

New York State

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Leading the Way

The state constitutional obligation to fund a high-quality education for each and every New York student remains unfilled.

Unfortunately state aid, as allocated in the Executive Budget proposal, is insufficient to address student need.

The \$338 million increase in Foundation Aid, \$409 million for expense-based aid, and the \$157 million Fiscal Stabilization Fund is ***less than half*** of the \$2.2 billion school aid increase called for by NYS PTA and other educational advocates.

NYS PTA Calls for a \$2.2 Billion Increase to Support Our Students

The NYS PTA and Educational Conference Board (ECB) have previously called for:

- \$1.31 billion increase in Foundation Aid, which is only a third of what is due to schools;
- \$400 million increase in expense-based reimbursements to continue essential programs and services such as student transportation and special education; and
- \$500 million for five priority areas, including strengthening school safety, supporting struggling schools and English Language Learners and investing in college and career pathways.

NYS PTA also supports:

- A full three-year phase-in of Foundation Aid – \$4 billion is still owed to our children, with \$2.73 billion due to high-needs schools and students;
- Revision of the school aid formula related to poverty, disabilities, English Language Learners, enrollment growth and geographic sparseness;
- The ability for ALL schools to convert to a community school model of learning and commitment to increase family engagement initiatives in ALL schools;
- School-based mental health support and programs for students;
- Full-day Kindergarten Conversion Aid, so all public schools have full-day kindergarten;
- Pre-K and after-school support, including transportation;
- Increased programmatic and funding for mental health services for students;
- BOCES and CTE expansion, Early College High Schools, International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement access and expansion;
- English Language Learners, students with disabilities and homeless students;
- Teacher and educator professional development;
- School security initiatives;
- Funding and support for restorative justice programs;
- Stop-arm school bus cameras and increased fines for passing school bus illegally; and
- Support for Recovery High Schools.

NYS PTA has concern and opposition to:

- The cap on, and new formula, for expenses-based aids;
- The new education equity formula;
- The tax cap and its effect on school programs and services; and
- Waivers from special education laws and regulations.

Together, we can make every child's potential a reality. No other work is more important.

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