



How the Assembly and Senate describe their “one-house” 2013-14 state budget plans for education (excerpted directly from Assembly and Senate summaries)

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<p><u>State Operations (S.2600-C)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Senate concurs with the Executive recommendation of \$582 million in all funds state operations appropriations for the State Education Department. • The senate recommends adding \$1 million for the administration of general equivalency diploma (GED) exams. 	<p><u>State Operations (A. 3000-C)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Assembly increases funding for administration of the High School Equivalency Diploma exam by \$1.5 million, for a total of \$5.16 million. • The Assembly increases funding for the Talking Book and Braille Library and the Conservation/Preservation Program by \$172,000, to provide \$693,000 in total assistance. • The Assembly accepts the Executive language to require longer, more intensive and high quality student teaching as a prerequisite for certification; along with standards for a Teacher and Principal Bar exam certification program. • The Assembly accepts the Executive Proposal to increase funding for Tenured Teacher Hearings (3020a) by \$1.9 million, for a total of \$8.1 million. • The Assembly accepts the Executive proposal to require that the Education Department develop a School Performance Management System that would streamline school district reporting and increase fiscal and programmatic transparency and accountability. • The Assembly accepts the Executive proposal to provide \$1.5 million in funding for the January Regents exam. • The Assembly accepts the Executive proposal to set aside \$2 million within federal monies for data collection and analysis to improve oversight of Preschool Special Education (4410) programs. • The Assembly modifies the Executive proposal to provide a \$2 million set aside for audits of 4410 programs. This funding would support program or fiscal audits of providers by an external audit firm. The Assembly proposal directs this funding to the Office of the New York State Comptroller to be used for the same purpose.
<p><u>Aid to Localities (S.2603-C)</u></p> <p>The Senate amends the Executive recommendation for Aid to Localities as follows:</p> <p>General Support for Public Schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Senate modifies the Executive's school aid by 	<p><u>Aid to Localities (A.3003-C)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Assembly proposes a total of \$21.1 billion in school aid, an increase of \$834 million or 4.2 percent, in formula aids over 2012-13. This is an increase of \$334 million over the Governor’s proposed budget

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<p>increasing General Support for Public Schools (GSPS) to a total program of \$21.1 billion. This represents a \$415 million increase over the Executive proposal for the 2013-14 school year;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On a fiscal year basis the changes proposed beyond the Executive translate into an \$319 million general fund need which is offset by reductions in the Executive's proposed fiscal stabilization grants (\$142 million) and several categories of proposed competitive grant programs (-\$77 million); • The Senate's proposed \$20.1 billion GSPS program provides for a \$931 million school year increase. Of this amount \$925.49 million represents the year to year increase on the state aid run which is an increase of 4.61 percent; • The Senate recommends increasing the Executive's proposed GEA from \$321 million to \$620 million overall. This proposal would reduce the overall Gap Elimination Adjustment to \$1.54 billion; • The Senate restores the Executive's reductions in high tax aid while ensuring those that received increases under the Executives plan continue under the Senate plan; and • The Senate proposes to reduce the GEA over three years for a full phase down in the 2016- 2017 school year. <p>Nonpublic Schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Senate recommends an increase in Comprehensive Attendance policy reimbursement by \$16 million. This will bring the total program level to \$50 million. • The Senate recommends including language requiring the State Education Department to calculate reimbursement for CAP funding using the 2005-06 methodology; The Senate recommends adding \$4.5 million for reimbursement of nonpublic safety grant purchases; and • The Senate recommends requiring New York City to enhance student safety, by providing transportation to children attending public and non-public schools in grades K-6, who remain at the same school for regularly scheduled academic classes until 4 o'clock in the afternoon or later. In addition language is proposed requiring the Chancellor to determine if the 	<p>using revised data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The additional support provides for an increase of \$208 million in Foundation Aid, \$25 million in a High Tax Aid restoration, and an additional Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) restoration of \$100 million. • In addition, the Assembly rejects the Executive proposal to freeze expense-based aids to data from November 2012, and instead uses data from February 2013, for a total increase of \$228.73 million over the 2012-13 school year. • The Assembly proposal ensures that \$240 million in school aid to New York City and other districts that did not have approved Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) plans in place by January 17, 2013 is retained by these districts. In addition, the Assembly ensures that this \$240 million is retained by the districts in subsequent school years. • The Assembly allocates \$25 million of the \$50 million increase in Performance Improvement and Management Efficiency Grants to support school aid expenditures. • The Assembly allocates \$203 million in fiscal stabilization funds to support foundation aid, a high tax aid restoration, and the GEA restoration. • The Assembly modifies the \$75 million in <i>New NY Education Reform Commission</i> grant proposals to first allocate \$35 million of the total to school aid expenditures. The • Assembly maintains \$40 million for these grants, including \$25 million for prekindergarten. Additional changes are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The full \$25 million for the Prekindergarten grant is preserved and the program is modified to include new half day slots, in addition to full-day slots. – For Community School grants, the Assembly expands allowable services to include mental health services and student safety as a factor in evaluating grant proposals. Administration of the program would remain with the Commissioner of Education rather than the Council on Children and Families. Not-for-profits would also be eligible to apply in collaboration with the New York City school district. – The Assembly modifies the Extended Learning Time grant to consider the extent to which the proposal

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<p>City or if alternative transportation providers can transport its students in the most cost effective way while maximizing student safety.</p> <p>Annual Profession Performance Reviews (APPR):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Senate accepts the Executive proposal to withhold the increase in school aid for districts which did not implement an APPR deal by January 17, 2013 for the 2012-13 school year and every year thereafter; • The Senate modifies the Executive proposal to provide for binding arbitration in the City of New York if the school district and the union do not have an APPR plan in place by the first Wednesday following the first Friday in May. The Senate plan provides for binding arbitration for all school districts across the State. The Senate recommends requiring the Commissioner of Education to arbitrate a binding Annual Performance Review Plan for all districts who do not have an APPR plan by July 1, 2013 to ensure that all districts have an implemented plan by September 1, 2013; and • The Senate recommends extending APPR grants through the 2013-14 school year and provide for funding through remaining unexpended competitive grant appropriations. <p>Special Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Senate rejects the Executive proposal to change the initial payment responsibility methodology for 4201 Deaf and Blind schools (+\$24 million); • The Senate accepts the Executive proposal to provide a waiver for those state mandated special education requirements which exceed Federal law. The waiver would require districts to provide notice ensuring that parents are aware of all relevant changes and are allowed 60 days prior to the application to comment; • The Senate rejects the Executive proposal to allow NYC to set rates for pre-school special education tuition rates; • The Senate recommends providing additional funding for Special Act school districts, Chapter 853 schools and 4201 schools (+\$15 million); and • The Senate accepts the Executive proposal to allow municipalities to retain 100 percent of recovered funds from preschool special education audits they perform. Currently they retain 40.5 percent. <p>Building Aid:</p>	<p>would increase learning time in Middle Schools. Community based organizations would also be eligible to apply in collaboration with school districts. Additionally, the Commissioner of Education alone would develop the plan, instead of a three-person panel comprising of the Commissioner and two appointees selected by the Governor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – For Early College High School eligibility, the Assembly modifies the credit requirement to provide that students must have an opportunity to earn an average of 20 college credits upon graduation, instead of 60 college credits or an associate’s degree. – Master Teacher grants would be administered by the Commissioner rather than SUNY, and the Assembly would modify the proposal to ensure that teachers in New York City would be made eligible. School districts would apply on behalf of highly effective teachers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Assembly provides \$16.8 million for Summer Programs for the Blind and Deaf (4201), and rejects the Executive proposal to shift the upfront cost of these programs to school districts. • The Assembly restores \$10.22 million to Teacher Resource and Computer Training Centers for school year 2013-14. • The Assembly increases Aid to Nonpublic schools by \$4 million for the Comprehensive Attendance Policy (CAP), for a total of \$132.57 million in Aid to Nonpublic Schools and continues provisions enacted in 2012 related to the calculation of reimbursement and plans for reimbursement of prior year costs. • The Assembly restores funding of \$3 million for afterschool transportation. • The Assembly increases Adult Literacy Education by \$1 million to provide \$6.29 million in total assistance. • The Assembly adds \$1 million for educational services and expenses for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) for eligible out of school youth and young adults. • The Assembly accepts the Executive proposal to set aside \$2 million for 4410 programs for development of data collection and analysis systems to improve

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Senate repeals the building aid assumed amortization ten year interest rate recalibration; The Senate recommends increasing the minimum reimbursement for school building safety purchases from 10 percent to 50 percent; and The Senate recommends language to provide relief to those districts that have filed a late final cost report and are penalized an amount equal to the aid associated with the period between when the report was due and when it was submitted; <p>Miscellaneous:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Senate modifies the Executive proposal to create community schools by adding an additional \$700,000. Contracts for Excellence: The Senate recommends subjecting only the City of New York to the Contract for Excellence Program for the 2013-2014 school year, with reduced investments (Gap Elimination Adjustment) unless they can be identified as in "good standing." School Aid Database Freeze: The Senate rejects the Executive proposal to freeze school aid claims and payments. Internal Audits: The Senate recommends eliminating the internal claims audit for all school districts at the school district option. Charter School Tuition Freeze: The Senate accepts the Executive proposal to extend freezing the Charter school tuition for the 2013-14 school year. 	<p>oversight capacity for state, school districts, and municipalities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Assembly accepts the Executive proposal to set aside \$1 million for grants to municipalities to enhance oversight of 4410 programs and providers. The Assembly also accepts the proposal to allow municipalities to retain 100 percent of audit recoveries.
<p><u>Article VII Proposals (S.2607-C):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal Income Growth Index (PIGI): The Senate recommends changing the way in which the GSPS aid cap is calculated moving from a one year index to one that takes the 10 year average of the State's personal income growth. Regional High Schools (Statewide): the Senate recommends Article VII language to create the regional high school program which intends to help fiscally struggling districts to share services and provide for a highly rigorous educational program. Supplemental Valuation Impact Grants: The Senate recommends providing grants to mitigate the impact of significant full valuation drop on school district budgets as a result of energy company settlements. 	<p><u>Article VII Proposals (A.3007-C):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Assembly maintains last year’s APPR deadline at January 15, for both 2014 and 2015, rather than the Executive’s proposed deadline of September 1 in each year. The Assembly modifies the Executive proposal authorizing the Commissioner to arbitrate and impose an APPR plan for the NYC School district. The Commissioner’s authority to arbitrate would last for two years. The Commissioner’s proposed plan must be similar to other approved plans. Future APPR agreements between the city and unions would supersede the commissioner’s plan. The city and/or the employee unions would be authorized to file a motion to vacate or modify the APPR plan.

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<p>The school districts that have experienced these significant changes are the North Shore School District, Union Endicott, West Valley & Marlboro.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve Extender: The Senate recommends allowing school districts to withdraw excess funds from the reserve up to the amount of their Gap Elimination Adjustment. <p>Mandate Relief: The Senate recommends the following mandate relief proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminating the State back lit bus sign mandate - federal law allows for reflective tape to be utilized; • Provide transportation relief for those school district's impacted by Superstorm Sandy; • Elimination of school building visual inspection requirements; • Provide that school districts may take their annual census biannually; • Provide flexibility for high performing districts which consistently meet high standards and demonstrate excellence in selected criteria such as test scores and attendance/graduation rates; • The Senate recommends negating penalties for school districts which were unable to open due to an extraordinary circumstance, natural disaster or emergency; • Clarify that under State law when out of State homeless students move to a school district in the State of New York that the school district is not the district of origin for the purposes of school district chargebacks; • Allowing school districts that are operating their own transportation system to move a portion or all of their transportation contracts to a private operator. Transportation aid will still be calculated at the district operation expense rate. Districts will be allowed to keep any savings resulting from the private contracts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Assembly proposal includes a smoothed multi-year Personal Income Growth Index (PIGI) cap to govern school aid increases beginning in 2014-15, contingent on available funds. • The Assembly rejects the Executive proposal to allow New York City to select its own Preschool Special Education providers and to establish rates for those providers. • The Assembly rejects the Executive proposal to permit schools to apply to the Education Department for a broad-based waiver from special education requirements. • The Assembly proposes language that would clarify the prohibition on charging fees for admission to the General Education Development exam. The new language would clarify that this provision applies to any High School Equivalency exam. • The Assembly rejects the Executive proposal to continue Contracts for Excellence for districts in this program during the 2013-14 school year. • The Assembly modifies the Executive proposal to exempt school districts with less than 1,000 students from an internal audit function. • The Assembly accepts the Executive proposal to continue the Charter School Tuition Freeze to 2010-11 levels and provides for the use of 2008-09 tuition rates for Albany City School District. • The Assembly proposal restores \$1.5 million to Center for Worker Education as a set aside within Employment Preparation Education (EPE) appropriation, for a total of \$13 million. • The Assembly continues the \$2.5 million setaside within EPE for students with high school diplomas that do not have sufficient basic skills. • The Assembly modifies current law governing the provision of transportation after 4:00 PM in the New York City School District. • The Assembly continues school district authorization to transfer excess Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve funds to reduce the district’s remaining gap elimination adjustment. • The Assembly proposes continued oversight of the Roosevelt School District by the Commissioner until

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	<p>2018.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Assembly rejects the Executive proposal to prohibit school districts from receiving full-day kindergarten conversion aid more than once. • The Assembly rejects the Executive proposal to only continue certain school district reporting requirements that have been approved for continuation by the mandate relief council. • The Assembly accepts the Executive proposal to authorize school districts and BOCES to participate in the intrastate mutual aid program, with certain limitations. • The Assembly proposes various changes to formula calculations to reflect the increases to Foundation Aid, Gap Elimination Adjustment Restoration, and restoration of High Tax Aid. This includes the elimination of the Income Wealth Index minimum in Foundation Aid. GEA restoration calculations reflect enrollment increases, funding for districts disproportionately affected by GEA cuts, children who are limited English proficient, and various other measures.
<p>Article VII Proposal (S.2605-C):</p> <p>PART G: The Senate proposes modifications to the Executive proposal to provide the New York State Comptroller and the New York State Teachers' Retirement System Board authority to make a long-term stable pension contribution option available to local governments. Providing localities with predictable and stable pension obligations will provide needed relief at all levels of government. The end result of any plan adopted should ensure the Comptroller and the Teachers' Retirement System Board can meet their fiduciary duties, keep pension plans appropriately funded and provide municipalities the stability they request.</p>	<p>Article VII Proposal (A.3005-C):</p> <p>The Assembly accepts the Executive’s pension stabilization proposal, which provides statutory authority to make a long-term pension contribution option available to local governments and school districts who are participants in the state retirement system, upon an election by the New York State and Local Employers Retirement System or the New York State Teachers Retirement System.</p>

¹ <http://open.nysenate.gov/legislation/bill/R818-2013>

² http://www.assembly.state.ny.us/Reports/WAM/20130311/2013_assembly_budget.pdf