THE COUNCIL of SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

Where They Stand: 2016-17 State Budget Negotiations and Public Schools

Issue	Governor	Senate*	Assembly**	Council Comments
School Aid				
Overall School Aid	$991 million increase, including • $189 million GEA Restoration (end in 2017-18) • $266 million Foundation Aid increase • $100 million for Community Schools Aid (new) • $22 million for Universal Prekindergarten 3 year-olds • $2 million for Pre-K QUALITY Stars NY • $4 million increase for Early College High Schools • Current law funding for expense-based and other categorical aids	$1.655 billion increase, including • $434 million GEA Restoration (full elimination) • $880 million Foundation Aid increase • Current law funding for expense-based and other categorical aids	$2.1 billion increase, including: • $434 million GEA Restoration (full elimination) • $1.1 billion Foundation Aid increase • $200 million for Community Schools Aid (new) • $22 million increase for Universal Prekindergarten • $20 million increase for Career and Technical Education through BOCES and Special Services Aid for non-BOCES districts • Current law funding for expense-based and other categorical aids in 2016-17	Increase of *at least* $1.7 billion in traditional School Aid is needed to allow schools to maintain current services; should include full elimination of GEA, increase in Foundation Aid, and current law funding of other aids. Additional funding should be provided for Struggling Schools, Career and Technical Education, Prekindergarten, Professional Development and services to English Language Learners.
Community Schools	As noted above, new $100 million aid formula is proposed, aid targeted to districts with Struggling or Persistently Struggling Schools or designated as High Need in 2003 or 2008	Omits Community Schools language; includes proposed Community Schools Aid amount in calculation of Foundation Aid so that no district loses in total aid by rejection of Community Schools Aid	As noted above, $200 million is proposed ($100 million more than Executive) Proposes adding restorative justice, parent engagement, professional development, and planning activities as allowable uses of funds Adds requirement for targeting of funds generated by students attending Struggling and	Support Community Schools but adequate funding must be assured for regular School Aid

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			Persistently Struggling Schools to those schools	
Building Aid for Struggling & Persistently Struggling Schools			Proposes Building Aid for costs of conversion to a Community School	Support Building Aid for Community School purposes
Universal Prekinder-garten	As noted above, $22 million proposed for full-day prekindergarten for 3 year-olds & $2 million for QUALITYstarsNY Proposes all pre-k funding decisions to be made 3-member board appointed by Governor and Legislative leaders, staffed by Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)	Rejects $22 million increase for pre-k for 3 year-olds; includes funding for QUALITYstarsNY; rejects proposal to shift administration from SED to 3-member board and OCFS	Proposes $22 million increase for pre-k, but not targeted to 3 year-olds; rejects funding for QUALITY-starsNY and would instead direct funding to SED; rejects proposal to shift administration from SED to 3-member board and OCFS	Support expanding pre-k; oppose shifting administration from SED. State should develop a plan for consolidating current 6 separate pre-k funding streams
Career and Technical Education		Proposes increasing BOCES aidable salary ceiling for CTE programs from $30,000 to $34,000 in 2016-17, rising to $50,000 in 2020-21; does not address CTE funding for non-BOCES districts	Proposes increasing BOCES aidable salary ceiling from $30,000 to $34,000 (not restricted to CTE programs) and commensurate aid increase in Special Services Aid for non-BOCES districts	Support increasing BOCES aidable salary ceiling and increasing Special Services Aid
Full-Day Kindergarten Conversion			Proposes to replace current single year conversion aid with aid that would phase down over five years	

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School Aid Data Freeze	Proposes to freeze data used in School Aid calculations, allowing lesser of aid calculated for Executive Budget or aid calculated with updated data	Rejects proposal to freeze aid calculations	Rejects proposal to freeze aid calculations	Oppose freezing aid calculations
Building Aid Interest Rate Recalculation		Proposes to repeal re-setting of assumed interest rate for Building Aid	Proposes to defer for one year re-setting of assumed interest rate for Building Aid	Support repeal of interest rate re-set
Other Funding Items				
Charter Schools	Proposes increase in charter school supplemental tuition from $28.3 million to $42.4 million Proposes $27.4 million in new grant funding for charter schools Proposes to extend charter school facilities aid funded by New York City Proposes to unfreeze basic tuition for New York City charter schools	Accepts proposal for $27.4 million in new grants for charter schools and adds $27.4 million Accepts unfreezing basic tuition for NYC charter schools Proposes to • authorize Building Aid for charter schools similar to the aid provided to school districts, • allow schools to change authorizing entity without consent of current authorizer, • remove requirement for charter schools to contract with NYC Department of Education receive state pre-k funding, • allow charter schools to employ uncertified teachers for up to three years.	Rejects Governor's proposed funding increases and legislative changes Proposes to prohibit renewal of charter schools which fail to meet or exceed enrollment and retention targets for specified student groups based on the percentages of those groups in the surrounding district. Proposes additional requirements regarding auditing, enrollment preferences and targets, reporting, and student discipline, as well as restrictions on the ability of charter schools to employ uncertified teachers	Oppose increasing charter school grants and oppose charter school Building Aid; generally favor accountability similar to district requirements

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Struggling Schools/ Persistently Dangerous Schools			Proposes adding $35 million for Community School Enhancement Grants for districts with at least one Struggling School Proposes $10 million for professional development in Struggling, Persistently Struggling, and Persistently Dangerous Schools	Support additional funding for Struggling & Persistently Struggling Schools
English Language Learners			Proposes $10 million for funding to districts for additional services for English Language Learners	
State Education Department Operating Budget			Proposes adding $4 million for professional development programs; $365,000 to establish and Office of Family and Community Engagement; $100,000 to create a Council to Improve Outcomes for Boys and Young Men of Color; and $225,000 to support East Ramapo monitoring team	Support additional funding for SED operating budget
Education Tax Credit	Proposes tax credits totaling $150 million, including • 75% credit on donations up to $1 million -- $50 million for private schools, $20 million for public schools • $500 credit toward private school tuition for households	Proposes credits totaling $150 million in 2017, rising to $300 million in 2019, including • 90% credit on donations up to $1 million • $200 credit toward teacher or home school parents' purchases of instructional materials	Rejects education tax credits	Oppose education tax credits

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	with incomes up to $60,000 • $200 credit toward teacher purchases of instructional materials			
STAR Property Tax Relief	Proposes to cap individual STAR benefits at 2015-16 levels and to phase-in conversion of the program into a personal income tax credit	Rejects Executive proposals	Rejects Executive proposals	Oppose capping STAR benefits and converting program to an income tax credit
High School Tuition Stabilization Aid		Proposes Tuition Stabilization Aid to assist Suffolk County districts accepting high school students coming from districts which do not operate a high school		
My Brother's Keeper			Propose $42 million in P-12 funding for "My Brother's Keeper" – initiatives to improve outcomes for boys & young men of color	
Teacher Centers	Proposes to eliminate funding after 2015-16 school year	Accepts Executive proposal	Proposes $14,260,000 (same as in 2015-16 school year)	
4201 Schools (private schools for students with disabilities)	No change in funding	Adds $4,137,000	Adds $1,970,000	
Special Act School District & 853 School Tuition Rates	No change in funding	No change in funding	Increase by 2%	

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Policy Issues				
Property Tax Cap	No change	Proposes to make cap permanent and to apply to New York City	No change	Support making over-ride threshold 2%, rather than the lesser of 2% or prior year CPI; Support action to assure implementation of BOCES capital and PILOT exclusions enacted in 2015
Annual Professional Performance Reviews (teacher & principal evaluations)	Would maintain requirement that districts have APPR plans in compliance with 2015 statutory changes approved by SED by 9/1/16, or lose eligibility for increases in state aid	Does not address – possible aid loss would continue	Would remove loss of aid for districts which do not have plans approved by 9/1/16	Support assuring receipt of aid increases
Special Education Waivers	Proposes authorizing school districts to receive waivers from special education requirements to initiate innovative programs	Accepts proposal	Rejects proposal	Support authorizing waivers from special education mandates

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School Safety	Require school staff to receive training on safety plans by 9/15 or within 10 days of hiring Require 4 of 12 now required annual fire drills instead be lock-down drills Permit SED to forgive shortfalls in providing 180 days of instruction due to "a credible threat to student safety as reasonably determined by a lead school official"	Omits deadlines for training on safety plans Accepts requiring 4 lock-down drills Accepts permitting SED to forgive lost instructional days due to credible safety threats Adds requirement for procedures for contacting parents of students thought to pose a risk to themselves or others Accepts permitting SED to forgive lost instructional days due to credible safety threats Proposes new initiative to allow localities to request a school safety officer designated and supervised by the State Police from among a pool of retired officers	Amends required training deadlines to 11/15, or within 30 days of hiring Accepts requiring 4 lock down drills Accepts permitting SED to forgive lost instructional days due to credible safety threats Adds requirement that safety plans include, "policies and strategies regarding the ratio of student to support staff in each school building, including but not limited to, school counselors, social workers and psychologists"	Support omitting or extending deadlines for required training Support authorizing use of some fire drills for other safety drills Support authorizing forgiveness of days lost due to safety threats
Receivership for Struggling and Persistently Struggling Schools			Proposes delaying imposition of an external receiver until one full year after a persistently struggling school has received a transformation grant and SED has completed a review	Support extending timeline for imposition of external receivers

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New York City Mayoral Control	Proposes to extend for 3 years	Rejects extending Mayoral control at this time; plans public hearings	Proposes to extend for 7 years	Support 7 year extension
Establish Office for Religious and Independent Schools		Proposes to establish an Office for Religious and Independent Schools within SED		
Internal Audit		Proposes to expand the exemption from the requirement to maintain an internal audit function to districts with up to 5,000 students (up from 1,500)		Support expanding exemption from internal audit mandate
Single Vote Date for Bond Propositions		Proposes to require all school district referenda to authorize bonding for construction to be conducted on same date as budget votes/board elections (3rd Tuesday in May), except for emergencies approved by unanimous board vote and Commissioner of Education		Oppose limiting bond votes to a single day – would result in increased taxpayer costs and delays in construction
Transportation		Proposes to forgive late filing of transportation contracts filed or executed prior to 6/30/16, if aid is not being recovered by the state as of 7/1/16 Proposes to make purchases of school buses, parts, lubricants and fuel by private transportation companies exempt from the sales	Proposes to link authority to extend school transportation contracts without competitive bidding to changes in the Employment Cost Index, rather than the Consumer Price Index Proposes to require New York City transportation contracts to include provisions for the retention or	

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		tax Proposes to link authority to extend school transportation contracts without competitive bidding to changes in the Employment Cost Index, rather than the Consumer Price Index	preference in hiring of school bus workers and for preservation of wages, benefits and seniority for school bus workers	
Instruction in prevention of child sex abuse and exploitation		Proposes to require the Education Commissioner to make a recommendation to the Regents whether to adopt a curriculum to provide instruction to kindergarten through 8th grade students in the prevention of child sexual abuse and exploitation		

*See http://www.nyscoss.org/img/uploads/image/2016-Senate-Budget-Summary.PDF, pp. 9 to 13

** See http://www.nyscoss.org/img/uploads/image/2016-Assembly-Budget-Summary.PDF, pp. 33-1 to 33-7