

New York State

PTA[®]

everychild.onevoice.[®]



Leading the Way



NYS PTA supports:

- Career and Technical Education expansion at schools, BOCES and the Big Five City School Districts;
- A.2363 (Nolan)/S.3919 (Richie), which adjusts aid for BOCES salaries and corresponding increases for Special Services Aid for the Big Five City School Districts;
- The \$5.3 million increase in funding to expand Early College High School programs; and
- Further expansion and access to Early College High School programs for ALL students.

Career and Technical Education and Pathways to Success

By investing in Early College High Schools and Career and Technical Education (CTE), New York is investing in the future of our state, as more than 90% of CTE students graduate with a Regents diploma.

New York should continue to expand supports for CTE. While we are pleased the Regents enacted a 4 and 1 pathway to graduation, much more work is needed to promote and fiscally support CTE programs and graduation pathways.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM), Arts education and career skills are based on hands-on experiences which need to be presented in middle school and expanded through high school with better pre-college/career counseling. Educational programs that support these initiatives must be expanded, funded and readily accessible to ALL children.

If a state economic priority is building our STEM/CTE workforce readiness, we need to address the two decade old formula for Boards of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) reimbursement and incentivize district investments in these programs.

The BOCES formula hasn't been increased since 1990 and only provides aid to the sending school district for the first \$30,000 of a BOCES educator's salary. We support amending the current aid formula for both BOCES CTE programs and Special Services Aid, to provide for more fiscal support to critical CTE services. Further, Special Services Aid in the Big Five City School Districts also needs to be adjusted to reflect current costs.

Providing access and affordability to early college programs is crucial, as college is prohibitive for many students and families. The opportunity to participate in college level and advanced coursework while in high school exposes students to critical thinking skills, exploration of varied areas of study, independent learning and dispositions needed for college success. Expanding opportunities in high school for advanced learning allows students to build skills necessary to thrive and advance in coursework beyond high school. Students in these programs typically receive both a high school diploma and an associate degree, providing an economic advantage and academic success.

For more information, please contact Kyle McCauley Belokopitsky, Esq., NYS PTA Executive Director at execdirector@nyspta.org, 518-452-8808