



TO: P-12 Education Committee

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

SUBJECT: 2019 Non-State Aid Budget and Legislative Priorities

DATE: October 4, 2018

AUTHORIZATION(S): *Margaret Elin*

SUMMARY

Issues for Discussion

The Regents advance Non-State Aid budget and legislative requests every year, which reflect initiatives that support the Board's priorities by augmenting or adding funds to the State Education Department's budget. These funds are necessary so that the Department has the resources it needs to meet the Board's policy priorities.

At the September meeting, the Regents Subcommittee on State Aid reviewed and discussed proposals advanced during the 2018 budget cycle and legislative session. At the October meeting, the relevant committees of the Board will review and discuss these previous Non-State Aid proposals, as well as identify and discuss any new initiatives the Committee would like to consider. The proposals will be sent back to committees as appropriate in November for further consideration and will come before the full Board in December for approval.

Reason(s) for Consideration

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

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Regents review last year's proposals to identify modifications, as appropriate, and any new proposals for inclusion in the Board's 2019 Non-State Aid budget and legislative priorities.

**2019 Potential Non-State Aid Budget Priorities Discussion
Previous Board Priorities- P-12**

Proposal Description	Amount of Request	Policy Area	History/Notes
<p>Promotion of Positive School Climate and Bullying Prevention- Establish a Supportive Schools Grant Program and Technical Assistance Centers to provide resources for schools to be able to assess their current environment and provide them with the support 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.</p>	<p>\$10M- \$2.4M for TACs \$7.6M for grants to SDs</p>	<p>ESSA</p>	<p>The Enacted Budget provided \$2 million in new funding to establish a Supportive Schools Grant Program to support grants to school districts, up to \$300,000 of which may be available for a technical assistance center to assist school districts in this work. The appropriation includes a 5% set-aside for Department administration.</p> <p>This was a new Board Priority in 2018.</p> <p>Also related is the provision of \$250,000 in the Enacted Budget to create Enhanced Mental Health Support Grants for Community Schools programs to include mental health activities in wrap-around services. Funds can also be used to improve school climate, combat violence and bullying, and support social-emotional learning.</p>
<p>Expanding Access to Quality High-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 (AP) 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.</p>	<p>\$3M</p>	<p>ESSA</p>	<p>The Enacted Budget provided \$500,000 in grants for technical assistance for school districts wishing to start advanced courses that do not currently offer any courses, or very limited advanced course offerings.</p> <p>This was a new Board Priority in 2018.</p>

<p>Additional ESSA Implementation Recommendations which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supporting Struggling (CSI & TSI) Schools- \$3.5M; ○ Improving Transition Services to NYS Students at Neglected & Delinquent Facilities- \$300,000; ○ Providing High-Quality Professional Learning- \$2.9M; and ○ Creation of a Parent-Friendly Data Dashboard- \$2.5M; 	\$10.82M	ESSA	These were new Board Priorities in 2018.
<p>Access to High-Quality Early Education and Early Care Programs- Implementation of the recommendations of the Regents Early Childhood Workgroup’s Blue Ribbon Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conduct a cost study to validate the actual cost of a high-quality prekindergarten program for all 4-year-old children - \$300,000; ○ Establish a pilot program which targets funding for half-day and full-day 10 month and summer inclusion prekindergarten programs for 3- and 4-year olds- \$6M; ○ Establish Early Learning Regional Technical Assistance Centers (TAC) to provide support to early care and educational settings- \$2 million; ○ Provide family and community engagement coordinators in identified school communities- \$2 million; ○ Expand the availability of QUALITYstarsNY throughout the State- \$3 million; ○ Ensure that all teachers are prepared to teach all students, especially as the student population continues to increase in diversity- \$2.5 million; ○ Support the development of a data system to track screening and assessment services- \$500,000; and ○ Develop a comprehensive developmental screening process for all children ages zero to eight- \$700,000. 	\$17M	Early Learning	<p>Related to the Regents proposal for funding for a Pre-K pilot inclusion program, the Enacted Budget included in the \$15 million for Expanded Prekindergarten (Regents State Aid Proposal: \$20 million), that funding be awarded based on factors that include students of all learning and physical abilities in integrated settings, though no additional funding was provided specifically for this purpose.</p> <p>These were new Board Priorities in 2018.</p>

<p>Enhancing Regional Bilingual Education Resource Network support centers (RBERNs)- Enhance professional development, technical assistance, and compliance support to meet ESSA’s mandates and goals regarding ELL/MLL achievement.</p>	<p>\$1.6M</p>	<p>ELLs</p>	<p>This was a new Board Priority in 2018.</p>
<p>Enhancing the Achievement of ELLs- Supporting Spanish Language Arts (SLA) test development (5-year phase-in with costs in out years) and 3-8 and Regents exam translations in order to test student content and language mastery, not just their proficiency in English.</p> <p>SLA test development would begin with development of SLA standards and prep for testing in Grades 3-5. In subsequent years, the assessment would grow to include Grades 6-8 and one year in HS.</p>	<p>SLA \$3.43M</p> <p>Translations \$1M</p>	<p>ELLs</p>	
<p>Regents Exams in World Languages- The development of Regents Exams in Spanish and French (5-year phase-in with costs in out years).</p>	<p>\$950,000</p>	<p>Efficiency</p>	

**2019 Potential Non-State Aid Budget Priorities Discussion
Previous Board Priorities- Department-Wide**

<p>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.</p>	<p>5% set-aside</p>	<p>Efficiency</p>	<p>A 5% set-aside for Department administration was provided as part of the Supportive Schools Grant Program appropriation in the Enacted Budget.</p>
<p>Enhancing Transparency by Webcasting Regular Board of Regents Public Meetings</p>	<p>\$200,000</p>	<p>Efficiency</p>	<p>This was a new Board Priority in 2018.</p>

**2019 Potential Legislative Priorities Discussion
Previous Board Priorities- P-12**

Proposal	Policy Area	Notes
<p>Tenure and Seniority Protections for Bilingual and ESOL Teachers/Teaching Assistants- Require school 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>	ELLs	Legislation was introduced in both houses (S.6486 Marcellino/A.6512 Nolan).
<p>Mandate Relief and State Aid Claims Flexibility- Eliminate or reduce a significant number of statutory mandates and provide greater flexibility relating to transportation, educational management services, special education requirements, as well as school aid and building aid payment flexibility. Provisions added to this bill in 2018 also included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizing the Commissioner’s review and within defined parameters, for the penalty associated with the late filing of transportation contracts; and • Increasing the current statutory cap (\$100,000) on smaller school district capital projects where the district provides the capital outlay and building aid is provided up front. 	Efficiency	<p>Legislation was introduced in both houses (S.5247-A Marcellino/A.6513-A Nolan).</p> <p>Provisions within this legislation were also introduced as stand-alone bills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S.4832 Marcellino- passed the Senate. • A.3231 Thiele/S.3970 Seward- passed the Senate and was reported to the Ways and Means committee in the Assembly. • S.8476 Marcellino was moved the Floor in the Senate.
<p>Tuition Rate Setting Methodology for Special Act School Districts and 853 Schools- 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.</p>	Efficiency	<p>Legislation passed the Assembly in 2017 but did not move this year in either house (S.5246-A Marcellino/A.6514-A Nolan).</p> <p>Provisions within this legislation were also introduced in a stand-alone bill (A.10762 Nolan).</p>
<p>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.</p>	Efficiency	Legislation passed the Assembly, but did not move in the Senate (S.6485 Marcellino/A.7934-A Nolan).