2016-2017 Regents State Aid Proposal

Board of Regents
State Aid Subcommittee

December 14, 2015
State Aid Proposal Highlights

- **$2.4 Billion total increase**
  - **$2.1 Billion** in formula aids, fully restoring the Gap Elimination Adjustment and a significant phase-in of Foundation Aid
  - **$345 Million in additional investments**
    - Expanding Universal Prekindergarten
    - Support for Struggling Schools
    - Education of English language learners
    - Professional Development
    - Family and Community Engagement
  - **Additional reimbursement in 2017-18 for new expenses**
    - College and Career Pathways
    - Digital Learning
$2.1 Billion Formula Aids

“General Support for Public Schools” (GSPS)
$2.1 billion in formula aids will fund continuing costs of education, as well as an expansion of services

• School district costs are projected to increase by slightly more than 3 percent in 2016-17.

• With limited local revenues, the state should provide the additional funding.

• This aid increase of $2.1 billion, or 10 percent, will support only a modest 3 percent increase in spending. This is enough to sustain current programs and expand services.
Total district spending tends to increase annually; increases have been at a modest rate in recent years.
Foundation Aid

• The Board of Regents proposed Foundation Aid as a means to support instruction with proportionally greater State funding flowing to districts that need it the most.

• The Subcommittee has historically maintained its commitment to the Foundation Aid approach.

• The State Aid Proposal renews the commitment to a phase-in of Foundation Aid within a reasonably short timeframe, beginning with a substantial increase in Foundation Aid in 2016-2017.
After years of mostly-level funding, the 2016-2017 Proposal renews the commitment to phasing-in Foundation Aid.
The GEA culminated in $2.6B in reductions in 2011-12; This proposal would reduce that level to $0.
After six years of reductions from the GEA, the 2016-2017 proposal would put state funding back on a path of significant and sustainable increases.

The chart shows the actual formula-based aids and the gap elimination adjustment for the fiscal years 2009-10 to 2016-17. The gap elimination adjustment is represented by dashed lines.

- **2009-10**: $21.5 billion
- **2010-11**: $20.9 billion
- **2011-12**: $19.4 billion
- **2012-13**: $20.0 billion
- **2013-14**: $20.8 billion
- **2014-15**: $21.8 billion
- **2015-16**: $23.1 billion
- **2016-17**: $24.9 billion

The chart includes a legend:
- **Actual Formula Based Aids**
- **Gap Elimination Adjustment**
76% of the increase in operating funds is through Foundation Aid, which in turn provides nearly 90% of funding to High Need Districts.

Foundation Aid Increase - $1.3B
- High Need – 88.7%
- All Other – 11.3%

GEA Restoration - $0.4B
- All Other – 76.9%
- High Need – 23.1%
Additional Multi-year Investments
Improving Access to High Quality Instruction and Specialized Coursework

- **College and Career Pathways ($65 million, reimbursed in 2017-2018):** Increase support for career and technical education through BOCES and in large city and other districts that do not belong to BOCES:
  - Increase the salary cap for CTE instructors in BOCES programs to expand program offerings
  - Expand Special Services Aid for non-component districts to reimburse actual expense and aid existing 9th grade programs
  - Fund a new round of P-TECH programs, specifically targeted to meet the goals of the Workgroup to Improve Outcomes for Boys and Young Men of Color
Improving Access to High Quality Instruction and Specialized Coursework

• Expand Universal Prekindergarten and Align into One Program ($125 million each in 2016-2017 and 2017-2018): Continue to expand access to high quality prekindergarten programs to all students in New York State.
  - Continue funding for Priority Prekindergarten (PPK) programs that are set to expire at the end of 2015-2016
  - Provide funding for $10,000/per pupil for full day programs in High Need districts in the first instance
  - Align all existing programs with one allocational methodology, high quality programming and a uniform set of quality metrics.
Supporting Readiness to Learn

• **Education of English language learners ($75 million in 2016-2017):** Support for age- and language-appropriate materials for students who are learning English, professional development for teachers who serve English language learners and other critical supports.

• **Creates district opportunities for investment in:**
  - Co-teaching
  - Family engagement
  - Materials creation
  - Professional development
  - Services to Students with interrupted Formal Education (SIFE)
Supporting Readiness to Learn

- **Struggling Schools ($75 million in 2016-2017):** Support for necessary interventions in struggling schools.

- Provides $75M for 120 struggling schools over a 3-year period, supporting $600,000 per school for:
  - **Investments in leadership strength** (mentorship, cultural competency and instructional leadership)
  - **Resource allocation** (scheduling, research-based initiatives)
  - **Other opportunities as locally appropriate** (chronic absenteeism, extended learning time, community)
Improving Access to High Quality Instruction and Specialized Coursework

- **Professional Development for Teachers and Principals ($45 million in 2016-2017):** Build upon the success of the Strengthening Teacher and Leader Effectiveness (STLE) initiative.

- Funding would allow for the creation of locally skilled teams of professional development experts who would provide state-approved professional development programs, which also reflect an understanding of local teaching needs.

- Capacity building such as mentoring new teachers, coaching and career ladders.

- Also includes $10 million for targeted programming consistent with the goals of the Workgroup to Improve Outcomes for Boys and Young Men of Color.
Improving Access to High Quality Instruction and Specialized Coursework

• Support for the Transition to Digital Learning ($50 million, reimbursed in 2017-2018): Increase access to devices, online content and instruction and provide professional development to teachers – consistent with the recommendations of the Online Advisory Council.
Expanding Family and Community Engagement

• Family and Community Engagement ($25 million in 2016-2017, $50 million in 2017-2018): Recognizing the critical role families and communities play in supporting schools, the Department is seeking funding that can facilitate and support active, research based Family and Community Engagement strategies.

• Also calls for $25M over two years for targeted programming consistent with the goals of the Workgroup to Improve Outcomes for Boys and Young Men of Color.
Use of One-time Settlement Funds
Aid Adjustments Owed to Districts are Growing Every Year:
Claim approvals are outstripping funds appropriated, growing the deficit.

If funding remains constant for the coming years, new claims approved in November 2015 will not be paid until the 2032-33 school year—17 years from now.
The vast majority of outstanding aid adjustments go to High & Average Need Districts.
Thank you