



Michael Schlossberg – Representative, PA House District 132

Before I'm anything else, I'm a husband and a father, and it is because of those things that I consider myself one of the luckiest men on Earth. In 2007, I met my wife Brenna, who teaches 8th grade English at Harrison-Morton in Allentown. We married in 2010. Our son Auron was born in April 2011, and our daughter Ayla was born in November 2012, just 13 days after I was first elected to the House of Representatives. They motivate me to do a better job; after all, I'm not only fighting for my community, I'm fighting for my family.

I have two main priorities. First: Fair and adequate education funding. We must do everything we can to ensure that Pennsylvania is fairly funding our community schools. This is the only way to provide kids with the first-rate education they deserve and to slow the skyrocketing growth of property taxes. I'm very proud of my record in this area: In my time in office, the Allentown School District has received an additional \$53 million (53% increase) in funding, while Parkland has received over \$8.5 million (50% increase). We have a long way to go, but we're on the right path!

In 2021, I wrote the Level Up funding plan. This was a first-of-its-kind program in Pennsylvania: A specific funding program designed to fund our poorest school districts. It gave the 100 poorest school districts \$100 million, including \$6.3 million to the Allentown School District.

I'm also a nationally recognized advocate for protecting the most vulnerable in our society, with a particular emphasis on mental health. I've been very public with my own lifelong battle with depression and anxiety, and I have used my own experiences in an effort to break the stigma that surrounds mental health disorders.

In November 2020, my colleagues elected me as House Democratic Caucus Administrator. My job there was to serve my colleagues and make sure they had the resources they needed. In 2022, after Democrats took the majority, I was promoted to Caucus Chair, where I run internal meetings and ensure my colleagues are prepared to vote in Harrisburg. This leadership role gives my constituents extra clout and influence when it comes to decision-making. I'm also the co-chair and co-founder of the Mental Health Caucus and the Democratic chair of the Manufacturing Caucus. These leadership roles put me in a position to bring dollars and jobs home.

While I am proudly progressive, I'm convinced that part of the reason for our political dysfunction is because people elected to office become so desperate to keep their jobs that they forget to do their jobs. I also believe that we must be willing to work together to make the government work for you. I've backed up my words with votes, providing compromise votes on major issues like election reform, transportation improvement, liquor modernization, pension reform, and multiple budgets. In all of these instances, the legislation had components that I disagreed with, but I believed that the proposals were good on the whole and voted yes to enact better policy. That, I believe, is the only way to make government truly work for you.