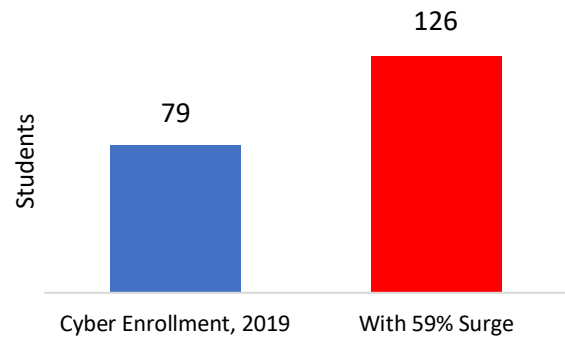


Penn-Delco School District

Cyber charter costs up an estimated \$858,000 in Penn-Delco School District intensifying pressure on property taxes

Cyber charter costs are growing rapidly.

Before the pandemic, 79 students living in the Penn-Delco School District were enrolled in cyber charters. Last year cyber enrollment surged by 59% statewide, which translates to a projected 126 District students in cyber charter schools.



Because of sharply higher cyber enrollment, **cyber tuition costs in Penn-Delco jumped by an estimated \$858,000 since 2020, a shocking 175% increase** paid for by taxpayers in the district.

Rising cyber enrollment inevitably intensifies pressure on local property taxes. **The \$858,000 hike in cyber tuition payments is the equivalent of a 2.6% increase in property taxes in the Penn-Delco School District.**

The current system of setting charter school tuition rates is broken. Penn-Delco currently pays cybers \$31,726 for every special education student and \$13,167 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 \$459,188 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	\$357,808
Special Education Tuition Reform	\$101,380
Total Savings	\$459,188

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)