MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

School Aid: Our Students need more than the 1% Minimum

The Executive Budget provides $39.3 billion in total School Aid for SFY 2027, and increases expected school aid by $1.6 billion, or 4.3%:

- $779 million increase (3%) in Foundation Aid
- $287 million increase (2.1%) in other programs
- The proposal also fully funds expense-based aids and other current statutory formulas at $282 million

NYS PTA fully supports these items in the Executive Budget.

The proposal also establishes a *1% minimum increase in Foundation Aid* for school districts.

We strongly support at least a 2% minimum increase for all school districts in their overall Foundation Aid increase. Please see the NYS Educational Conference Board Finance Recommendations here: https://nyspta.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/ECB_2026-27_Finance_Paper_FINAL.pdf

More than 450 school districts are at the 1% minimum increase for Foundation Aid. As you are aware, CPI and inflation are well more than 1%, and with a tax cap, *schools cannot support students the way they need with a 1% minimum Foundation Aid increase.*

We also support:

- $561 million for Universal Pre-kindergarten Aid
- $395 million for School Meals for All
- Math Instruction and High Impact Tutoring
- $1.27 billion for preschool special education services, which reflects a $173 million increase of 15.8%, and $437 million for summer school services
- $104.7 million in Library Aid
- $45.6 million for capital improvements to the five State-owned schools
- Child and dependent care tax credits and investments in child care subsidies

NYS PTA ASK: Please increase Foundation Aid for ALL school districts to at least a 2% minimum, and review the Educational Conference Board recommendations for changes that will support our students.