

A blurred background of a classroom with rows of wooden desks and blue chairs. A semi-transparent blue rectangular overlay is centered on the image, containing white and green text.

Public Education Funding Commission

June 8, 2026



Welcome from the Chair



Roll Call



Approval of Meeting Minutes

April 27th

Five Values

1. Adequacy
2. Equity
3. Flexibility with guardrails
4. Transparency
5. Accountability (formerly: connecting student outcomes to funding)

All PEFC materials are publicly available on the PEFC landing page: <https://education.delaware.gov/community/pefc/>

Appreciation

All commissioners

Departing member, Karen Ewing

Departing partners, LPI and WestEd

Vice-Chair, Marcus Wright

Secretary Marten and DDOE Team

- **Deputy Secretary Denise Carter**
- **Associate Secretary Donna Harris-Aikens**
- **Finance and Operations Team**

Technical Working Group

Engaged members of the public

Recent Wins and Next Steps

Approval of all PEFC recommendations

Senate Bill 302 and 303 passed the full Senate unanimously

\$2.8m for implementation planning in FY27

\$100m investment set aside to implement hybrid model in 2027-28 school year

\$26m in division 2 funding restored

House Education Committee (scheduled for June 10th)

Full House vote (pending)

Report



Public Education Funding Commission (PEFC)

Purpose

- Created under Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 201
- Charged with reviewing Delaware's public education funding system
- Developed recommendations to improve equity, transparency, flexibility, and adequacy in school funding

Commission Activity

- 17 meetings held between September 2024 and April 2026
- Combination of virtual and in-person meetings
- Public comment included at all meetings
- Statewide public engagement meetings conducted across Delaware

Major PEFC Recommendations

Adopt a Hybrid Funding Formula

- Combines strengths of position-based and student-based funding
- Protects key staff positions while increasing flexibility and equity
- Consolidates multiple funding programs down to three

Key Features of the Hybrid Model

- Expands Opportunity Funding
- Creates a new “Operational Funds” program
- Gradually increases funding toward adequacy targets
- Includes a “Hold Harmless” provision so no district or charter loses funding during implementation

Increased Targeted Student Funding

Low-income students: approximately \$5,518 per student

Multilingual learners: approximately \$3,842 per student

Vocational students*: approximately \$673 per student

Special education funding increased by approximately 16.4%

*still in process

PEFC Future Work

Ongoing Priorities

- Improve equalization systems
- Reform local revenue generation mechanisms
- Develop tiered multilingual learner funding
- Monitor implementation of the hybrid model
- Continue statewide public engagement

Legislative Action

- Senate Bill 302: codifies hybrid funding recommendations
- Senate Bill 303: extends and potentially makes PEFC permanent

Public Comment



Public Comment

- Members of the public are welcome to speak before the PEFC during the scheduled public comment period as noted on the publicly posted meeting agendas. Interested persons should:
 - (1) send their name, the name of the group they represent and the topic of their comment via **email to Anna Sullivan (asulliv@wested.org)**, ideally 7 days in advance of the meeting, to request to have their name put on the public comment list for the upcoming meeting;
 - OR (2) raise their hand during the meeting. Those who register ahead of time will be called on by the facilitator to provide public comment first, followed by those who raise their hand during the meeting.
- In order to provide all members of the public with an equal opportunity to speak before the PEFC, each individual is limited to two minutes, unless otherwise noted at the beginning of the meeting.
- Public comments received by DOE 7 days in advance will be sent to members with advance meeting materials via email. All written public comments will be included with the meeting minutes and publicly posted following each committee meeting.

No summer meetings, see you in the fall!

Adjourn

A young man with dark hair and glasses is sitting at a desk in a classroom, looking thoughtfully to the right. He is wearing a grey hoodie over a dark t-shirt. In the background, other students are visible, and the classroom has whiteboards and posters on the wall. The entire image has a blue tint.