



2025-2026 State Education Department Budget and Legislative Initiatives

Board of Regents Meeting
December 2024

State Fiscal Outlook

SCHOOL AID - SCHOOL YEAR BASIS (JULY 1 - JUNE 30) ¹									
(millions of dollars)									
	<u>SY 2024</u>	<u>SY 2025</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>SY 2026</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>SY 2027</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>SY 2028</u>	<u>Change</u>
Total	34,484	35,889	1,405	36,883	994	37,698	815	38,489	791
			4.1%		2.8%		2.2%		2.1%
¹ SY 2024 does not reflect a significant amount of Federal ARP Act funding that was distributed to school districts over multiple school years, including prekindergarten expansion grants initially supported by this funding that appear on the School Aid run. These prekindergarten expansion grants will be State-funded beginning in SY 2025 and are included in the table for SY 2025 and thereafter.									

School Aid Overview

School Aid Program	2024-2025 School Year (in millions)	Regents 2025-2026 Request (in millions)	Year-to-year Change (in millions)
Foundation Aid	\$24,926.67	\$26,594.95	\$1,668.29
New Prekindergarten Grant	-	\$25.00	\$25.00
Expanded BOCES Aid	-	\$53.82	\$53.82
Enhanced Special Services Aids	-	\$49.25	\$49.25
FAPE 22 Excess Cost Aids	-	\$26.91	\$26.91
Other GSPS	\$10,600.20	\$10,823.89	\$223.69
Total GSPS	\$35,526.87	\$37,573.82	\$2,046.95
Other FAPE 22 Impact	-	\$17.95	\$17.95

Foundation Aid

- First Steps to Formula Changes (+\$208.4 million)
 - Update the Regional Cost Index from 2006 to 2024 values
 - Replace the 2000 Census Poverty measure with recent poverty data
 - Replace free- and reduced-price meal data with economically disadvantaged counts
 - Eliminate the floor on the income wealth index
- Larger Changes to the Formula
 - Research needed on student weights, formula structure, and base starting amount
 - Evaluate Rockefeller study for insights

School Aid Recommendations

- Expand Access to CTE through BOCES by raising the salary cap (+\$53.8M)
- Expand Access to CTE in Other districts by aiding 9th grade students (+\$49.2M)
- Expand Access to Universal Prekindergarten with a new grant (+\$25.0M)
- Providing a Free and Appropriate Education (FAPE) to Students with Disabilities until Age 22 (+\$65.4M)
- Current year aid for large enrollment growth and ELL growth

Budget and Legislative Priorities



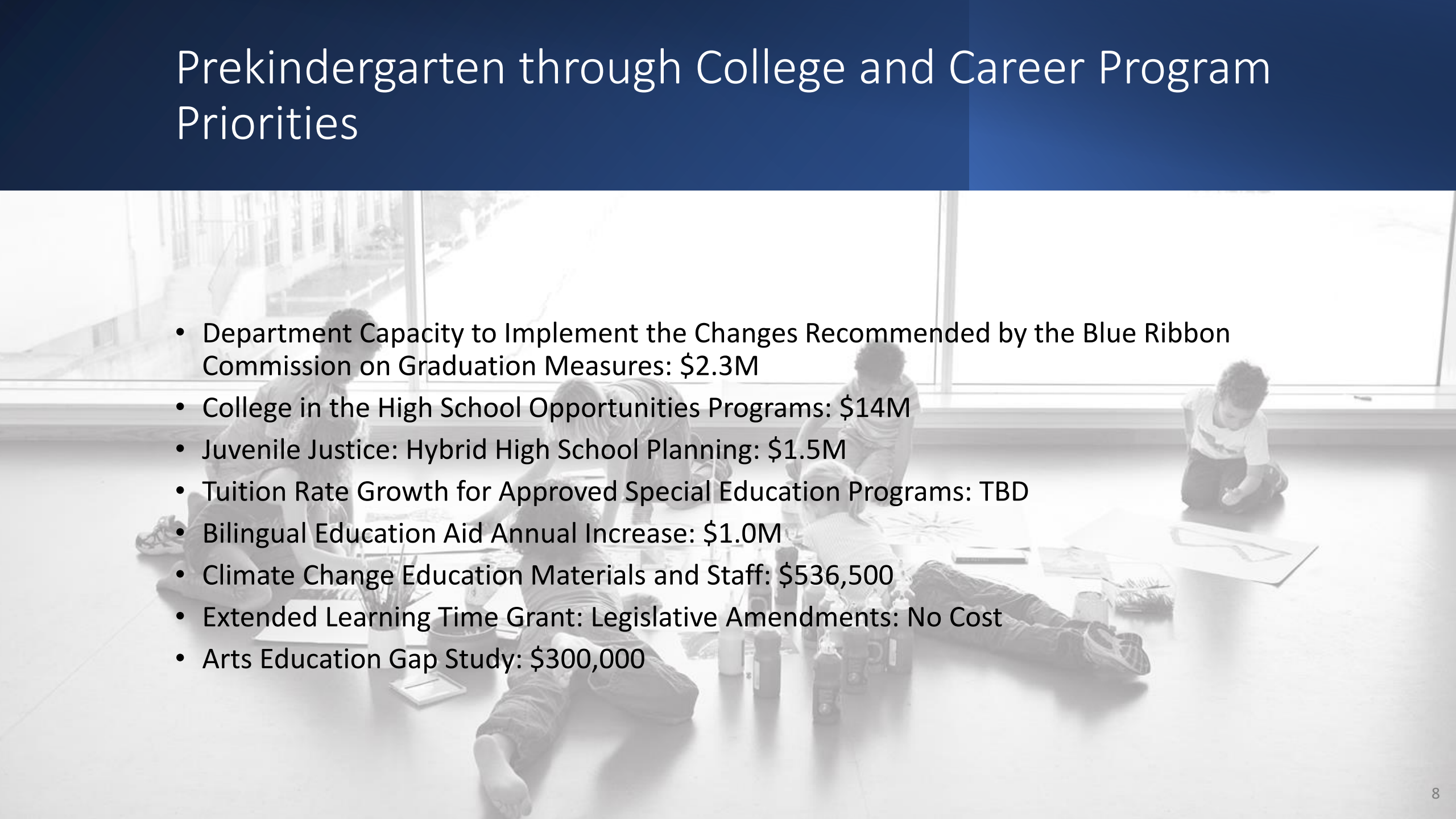
Agency-Wide Priorities

Capital Needs: Maintenance and modernization of facilities are vital to ensure safe, effective working and learning environments that align with contemporary educational standards and structural requirements, including:

- Education Building: \$34.1 million
- Cultural Education Center: \$5.5 million
- State Owned School Buildings: \$192 million

Supporting Next Phase of Data Infrastructure and Operational Effectiveness Plans (\$4.8 million): Building on previous technological and operational improvements, the next phase aims to enhance data integration, security, and analytics to support decision-making and resource allocation across the educational system.

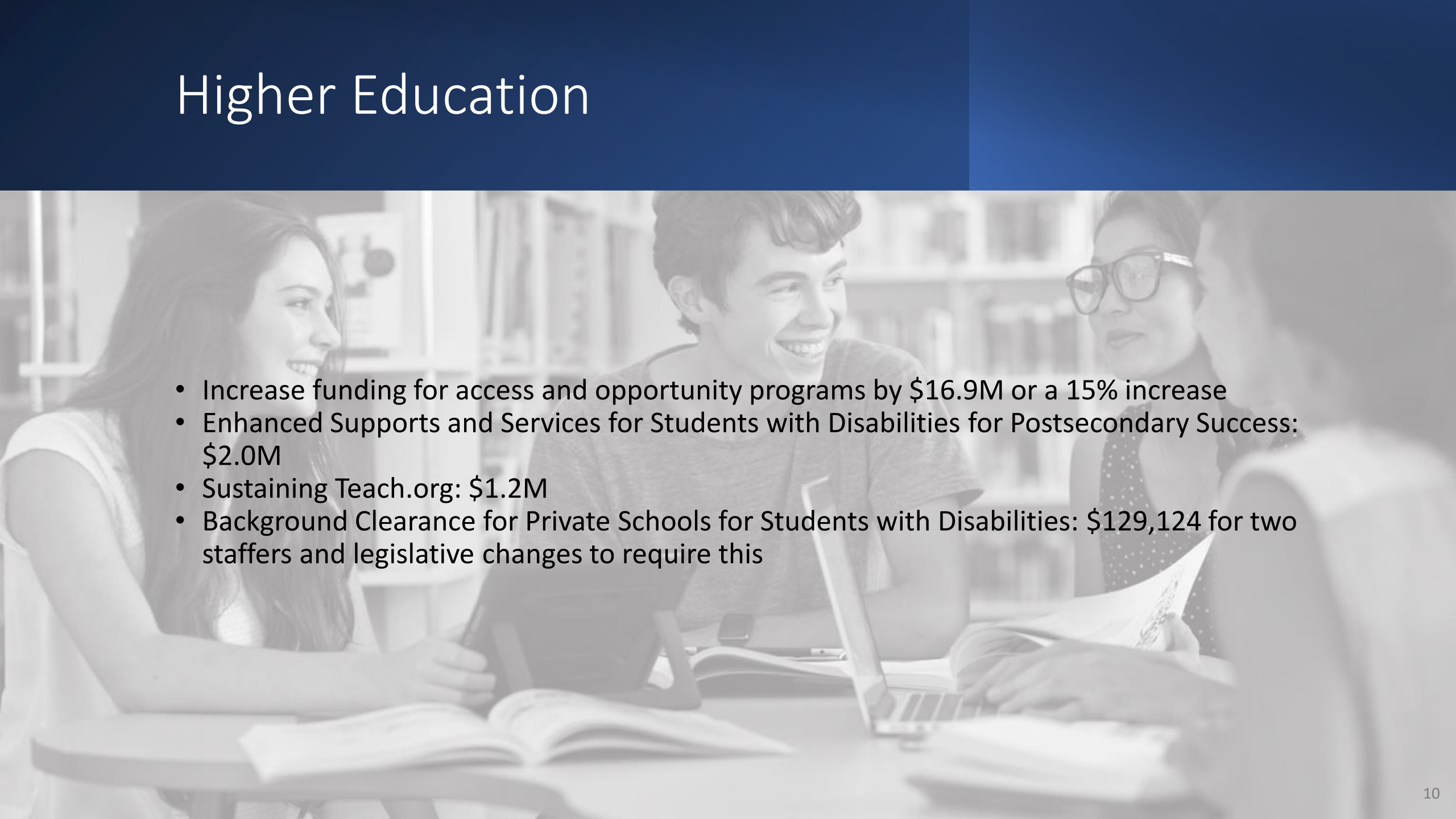
Prekindergarten through College and Career Program Priorities

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- Department Capacity to Implement the Changes Recommended by the Blue Ribbon Commission on Graduation Measures: \$2.3M
 - College in the High School Opportunities Programs: \$14M
 - Juvenile Justice: Hybrid High School Planning: \$1.5M
 - Tuition Rate Growth for Approved Special Education Programs: TBD
 - Bilingual Education Aid Annual Increase: \$1.0M
 - Climate Change Education Materials and Staff: \$536,500
 - Extended Learning Time Grant: Legislative Amendments: No Cost
 - Arts Education Gap Study: \$300,000

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services (ACCES)

- Staffing for increased oversight of proprietary schools at \$181,268 to support two staffers or funded via a transfer of Tuition Reimbursement Account (up to \$750,000 annually) to support seven staffers.
- VR Case Services appropriation language update at no cost to allow grants to colleges for vocational rehabilitation (VR) services to be exempt from contracting requirements to ensure college choice and eliminate possible payment issues for students with disabilities.

Higher Education

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- A grayscale photograph of three students in a library setting. A young woman with long dark hair is on the left, smiling and looking towards the center. A young man with short dark hair is in the center, also smiling and looking towards the right. A woman with short dark hair and glasses is on the right, looking towards the center. They are all sitting at a table with open books and a laptop. The background shows bookshelves filled with books.
- Increase funding for access and opportunity programs by \$16.9M or a 15% increase
 - Enhanced Supports and Services for Students with Disabilities for Postsecondary Success: \$2.0M
 - Sustaining Teach.org: \$1.2M
 - Background Clearance for Private Schools for Students with Disabilities: \$129,124 for two staffers and legislative changes to require this

Office of Cultural Education

- Office of Cultural Education Revenue Stabilization: either \$12M or fee increase of \$10 per transaction
- Preservation of Archival Audio-Visual Recordings: \$1.5M
- New York State Summer School for the Arts & Scholarship: total of \$2M (\$800,000 increase)
- Library Construction Aid: total \$50M (\$6M increase)

Office of Professions

- Increase Appropriation/Cash Spending Authority by \$1.6M



New York State
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity

Thank you