

# Superintendent's Report

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

## CYBER SCHOOL FUNDING EMERGENCY

### Current Cyber Numbers

Line Mountain/VLN: 5

Regular ED: 57 / 19-20: 34

Special ED: 13 / 19-20: 12

### Per Pupil Costs

LM Cyber: \$4,200.00

Regular Education Cyber: \$12,609.98

Special Education Cyber: \$26,458.85

### Total Costs

2019-2020: \$682,702.82

- Regular Ed: \$391,409.23
- Special Ed: \$291,293.59

2020-2021:

Currently paid \$459,282.55

- Regular Ed: \$309,535.50
- Special Ed: \$149,747.05

Last year payment at same time was: \$264,487.54

Estimated end of year \$1,000,000.00

I want to share numbers from our 2 biggest Cyber enrollment schools of the 9 different cyber choices. PA Cyber had a 17-18 final expenditure of 144,082,865.37 and a fund balance of \$90,738,078.00 equaling 62.98% of their total expenditures.

Commonwealth Charter Academy had a 17-18 final expenditure of \$142,030,085.00 and a fund balance of \$11,795,163 equaling 8.3% of their total expenditures after reporting in June 2018 advertising expense of \$7,930,988.00.

Links to total budgets:

[file:///C:/Users/dcampbell/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/8OVC6Y8K/AdminOffice\\_07272020074316.PDF](file:///C:/Users/dcampbell/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/8OVC6Y8K/AdminOffice_07272020074316.PDF)

[file:///C:/Users/dcampbell/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/8OVC6Y8K/AdminOffice20172018charter\\_07282020102413%20\(003\).PDF](file:///C:/Users/dcampbell/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/8OVC6Y8K/AdminOffice20172018charter_07282020102413%20(003).PDF)

Link to Commonwealth's 2017-2018 balance sheet

[file:///C:/Users/dcampbell/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/8OVC6Y8K/Commonwealth2018\\_10212020094654%20\(003\).PDF](file:///C:/Users/dcampbell/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/8OVC6Y8K/Commonwealth2018_10212020094654%20(003).PDF)

PASBO PREDICTS CHARTER SCHOOL TUITION WILL INCREASE BY \$475 MILLION IN 2020-21 HARRISBURG (10/29/20)—The PA Association of School Business Officials (PASBO) anticipates that school districts will pay about \$475 million more in charter school tuition this school year than last year, further straining budgets already stretched thin by the pandemic.

As one of the fastest growing mandated costs that school districts have to grapple with, charter school tuition costs increase each year as a result of the charter school tuition calculation itself and increased charter school enrollment. In fact, charter school tuition costs increased by \$1.4 billion between 2013-14 and 2018-19. And since there is no state funding or subsidy to school districts for charter school tuition costs, these cost increases are largely paid for by property taxes—with the average school district spending (after covering increases in special education costs) 44 cents of each \$1 of new property taxes between 2013-14 and 2018-19 on charter school tuition increases alone.

While increases in charter school enrollment have not been the driving factor behind charter school cost increases in the past several years (annual tuition rates have outpaced enrollment growth), the 2020-21 school year appears to be different. As reported last week, the statewide cyber charter school enrollment has increased by roughly 24,000 students over last year.

This enrollment increase is due to school district students, brick and mortar charter school students and nonpublic/private school students that have opted to begin the 2020-21 school year in a cyber charter school.

The financial implications of this cyber charter school enrollment increase are staggering. School districts could expect to pay an additional \$350 million more in cyber charter tuition alone during this current school year due to the increased enrollment. That massive sum is on top of the overall charter school tuition increase that occurs annually due to the calculation itself.

In fact, PASBO anticipates that school districts are likely to pay about \$475 million more in charter school tuition in 2020-21 than they did in 2019-20—effectively doubling the annual cost increase last year. The graph below illustrates both the annual increase in overall charter school tuition paid by school districts each year as well as the total charter school tuition expenditure.

## **COVID-19 UPDATE AND SPECIFIC GUIDELINE UPDATES**

Face coverings is now facemasks. <https://www.governor.pa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/20201117-SOH-Universal-Face-Coverings-Order-Update.pdf>

Updated recommendations on procedures following a case of COVID-19 in a school. <https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/PublicHealthGuidance/Pages/SchoolClosureRecommendations.aspx>

**Specifically our elementary school with 356 students falls under this category**

## Recommendations for Small (<500 Students) Pre-K to 12 School Buildings

### Following Identification of a Case(s) of COVID-19

It is important to note that a significant and/or widespread outbreak may require moving to a more remote-based instructional model more quickly. DOH will provide proactive consultative assistance to school entities should such an outbreak occur.

| <u>Level of Community Transmission in the County</u> | Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:<br>1 student or 1 staff  | Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:<br>2-4 students/staff in same school building   | Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:<br>5+ students/staff in same school building   |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Low</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School does not need to close</li> <li>Clean area(s) where case spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close school(s) for 3-5 days*</li> <li>Clean area(s) where cases spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close school(s) for 14 days*</li> <li>Clean entire school(s)</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul> |
| <b>Moderate</b>                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School does not need to close</li> <li>Clean area(s) where case spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close school(s) for 3-7 days*</li> <li>Clean area(s) where cases spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close school(s) for 14 days*</li> <li>Clean entire school(s)</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul> |
| <b>Substantial<sup>†</sup></b>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease</li> </ul>   |

|  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
|  | number of students on site<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean area(s) where case spent time</li> <li>• Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul> | number of students on site<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close school(s) for 3-7 days*</li> <li>• Clean area(s) where cases spent time</li> <li>• Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul> | number of students on site<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close school(s) for 14 days*</li> <li>• Clean entire school</li> <li>• Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul> |
|--|---|---|---|

\*If case investigations, contact tracing, and cleaning and disinfecting can be accomplished in a faster time frame, the length of closure time may be shortened.

**Specifically our Middle/High School with 694 students falls under this category.**

### Recommendations for Medium (500-900 students) Pre-K to 12 School Buildings

#### Following Identification of a Case(s) of COVID-19

It is important to note that a significant and/or widespread outbreak may require moving to a more remote-based instructional model more quickly. DOH will provide proactive consultative assistance to school entities should such an outbreak occur.

| <u>Level of Community Transmission in the County</u> | <u>Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:</u><br>1-3 students or staff                                      | <u>Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:</u><br>4-6 students/staff in same school building                  | <u>Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:</u><br>7+ students/staff in same school building    |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Low</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School does not need to close</li> <li>• Clean area(s) where case spent time</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close school(s) for 3-5 days*</li> <li>• Clean area(s) where cases spent time</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close school(s) for 14 days*</li> <li>• Clean entire school(s)</li> </ul> |

|                                |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
|                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Moderate</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School does not need to close</li> <li>Clean area(s) where case spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close school(s) for 3-7 days*</li> <li>Clean area(s) where cases spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close school(s) for 14 days*</li> <li>Clean entire school(s)</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Substantial<sup>†</sup></b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease number of students on site</li> <li>Clean area(s) where case spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease number of students on site</li> <li>Close school(s) for 3-7 days*</li> <li>Clean area(s) where cases spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease number of students on site</li> <li>Close school(s) for 14 days*</li> <li>Clean entire school</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul> |

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