



NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

NEWS RELEASE

7 ELK STREET ♦ ALBANY, NY 12207-1002 518/449-1063 ♦ FAX 518/426-2229

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 19, 2010

CONTACT: Robert Lowry • 518/435-5996
E-mail: boblowry@nyscoss.org

NYS Council of School Superintendents Reacts to Governor Paterson's Proposed Education Budget for 2010-11

“If enacted, the School Aid cuts proposed by Governor Paterson today would leave school district leaders with very difficult choices for the schoolchildren and taxpayers they serve.

“A year ago, with help from legislators in Washington and Albany, school leaders did their best to balance competing pressures – to avoid or hold down property tax increases while using federal stimulus aid to save jobs and improve education. We produced the lowest statewide average school tax increase in seven years, despite the weakest state aid budget in six years.

“School leaders face tougher choices in the coming year. Even before the state's budget problems came into clearer focus over recent months, more superintendents were saying they expected to eliminate positions in their upcoming budgets.

“Superintendents remain determined to try to protect their district residents from new property tax burdens while ensuring needed educational programs for children. Some districts are now between a rock and a hard place, with little left to cut that is not mandated.

“Like the Governor, superintendents must manage budgets, balancing needs against resources. We understand the hard choices Governor Paterson had to make in developing his budget proposal.

“Now our job is to explain to Legislators the consequences of that proposal and help them make better choices for the communities they serve.”

Robert Bradley, Ed. D.
Interim Executive Director
New York State Council of School Superintendents

###

The New York State Council of School Superintendents is the professional organization of school district leaders, providing member services, advocating sound educational policy, and asserting the leadership role of superintendents