



State Representative **MIKE JONES**

Proudly Serving the 93rd District



York Tech Committed to Empowering Students, Supporting Employers, Driving Economic Growth

While college remains a great option for many students, for others it no longer provides the return on investment it once did. York County School of Technology, or York Tech, has been preparing students for success since 1969. Today, York Tech offers 26 high school technical programs, along with a growing selection of programs for adults, which all help strengthen the region's workforce.

York County relies heavily on manufacturing, construction and healthcare to sustain our quality of life, and those industries rely on a skilled workforce with vocational training. I am a strong proponent of vocational education and a huge fan of York Tech.

In 2026, the school produced 384 high school graduates who earned an average of five industry-recognized certifications per student, demonstrating their readiness for high-demand careers and postsecondary education. Additionally, through its cooperative education program, 165 students gained valuable real-world experience with 111 local employers, collectively earning approximately \$2.2 million, pouring thousands of tax dollars back into York County, and developing the skills that businesses value.

Entering the 2026-27 school year, York Tech's enrollment includes 1,746 high school students, 343 adult learners, and another 553 students on the waiting list who we also want to accommodate.

For more information, visit www.ytech.edu for the high school program or www.educationthatpays.com for the adult and continuing education program.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

On Aug. 4, communities across the country celebrated National Night Out, a fun community building event aimed at strengthening ties between residents and the law enforcement community. I had a great time at National Night Out events hosted by Southern Regional Police Department, York Area Regional Police Department in Dallastown and North Hopewell Township Police Department.



FREE Shredding Event

Shredding medical, financial or other personally identifying or sensitive documents you no longer need can help protect you from identity theft and scams. Bring your unwanted documents to my free shredding event and dispose of them safely and securely.

WHERE: Eureka Volunteer Fire Department, 82 N. Main St., Stewartstown.

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 19, from 9 a.m. to noon.

(The shredding event will be held in conjunction with the fire company's Pit Beef Sale.)





ARE WE CONNECTED?



To stay up to date on my Capitol activities and events here in our district, visit RepMikeJones.com and sign up for my legislative update, Headline Harrisburg, emailed to you weekly. You can also follow me on Facebook at [Facebook.com/RepMikeJonesPA](https://www.facebook.com/RepMikeJonesPA).

LARGEST TAX CUT IN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORY

With soaring electricity bills leaving many Pennsylvanians struggling to get by, I voted for a \$1.7 billion tax cut – the largest in Pennsylvania history. A Republican amendment to House Bill 2224 would eliminate the Gross Receipts Tax on electric bills, providing a much needed immediate 6.5% savings for every Pennsylvania ratepayer.



New Hospital in Shrewsbury!

One of the most exciting developments of the year is the opening of the new WellSpan regional hospital in Shrewsbury. This is not simply a clinic; it's a fully licensed hospital with diagnostic capabilities, laboratory services, and an emergency department that treats life-threatening conditions and injuries 24/7. It has 10 emergency beds and 10 inpatient beds, providing much-needed services to residents in the southern end of the 93rd District and beyond. I had the pleasure of touring the hospital a few days before it opened in March.



Celebrating Our Farmers

The 93rd District took every major award at this year's annual York County Agricultural Banquet. Dallastown student Mitchell Brown won both the Tony Dobrosky Future Leaders Award and the Home 4-H Leadership Award. Godfrey Brother's Meats in Loganville received the Outstanding Ag Industry Award; and the Outstanding Farm Family Award went to the Morris Family in Fawn Grove.

Honoring One Legend, Mourning Another

In May, I had the privilege of joining representatives of the Marine Corps League, school administrators, and other elected officials in honoring Lt. Col. (ret.) Joe Innerst with the League's Distinguished Citizen Award. A proud Dallastown graduate, Col. Innerst spent a career in the U.S. Marine Corps before founding the Dallastown High School JROTC program. Now retired, he continues to teach and referee despite his ongoing battle with cancer. He remains an inspiration to thousands.



On Feb. 13, we lost a local legend when Roy "Butch" Jackson of East Hopewell Township, passed away unexpectedly. Founder of SkyBlu Farms in North Hopewell, he was one of the most revered grain and beef farmers in York County. Butch was a friend, advisor and a man I admired immensely. My heartfelt condolences to his wife, Lisa (pictured with him), his daughter, Steph, and his son, Andy.



THE PROPERTY TAX DILEMMA AND SOLUTION

When I was elected to office eight years ago, school property tax elimination was the biggest issue in the 93rd District. It still is. I understand the skepticism many residents have because I share it. The reality of the situation is that a provision called “hold harmless” guarantees that school districts will receive no less state funding than the year before – even if student populations are shrinking as they are in many parts of the state. Add to that many large underperforming schools, primarily in urban areas, that get disproportionate amounts of funding (York City schools for example get three to four times more state money per student than any other school in York County) and the result is that the school property tax injustice is largely isolated to South Central Pennsylvania, the Lehigh Valley, and a handful of similar areas across the state. We simply don’t have the votes necessary to eliminate property taxes because there are not enough lawmakers with the same urgency to get something done.

And if that isn’t enough, teachers unions, which are among the most powerful lobbyists in the state, love the school property tax. Why? Because it’s much easier to get a majority of school board members to raise property taxes than it is to get the House, Senate and a governor to raise income or sales taxes, which haven’t increased in more than 20 and 60 years respectfully.

This presents me with a dilemma. Do I quit talking about it because people think it’s disingenuous or do we keep fighting? If we quit fighting, we will never make any progress. So, my decision is to be honest and transparent about it and keep fighting. I am a sponsor of House Bill 1649, which offers a well-vetted, much fairer way to fund our schools through sales and income taxes, rather than taxing the homes so many have worked their entire lives to pay for. It’s literally like renting your own home from the government. Worse still, over 10,000 Pennsylvania residents lose their homes each year because they can’t afford their school property taxes.

Our current system is unfair to those on retirement and other fixed income.

Under House Bill 1649, about 90% of homeowners would see an overall reduction in their tax burden, in some cases saving far more on property tax than they would pay in increased sales and income taxes. Renters would also receive a significant

benefit. More than 200 residents turned out for a town hall meeting I held in March with the prime sponsors of the bill, state Rep. Wendy Fink and Sen. Dawn Keefer, both from York County. We were joined by the primary architect of the bill, retired Rep. Frank Ryan from Lebanon County, who has spent years studying the subject and is uniquely and imminently qualified to speak on it. To learn how our plan would impact you, please visit www.NoProp.Tax.



Celebrating Service

Earlier this year, I was honored to join both of my predecessors — former Reps. Ron Miller and now senator, Kristin Phillips-Hill — to celebrate the retirement of Loganville’s Ron Tombesi. Ron served on Loganville Borough Council for 40 years, and as council president for more than half that time. I got to know Ron shortly before I took office. He has always been a good friend and a man I hold in high esteem. Ron, thank you for your service and dedication to the community!



Talking Business with the Rotary

In May, I was honored to serve as guest speaker at the Southern York County Rotary Club. As a Rotarian myself, I know Rotary is a great way for business leaders to come together to stay informed and improve their businesses, and to serve the communities in which they operate. Rotary Clubs support numerous community service projects and other charitable efforts at home and abroad. My thanks to Ron Hash (pictured) for inviting me.



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Southeastern Patriot Program

This spring, I had the privilege of being the guest speaker at Patriot Program graduations at Kennard-Dale Intermediate School and Fawn Grove Elementary. The Patriot Program is a voluntary program that teaches students all aspects of being a knowledgeable, responsible patriotic American. This year, 74 fifth graders and 107 sixth graders completed the program, as did a similar number of second, third and fourth graders. In appreciation of their hard work, elementary graduates visit the state Capitol in Harrisburg, while intermediate school graduates are rewarded with a trip to Washington, D.C.



Congratulations Graduates!

In May, I attended the graduation ceremony at my alma mater, Dallastown Area High School. Congratulations and best wishes to all our graduating seniors from Dallastown, Kennard-Dale, Red Lion and Susquehannock!