



## **NYS PTA Preliminary FY 2023 Executive Budget Analysis**

The Division of Budget Webpage can be viewed here: <https://www.budget.ny.gov/>

The Governor's Briefing Book can be viewed here:  
<https://www.budget.ny.gov/pubs/archive/fy23/ex/book/briefingbook.pdf>

Budget Legislation can be found here: <https://www.budget.ny.gov/pubs/archive/fy23/ex/fy23bills.html>

School Aid Runs can be found here:  
<https://www.budget.ny.gov/pubs/archive/fy23/ex/local/school/2223schoolrun.pdf>

NYS PTA will have more detailed commentary on the provisions included herein available for the Education Budget Hearing, to be held Wednesday, January 26, 2022.

### **PK-12 Initiatives**

#### **School Aid**

The Executive Budget provides \$31.3 billion in total School Aid for SY 2023. This represents a year-to-year increase of \$2.1 billion (7.1%), including a \$1.6 billion Foundation Aid increase and a \$466 million increase in all other School Aid programs.

This is a major victory for children, a significant amount of school aid, and in line with the NYS PTA and NYS Educational Conference Board school aid request, which can be found here: [https://nyspta.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/ECB-School-Aid-Paper-2021\\_Final.pdf](https://nyspta.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/ECB-School-Aid-Paper-2021_Final.pdf)

**Foundation Aid:** provides a \$1.6 billion (8.1%) increase in Foundation Aid. It also ensures each school district receives a minimum year-to-year Foundation Aid increase of 3%. NYS PTA strongly supports this proposal.

**Expense-based Aids:** includes full funding of expense-based aid, such as school construction, pupil transportation, BOCES services, and the educational costs of certain students with disabilities. The running of the statutory formula is projected to increase expense-based aids by \$464 million, or 5.9%. NYS PTA strongly supports this proposal.

**Pre-K funding:** includes \$952 million annually to support public prekindergarten programs, which is the current funding formula for prekindergarten programs. NYS PTA strongly supports this proposal and looks for continued increases in funding for high-quality school-based pre-K programs.

### **Building/Transportation Aid Penalty Forgiveness**

The Executive Budget addresses Building and Transportation Aid penalties by authorizing SED to forgive all such penalties that the Department deems to be a result of inadvertent clerical errors. NYS PTA fully supports this proposal.

### **Special Act Schools**

Funding for Special Act Schools and students with disabilities is critical. The Executive Budget has authorized a cost-of-living adjustment of 11% for SY 2023 tuition rates. This is an increase of more than \$240 million for these special schools. NYS PTA strongly supports this position.

### **Committee on Special Education Placements**

The Executive Budget shifts the cost of certain special education placements on school districts. NYS PTA strongly opposes this proposal, and has in past years when it was included. It is typically rejected by the legislature.

### **School Lunch Programs**

The Executive Budget would transfer the National School Lunch Program from SED to the Department of Agriculture and Markets. NYS PTA strongly opposes this transfer. This function must remain in the purview of SED.

The Executive Budget also expands support for both school lunch programs, and farm to school initiatives. NYS PTA supports these proposals.

### **Recover from COVID School Program (RECOVS)**

The Executive Budget includes a total of \$100 million over two years (\$50 million per year) for a new matching fund, the Recover from COVID School Program (RECOVS), for school districts to:

- create or expand summer learning, after school, or extended-day and extended-year programs to help students recover academically; and
- also support the hiring of mental health professionals, the expansion of school-based mental health services, and other evidence-based mental health supports to help students and school staff recover socioemotionally.

School districts will be required to match this State grant funding with their Federal pandemic relief funds.

While NYS PTA is supportive of increases in support for mental health, we prefer funding to be non-competitive, and non-matching, and available to all school districts on a formula basis. We will continue to advocate for direct formula and categorical aid for support for school-based student and educator mental health.

### **Strengthen Suicide Prevention**

The Executive Budget includes \$10 million to increase health and suicide prevention programs available for youth and families experiencing a mental health crisis, with an expansion of the Home-Based Crisis Intervention (HBCI) program and the establishment of a Mental Wellness Community Workforce.

### **Enhance Children's Mental Health Programs**

The Executive Budget includes integration of behavioral health services into pediatric primary care visits through the Healthy Steps program and invests \$7.5 million in Residential Treatment Facilities for children.

## **Teacher Support Initiatives**

The Executive Budget includes a number of teacher support initiatives, to both support our classroom teachers and staff, and address the looming teacher shortage crisis. These initiatives include amendments on teacher certification, other measures to support the teacher shortage crisis, and funding and programs to support professional development and growth for current teachers. NYS PTA strongly supports these initiatives.

## **Charter Schools**

The Executive Budget increases NYC charter schools' per-pupil funding by 4.7%. NYS PTA continues to be seriously concerned with the diversion of funds away from traditional public schools, and with many troubling operations of charter schools and charter school management companies. However, we support individual parent choice.

We also fully support SED having final approval authority over the charter approval process for ALL NYS charter school application.

## **Nonpublic Schools**

The Executive Budget includes \$295 million for nonpublic schools, which represents an increase of \$44 million (18%):

- \$193 million in aid to reimburse nonpublic schools for costs of State-mandated activities;
- \$55 million for STEM instruction; and
- \$45 million for capital health and safety projects, including critical repair and maintenance of nonpublic schools' facilities.

The Executive Budget also authorizes any unobligated Federal Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools funds to be used to reimburse nonpublic schools for allowable pandemic-related costs through the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund. NYS PTA has no position on these proposals.

## **Zero-Emission School Buses**

The Executive Budget requires that all new school bus purchases be zero emissions by 2027 and all school buses on the road be zero emissions by 2035.

The Executive Budget says the State will provide Transportation Aid for zero-emission bus infrastructure, including charging stations and purchasing or leasing electric buses. It also authorizes school districts to lease or finance zero-emission buses for 10 years, double the current five-year limitation for diesel buses.

These provisions will be challenging for districts to implement, will likely need amendments, and a more realistic .

## **NYC Mayoral Control**

The Executive Budget provides a four-year extension of Mayoral control of the New York City school system. NYS PTA has no position on this proposal.

## **Native American Reservation Schools**

The Executive Budget provides \$35.7 million for capital improvements to the three State-owned schools on Native American reservations, including the St. Regis Mohawk School, the Tuscarora School, and the Onondaga School. NYS PTA supports this funding.

## **Higher Education Initiatives**

### **Expand Access to TAP**

The Executive Budget includes \$150 million to expand TAP, to cover students enrolled in six or more credits of study. NYS PTA supports this proposal.

The Executive Budget also expands part-time TAP to cover students enrolled in workforce credential programs at community colleges in high-demand fields. NYS PTA supports this proposal.

### **Increase in Higher Ed Aid**

The Executive Budget includes a \$24 million (10%) increase in funding for educationally disadvantaged students through higher education opportunity programs and training centers administered by CUNY, SUNY, and private colleges. NYS PTA supports this proposal.

### **Investments in SUNY and CUNY**

The Executive Budget includes a number of increases in funding to support the SUNY and CUNY systems. NYS PTA generally supports these proposals.

### **Provide Childcare at All SUNY and CUNY Campuses**

The Executive Budget includes \$15.6 million to expand childcare to all SUNY and CUNY campuses. NYS PTA supports this proposal.

## **Other Initiatives**

### **Child Care Programs**

The Executive Budget continues funding for childcare, with the \$832 million NYS Child Care Block Grant, which serves 132,000 NYS children.

Further, using federal funding, NYS has distributed \$900 million in Child Care Stabilization Grants.

NYS PTA supports the increase and expansion of child care subsidies and grants for families and school and community-based providers.

### **Maternal Health**

The Executive Budget includes \$20 million designed to expand access to prenatal and postnatal care, and initiatives to support postpartum medical coverage. NYS PTA generally supports these types of proposals.

### **Environmental Bond Act**

The Executive Budget will authorize a new Bond Act, at \$4 billion. The Bond Act will also support an investment in the Clean Green Schools initiative. NYS PTA supports these proposals in concept.

### **Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Federal Investment**

The Executive Budget includes \$300 million in Federal drinking water appropriation authority to provide improvements in public water systems, specifically those in communities disproportionately impacted by lead and emerging contaminants in drinking water. NYS PTA supports these proposals.

### **Office of Gun Violence Prevention**

The Executive Budget provides authority for the establishment of the Office of Gun Violence Prevention under the Department of Health. Data collected on gun violence will be used by the Office of Gun Violence Prevention to track emerging gun violence hotspots and deploy resources to those areas that need it most.

The Executive Budget also continues funding for Triple Investment in Community-Based Gun Violence Response SNUG Outreach Program, supports for families of victims of gun violence, and invests in gun violence prevention programs.

NYS PTA generally supports child protection and gun safety proposals that have a positive effect on children and families.

### **Opioid and Substance Use Treatment and Prevention**

The Executive Budget provides an increase of \$402 million in operating and capital support for OASAS to enhance prevention, treatment, and recovery programs and invests more than \$100 million in new resources from the Opioid Stewardship Tax and litigation settlements with pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors.

The Executive Budget also includes a number of treatment and recovery initiatives, include mobile treatment services for opioid addiction, investments in opioid use prevention and treatment, and support for recovery supportive housing.

NYS PTA supports these initiatives.

### **Broadband Investments**

The Executive Budget includes a number of initiatives to support the expansion of high-quality, low-cost and affordable broadband for families, including rural broadband grants and digital equity programs.

NYS PTA supports these proposals, and fully supports free access to broadband for all low-income, high-need NYS families, and continued tech and digital equity initiatives.

