



TO: State Aid Subcommittee
FROM: Elizabeth R. Berlin *Elizabeth R. Berlin*
SUBJECT: Financial Support for Educational Priorities of the Board
DATE: October 25, 2018
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SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

The purpose of this presentation is to further refine the conceptual framework for the 2019-2020 State Aid Proposal.

Reason(s) for Consideration

Review of Policy.

Background

At its September meeting, to inform its conversations around the State Aid Proposal, the Subcommittee discussed investments the Board has recommended in the past, the needs of school districts, stakeholder input, and current policy priorities that should be advanced in the proposal this year. The Subcommittee will further refine the Conceptual Framework of the 2019-2020 Proposal this month into the following priority areas that have emerged: Equity, implementation of New York's Every Student Succeeds Plan, Early Childhood, English language learners and Efficiencies.

I. INVESTMENTS IN STATE AID

Foundation Aid

The Board of Regents has identified investments toward the full phase-in of Foundation Aid as a core priority. Continued investment in Foundation Aid will ensure that the Regents' goals of equity of opportunity and excellence in outcomes can be met in every school district in the state.

- **Equity**

- ✓ Efforts to support equity across the state are reflected within the current Foundation Aid formula. The formula is structured progressively so that an increase in the percentage and amount of funds are provided first to school districts serving students economically disadvantaged, living in rural communities or students who are English language learners.

The Subcommittee has discussed the importance of the state committing to full implementation of Foundation Aid. Increased investment in Foundation Aid is designed to address concerns the Board has raised regarding inequity that exists across New York State's public schools; the needs of the student population and regional differences in the costs of providing services.

- ✓ Attainment of a full phase-in of Foundation Aid will enable local districts to provide the enhanced assistance many children in these circumstances need to succeed in school, as well as offer more focused instruction and other forms of support.

II. INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATIONAL PRIORITIES

The Regents have identified several priority areas – Early Learning, English language learners, and the successful implementation of the multifaceted components within New York's Every Student Succeeds (ESSA) Plan.

- **Early Childhood**

- ✓ After the Board's successful advocacy for additional investments in and the consolidation of prekindergarten programs, the Board of Regents established a Blue Ribbon Committee on Early Childhood. The Blue Ribbon Committee will inform the Board of Regents 2019 budget, legislative and policy proposals.

- **English language learners**

- ✓ The Board has identified work that must be done to support the education of English language learners. Additional funds would support supplemental certification for teachers of English language learners, and training for staff models that research has shown to be successful with these students, for example.

- **Implementing NYS's Every Student Succeeds Plan to support all students**

- ✓ Invest in the professional development of teachers, school and district leaders and other professionals to implement the Next Generation Standards.
- ✓ Provide focused support to the social-emotional learning efforts that help students learn. There is a need for anti-bullying initiatives that ensure that students will feel safe in the school environment.
- ✓ Provide access to high quality career and technical education through increases in the State Aid available to support these programs. This is achieved through Special Services Aid for large city and other districts that do not belong to BOCES, and BOCES aid for districts which belong to BOCES. In addition, the state should begin to support additional targeted programming for districts which have innovative approaches to providing high quality career and technical education.

- ✓ Improve graduation rates statewide, across all demographic subgroups.
- **Efficiencies**
 - ✓ Prepare students and teachers to succeed in the modern technological world. This encompasses improved availability of hardware and software resources, rethinking the curriculum to embed technology in instruction and access to an expanded network of virtual and blended learning opportunities in specialized subjects like Advanced Placement or career and technical certification coursework.

Related Regent's Items

October 2017 State Aid Item

(<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1017sad1revised.pdf>)

2018-19 State Aid Proposal Powerpoint

(<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/State%20Aid%20-%202018-19%20Regents%20State%20Aid%20Proposal.pdf>)

Establishing a Base for the 2018-19 State Aid Proposal Powerpoint

(<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/State%20Aid%20-%20Establishing%20a%20Base%20for%20the%202018-19%20Regents%20State%20Aid%20Proposal.pdf>)

Financial Support for Educational Priorities of the Board 2017

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1117sad1.pdf>)

2018-19 Conceptual State Aid Proposal Powerpoint

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/State%20Aid%20-%202018-19%20Conceptual%20Regents%20State%20Aid%20Proposal.pdf>)

2018-2019 Regents State Aid Proposal Regents Item

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1217saa1.pdf>)

2018-19 Regents State Proposal

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/SA%20-%202018-19%20Regents%20State%20Aid%20Proposal.pdf>)

Discussion of Priorities for the 2019-2020 Board of Regents State Aid Proposal and 2019-2020 Budget and Legislative Priorities

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/918sad1.pdf>)

2019-20 Board of Regents State Aid and Non State Aid Budget and Legislative Proposals Kick off

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/SA%20-%20Presentation.pdf>)

Timetable for Implementation

The Subcommittee will finalize the components to be included in its Proposal for the Support of State Aid and Educational Priorities and bring a formal 2019-2020 Regents Proposal to the Board of Regents for its consideration and adoption at the December meeting.