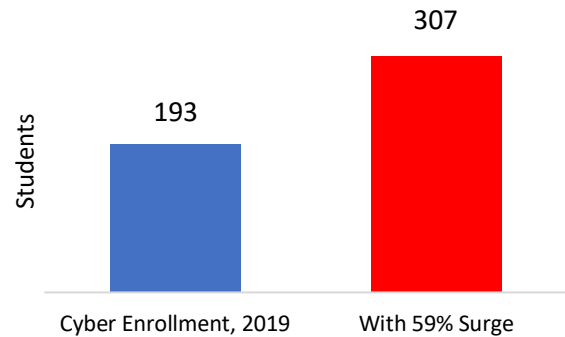


Octorara Area School District

Aligning cyber charter tuition with actual costs could save Octorara School District over \$570,000

Cyber charter costs are growing rapidly.

Before the pandemic, 193 students living in the Octorara Area School District were enrolled in cyber charters. Last year cyber enrollment surged by 59% statewide, which translates to a projected 307 District students in cyber charter schools.



The current system of setting charter

school tuition rates is broken. Octorara Area currently pays cybers \$35,194 for every special education student and \$14,473 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 \$570,406 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	\$491,555
Special Education Tuition Reform	\$78,852
Total Savings	\$570,406

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)