



TO: P-12 Education Committee

FROM: Elizabeth R. Berlin *Elizabeth R. Berlin*

SUBJECT: 2018 State Budget and Legislative Priorities

DATE: November 8, 2017

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SUMMARY

Issues for Discussion

The Regents advance State budget and legislative priorities every year. At the October meeting, the Regents Subcommittee on State Aid reviewed and discussed proposals advanced during the 2017 budget cycle and legislative session. At the November meeting, the relevant committees of the Board will review and discuss these proposals, as well as review and discuss new initiatives. The proposals will come before the full Board in December for approval.

Reason(s) for Consideration

Review and update of the Regent's State budget and legislative priorities.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Regents discuss support for last year's proposals, identifying any recommended modifications, as well as review new proposals for inclusion in the Board's 2018 State budget and legislative priorities.

Attachment

2018 Potential Budget Priorities- P-12

Proposal Description	Amount of Request	Policy Area	History/Notes
Webcasting of all Regents Meetings	\$100,000	Efficiency	This would be a new Board Priority.
Building Oversight and Support Capacity at SED- Creation of a 5% set-aside within all new programs for administrative oversight and technical assistance, as is common in federal grants and programs.	5% set-aside	Efficiency	This is a previous Board Priority.
Establish a Supportive Schools Grant Program and Technical Assistance Center- Provide resources for schools to be able to assess their current environment and provide them with the assistance necessary to develop and implement a plan, derived from evidence-based strategies and best practices, for improving school culture, climate, and safety, including prevention of and responses to bullying and ensuring and enhancing DASA compliance.	TBD- Approximately \$8M	ESSA	This would be a new Board Priority.
Virtual Learning & Access to Higher Level Coursework- Establish a grant program that would expand and scale up existing online coursework platforms that would be provided to high needs school districts at no cost to increase access to advanced level coursework that is vetted by NYS certified school and district leaders or appropriate entities, inclusive of the needs of ELLs and SWDs, and delivered by a NYS certified teacher.	TBD- Approximately \$3M	ESSA	This would be a new Board Priority.
Excessive Teacher Turnover Prevention Grant Expansion- Increase funding for existing Excessive Teacher Turnover Prevention grant program and utilize the current methodology for distribution.	\$4M	Efficiency	This is a previous Board Priority. The Assembly included \$2M in their One House budget proposal. This could be pursued outside of priorities process through the administrative rate setting process.

<p>Regents Exams in World Languages- The development of Regents Exams in the world languages.</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>Efficiency</p>	<p>This is a previous Board Priority.</p> <p>This could be modified into smaller funding request to target fewer languages and provide for a phased-in approach over several years. Last year the Board requested \$5M to develop Regents Exams in Spanish, French, Italian and Chinese (Simplified) — the four languages that are taught most frequently.</p>
<p>Project-Based Assessments- Infrastructure development for a project-based assessment program at both the State and local level.</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>Equity</p>	<p>This is a previous Board Priority.</p> <p>Last year the Board requested \$8M for this initiative. The Department continues to evaluate how best to approach a project based assessment framework. More time and research is needed to identify funding needs and use of funding to achieve specific deliverables.</p>
<p>Erasure Analysis of Test Results- A statistical analysis of student answer sheets to identify irregular patterns.</p>	<p>\$500,000</p>	<p>Efficiency</p>	<p>This is a previous Board Priority.</p>
<p>Support for Targeted School Districts- Continuation of the East Ramapo monitors and resources for similar initiatives for other districts.</p>	<p>\$675,000</p>	<p>Efficiency</p>	<p>This is a previous Board Priority. Continuation of the East Ramapo monitors (\$225,000) was included in the enacted budget and the Department will pursue the continuation of this funding in the next budget cycle.</p>
<p>Charter School Office- Adequate resources for charter school monitoring and oversight back to the annual amount allocated to the Department’s Charter School Office prior to the federal Charter School Program grant administration allocation being exhausted.</p>	<p>\$1.5M</p>	<p>Efficiency</p>	<p>This is a previous Board Priority.</p>

<p>Enhancing the Achievement of ELLs- Supporting Native Language Arts (NLA) test development and 3-8 and Regents exam translations in order to test student content and language mastery, not just their proficiency in English.</p>	<p>NLA-TBD Translations- \$1M</p>	<p>ESSA</p>	<p>This is a previous Board Priority. This could be modified into smaller funding request for a phased-in approach over several years. Last year the Board requested \$11.4M for NLA and \$1M for translations.</p>
<p>Additional ESSA Implementation Recommendations.</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>ESSA</p>	<p>This would be a new Board Priority to be discussed at the December meeting.</p>
<p>BOR Early Learning Workgroup Recommendations.</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>Early Learning</p>	<p>This would be a new Board Priority to be discussed at the December meeting.</p>

2018 Potential Legislative Priorities P-12

Proposal	Policy Area	Notes
Statutory change to require enrollment in kindergarten be mandatory/change in compulsory age—provide a 2-3 year implementation date.	Early Learning	This would be a new Board Priority. This has come up in different discussions including at BOR meetings.
ESSA - Needed updates to EDN Law in order to implement NY’s ESSA plan.	ESSA	(TBD) This would be a new Board Priority to be discussed at the December meeting.
Supporting Struggling School Districts - modernize several disparate and disjointed intervention authorities that are provided to the Department to intervene in school districts.	Efficiency	This is a previous Board Priority. Recommended legislative would arise from an evaluation of legislative changes needed in order to implement ESSA.
Board of Regents Early Childhood Workgroup Recommendations.	Early Learning	(TBD) This would be a new Board Priority to be discussed at the December meeting.
Establishing a Tuition Rate Setting Index - Establish a statutory growth index based on an average of state personal income growth to establish predicable and timely tuition increases and allow for improved budget planning. In addition, the proposal would authorize providers to establish a general reserve fund.	Efficiency	This is a previous Board Priority. Legislation passed the Assembly and moved through the Education Committee in the Senate to Rules (S.5246a Marcellino/A.6514a Nolan).
Regional Secondary Schools Advisory Council - Establish a temporary advisory council composed of legislative and advocacy stakeholders tasked with developing a legislative proposal to establish regional high schools.	Efficiency	This is a previous Board Priority. New legislation was introduced in both houses and moved through the Education Committee in the Assembly, but did not make it out of the fiscal committee (S.6485 Marcellino/A.7934 Nolan)

<p>Mandate Relief for School Districts- Eliminate or reduce a significant number of statutory mandates and provide greater flexibility relating to curriculum, transportation, educational management services and special education.</p>	<p>Efficiency</p>	<p>These are previous Board Priorities. Mandate Relief legislation was introduced in the Senate and Assembly (S.5247 Marcellino/A.6513 Nolan). State Aid claims legislation passed the Senate, but was not introduced in the Assembly (S.4832 Marcellino)</p>
<p>Accelerating State Aid Claims- Allow the Department to net out prior year adjustments owed to school districts in the instance of any school aid overpayment recoveries.</p>	<p>Efficiency</p>	<p>These proposals could be merged into one Departmental bill with possible additional provisions which if advanced, would be discussed at the December meeting.</p>
<p>Tenure/Seniority Protections for Bilingual and ESOL Teachers- Require districts, in the event of an abolition of a position, to excess the teacher/teaching assistant with the least seniority in the tenure area of the position abolished, except where the retention of a less senior teacher/teaching assistant fluent in a specific language is necessary for the school to provide required bilingual/ESOL instruction.</p>	<p>Equity</p>	<p>This is a previous Board Priority. Legislation was introduced in both houses (S.6486 Marcellino/A.6512 Nolan).</p>