and requires charter schools to use the same criteria as every other public school to calculate special education tuition.

HB272/SB 27 Reforms	Savings
Standardize cyber tuition at \$9,500	\$21,432
Special Education Tuition Reform	\$0
Total Savings	\$21,432

Sources: Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials (for cyber tuition expense increases and property tax estimates) and PDE (for enrollment, tuition rates, and savings estimates)