

BUDGET & LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FRAMEWORK DISCUSSION

Discussion of Board Priorities October 2024







2024-2025 Enacted Budget: +1.4 billion in school aid



Financial Plan:

- Estimates +1.1 billion in school aid
- No revision in first quarterly update



Mid-year update likely this month

Current State Budget Environment

SCHOOL AID - SCHOOL YEAR BASIS (JULY 1 - JUNE 30) ¹									
(millions of dollars)									
	SY 2024	SY 2025	Change	SY 2026	Change	SY 2027	Change	SY 2028	Change
Total	34,484	35,889	1,405	36,954	1,065	37,859	905	38,710	851
			4.1%		3.0%		2.4%		2.2%

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.



2024 Budget Priorities Funded by the Governor and Legislature

IT Infrastructure Needs

Statewide Longitudinal Data System

Federal Stimulus Administration Funds





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Public Library Construction

Vocational Rehabilitation

Adult Education Program

Update Learning Standards
Charter School Office
Improving Assessments for ELLs
Streamline Early Learning
Extend Rate Setting Methodology
Study



Budget Priorities – Not Addressed







Cultural Education Revenue Stabilization

Capital Needs

Agency Capacity

Early College Access

Free and Appropriate Education (FAPE) to Students with Disabilities until Age 22

Juvenile Justice Hybrid Programming



Potential Budget and Legislative Initiatives

- Prekindergarten study underway is working to identify the next step in the Regents long term goal of ensuring truly universal Prekindergarten
- Funding to implement the changes recommended by the Blue Ribbon Commission on Graduation Measures
- Programs and policies that support and increase diversity within the educator pipeline
- Funding increase for higher education opportunity programs
- Additional support for Post-Secondary Students with Disabilities
- Capital support for public libraries around the state
- Other policy and programmatic priorities

Essential Elements of State Operating Funding

- Treat similar districts similarly
- Comprehensible research-supported rationales for each element
- Adequate funding for articulated specific goals
- Multi-year stability and predictability
- Maximum local spending flexibility
- Manageable reporting and implementation path
- Recognizes and adjusts to changing needs, including state requirements

Foundation Aid

To recognize and adjust to changing needs, outdated formula elements should be updated, for example:

- 2000 Census child poverty data
- 2003 District Need/Resource **Categories**
- FRPL data collection since the **expansion of Community Eligibility Program**



Articulated Goal

More funding to schools serving more students that need additional support to be successful

Multi-year approach would provide more stability and predictability Alternative measures from existing data collections

Research needed on weights and differentiation of need



Ongoing Needs

- CTE Funding
- Funding for instructional materials aids
- Growth aid for districts with significant enrollment growth

Research Supports

Research supports CTE engages and prepares students.

 Greater demand for CTE that currently available

Flexibility

Allow local flexibility to determine the best approach for each district



Thank you

