

News comments: Charge developers a fee to offset new developments, pay for schools

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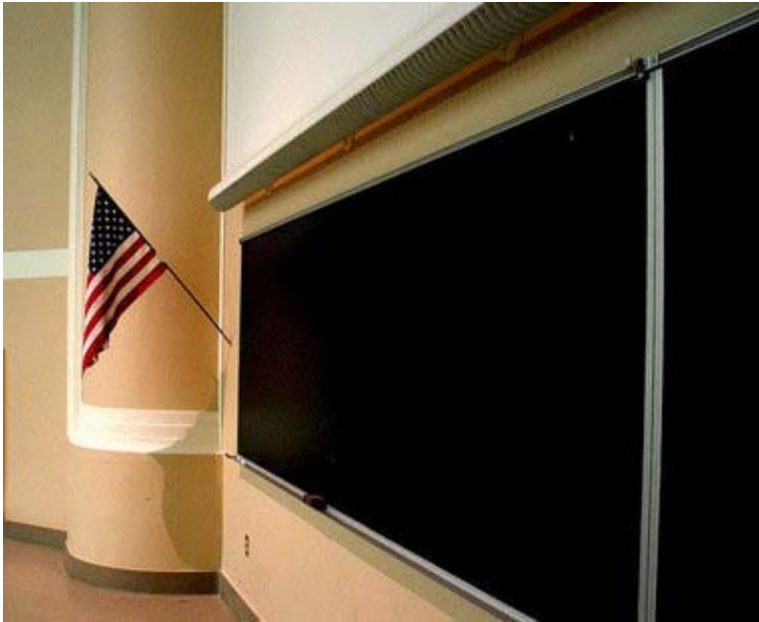


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Easton Area School District recently announced that it **will not raise taxes beyond the 1.7 percent state cap.**

Administrators warned that not raising taxes more than 1.7 percent could lead to another year of cuts.

Reader **realperspectives** would like to see the burden of paying for public schools distributed differently, so local taxpayers don't have to deal with the possibility of large increases:

"The real issue about the pressure on costs is the funding source. Local taxpayers are shouldering too much of the burden. Property taxes is a regressive tax and is inherently unfair. This state should allow schools and towns to have developers pay a huge impact fee to offset new developments, much like they do in the South. Many times developers wind up paying for new schools - at no cost to the

taxpayers! Who cares if those costs are added into the development price for buyers, the community shouldn't be paying those costs. Also, the state legislature needs to change how schools are funding at the state level and move away from the over reliance on property taxes like many states out West - we don't need to reinvent the wheel, there are many good models that are working all across America."

Should the state change the way Pennsylvania schools obtain funding? Comment below with your suggestions.

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