



## Who Runs Pennsylvania's Public Education System?

### Federal Government

- **U.S. President and Congress.** Responsible for the federal budget and education laws such as Title I (students in poverty), IDEA (children with disabilities), and FERPA (privacy of school records).
- **U.S. Department of Education.** Implements federal laws and distributes federal education funding.
- **Federal court decisions.**

### State Government

- **Governor.** Proposes the budget. Nominates the Secretary of Education and the 21 members of the State Board of Education.
- **General Assembly.** Approves the budget and passes education laws.
- **State Board of Education.** Passes regulations affecting public education.
- **Pennsylvania Department of Education.** Headed by the Secretary of Education. Implements state and federal laws.
- **State court decisions.**

### Local Government

- **School Board of Directors.** Runs the local school district. Elected by local residents.
- **Superintendent.** Hired by the local school board. Manages the school district.
- **School Principal.** Hired by superintendent. Manages the school.
- **Charter Schools.** Publicly funded schools operating under a "charter" granted by the local school district.
- **Intermediate Units (IUs).** There are 29 regional IUs in the state. They are jointly run by the school districts in each region. IUs provide services for children with disabilities and offer training and consulting services to school districts.