

# More funding must go to our education

The Daily News recently ran a The Philadelphia Inquirer editorial, "Cost of colleges is way too expensive," in which it was noted that:

"A nation that keeps telling its children they need more than a high school diploma to succeed in this increasingly high-tech world shouldn't make it so hard for them to pay for college."

There is no magic bullet for our current economic woes. A complex set of circumstances converged to create the situation in which we find ourselves and the road to a sustained recovery will be equally multifaceted.

Anyone who believes the way to effectively deal with our problems should be centered around a single approach does not have a realistic understanding of how integrated the global economy has become.

Part of the solution is manufacturing. Another part relates to the service industries. Another part relates to energy policy. Another part entails deficits. Another part hinges on the stock market. Another part encompasses the role of regulation. Still another part involves tax rates.

These are all important components of any realistic strategy for providing future generations with a reasonable quality of life. Ultimately, however, education is the glue that will hold everything

together.

As Marc H. Morial, CEO of the National Urban League, recently observed: "Highly educated workers are finding themselves in much greater demand than those who lack four-year college and graduate level degrees."

"One key reason so many Americans can't find jobs is a mismatch between their capabilities and the high-level skills that the marketplace needs," he adds.

As The Philadelphia Inquirer correctly concluded:

"It shouldn't be so hard for the state legislatures or Congress to understand how much harm they are doing by failing to adequately fund education."

Let's hope we don't have to find out the hard way.

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