

State Budget Vote

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helping those most in need. We're reinforcing benefit integrity to ensure those who receive public assistance are the ones who truly need it.

"Eliminating waste, fraud and abuse in our public health care programs helps make health care more affordable for everyone.

"The budget also significantly increases funding in the fight against food insecurity because no one should go hungry. Finally, we're returning taxpayer money directly to low- and moderate-income working families through a new tax credit program that helps workers keep more of their hard-earned money.

"The budget also continues to fund Pennsylvania school districts at record levels. This budget boosts PreK-12 education funding by \$866.5 million with increases for such things as the Ready to Learn Block Grant program, basic education, special education, Pre-K Counts, transportation, school safety and school mental health services.

"These measures are incredibly beneficial for the people of the 137th Legislative District and move Pennsylvania toward a stronger, more sustainable and affordable future."

Stuff The Bus at Pen Argyl Area High School

By Krista Campbell

PEN ARGYL - Pen Argyl Area High School will be collecting food for Stuff the Bus, from Monday November 3rd through Friday November 21st at 7:00-7:30 am and 2:30-2:45 pm. (On the last day non-perishable items will only be collected until 7:30 am.) Students, families, and teachers throughout the district are invited to donate non-perishable items for people in need during the Thanksgiving season.

Additionally, local businesses and community members are encouraged to donate items, and in the past six years have donated plentifully. The school district works with Families First, meaning that all the food collected will be given to families in the Pen Argyl School District who need a little extra help to get through the holiday.

With the ongoing government shutdown and the recent ending of emergency food stamp benefits, more households than ever are facing empty pantries and tough choices at the grocery store. Every donation—big or small—helps to ensure that no one in our community goes hungry during this challenging time. The Knight's Order, the Character Education program at the Pen Argyl High School that organized the event, is responsible for service projects throughout the school and community.

The Knight's Order continually looks to give back to the community that has been so supportive of their other initiatives. The Character Education students put in hours of their time organizing and running this event. We would like to thank Krise Transportation for donating the bus for the event, and the YMCA for donating a space to organize and distribute the food. We hope every local family in need will be able to enjoy their Thanksgiving with an amazing meal.



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