

It's getting close, but there is still time to advocate!



CALL TO ACTION!

ASSEMBLY AND SENATE BUDGET BILLS: It's all about Foundation Aid now!

Both Houses proposed higher increases in Foundation Aid than the Governor and rejected the repeal of the Foundation Aid Formula!

The State Assembly and Senate released their respective budget bills as a response to the Governor's Executive Budget Proposal. Here are our thoughts on what the current proposals mean for our public schools.

WE SUPPORT both House proposals to increase Foundation Aid funding in this year's state budget, although their respective amounts (+\$1.4 Billion Assembly and +\$906 Million Senate) come up well short of the \$2 Billion increase recommended by the Board of Regents and public education advocacy organizations from across the state.

Ask: We are calling on the Governor and the Legislature for a \$2 Billion increase in Foundation Aid!

WE SUPPORT the Assembly's plan of decoupling Community Schools funding from the general Foundation Aid funds. Since Community Schools moneys have a restricted use and many school districts are not eligible for these funds, they dilute the proposed Foundation Aid amount and financially penalize non-eligible school districts, and should therefore be in a separate category.

Ask: We are calling on the Governor and the Senate to adopt the Assembly's plan to separate Community Schools funding from Foundation Aid.

WE STRONGLY OPPOSE the Governor's proposal to repeal the existing Foundation Aid Formula and renege on the Foundation Aid phase-in of the \$4.3 Billion still owed to our schools as a result of the CFE court decision in 2006. Both Houses reject this plan.

Ask: We are calling on the Governor to phase in the outstanding \$4.3 Billion in Foundation Aid over the next three years.

CALL ON YOUR LEGISLATORS NOW! [Click here for contact information.](#)

We have provided everything you need below: Information on the key issues and "asks," sample letters/emails and tweets, as well as all contact information for your legislators. This will not take a long time for you to do, but it will go a long way to providing us with the resources our children must have.



We need you, our membership and stakeholders in the districts, to take action.

Here are the three key issues that Albany must address:

1. [Separate Community Schools funding from Foundation Aid](#)
2. [Increase 2017-18 Foundation Aid by \\$2 Billion](#)
3. [Phase in \\$4.3 Billion of outstanding Foundation Aid](#)

Call, email, tweet, facebook - whatever you are most comfortable with, whatever tools you have at your disposal, use one of them or use them all. If you have a smart phone, you can easily reach your legislators with the few clicks.

- Feel free to use/manipulate these sample emails/letters to legislators [Assembly letter](#) - [Senate letter](#)
- Refer to these [social media tips](#) on how to engage legislators right from your smart phone
- Here are some [sample tweets and facebook messages](#)
- Retweet and share our messages on [twitter](#) and [facebook](#)

Let's keep up the fight for THEM!



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