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## 2018-2019 State Budget Priorities

### **SCHOOL AID**

- ❖ CSA believes the Executive Budget fails to support school aid adequately. The Executive Budget proposes to increase school aid increase for SFY 218-2019 by \$769 million. Foundation Aid would increase by only \$338 million. That is less than half the \$1.6 billion increase that the State Board of Regents recommended, and far short of the \$2.0 billion state aid increase the Educational Conference Board has called for.
- ❖ CSA believes the State must commit to fully funding the Foundation Aid formula. New York is now \$4.2 billion behind the full phase-in of Foundation Aid. We ask your support to fund Foundation Aid fully within three years.

### **SCHOOL LEADER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- ❖ CSA thanks the Legislature \$475,000 grant in support of our Executive Leadership Institute in 2017. This grant allowed ELI to provide mentoring services for close to 300 assistant principals, along with 275 workshops, accessible to 6,100 school leaders on topics such as the annual professional performance review, English language learners and preparing students for the next generation of assessments.
- ❖ To ensure that school leaders successfully manage and meet ongoing challenges as well as succeed in their role as instructional leaders, New York State must provide our Principal, Assistant Principals and Supervisors with access to ongoing professional development. CSA respectfully requests a \$475,000 grant for ELI to continue and expand professional development services/

### **COMMUNITY SCHOOLS AID**

- ❖ CSA supports increased funding for Community Schools at \$200 million proposed in the Executive Budget. Funding Renewal/Community schools is a recognition that the problems faced by struggling schools are largely societal issues emanating from outside the school building. Schoolchildren must come to school ready to learn and this can only happen if we recognize the limitations many of our students unfortunately face and live through every day.

## **CONVERSION CHARTER SCHOOLS**

- ❖ CSA represents a number of unionized, conversion charter schools
- ❖ CSA recommends the creation of a new category of support: Conversion Charter School Supplemental Aid. Our unionized conversion charter schools continue to bear “legacy” costs that date from pre-conversion. Our charter school members report that pension and health insurance costs have risen dramatically in recent years, and can now comprise 12% to 22% of the entire operating budget for each school. These costs are not covered under the regular charter school funding process, and financial relief is urgently needed.

## **ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW (APPR)**

- CSA supports legislation to allow school districts the authority to negotiate locally all aspects of an APPR plan. This should include the weight attributed to Measures of Students Learning (MOSL) vs. Measures of Leadership Practice (MOLP) and types of assessments/observations that are used to determine MOSL and MOLP scores.

## **DIVERSITY EDUCATION PROGRAM**

- ❖ CSA supports the Governor’s proposal to develop a diversity program for eighth and ninth graders. It is important that school leaders have access to lesson plans, best practices and instructional materials that promote awareness and respect for diversity in our schools and in the world. Funding to implement this initiative will be necessary, as will careful consideration for when this curriculum might be offered during the school year.

## **DREAM ACT**

- ❖ CSA strongly supports enactment of the “DREAM Act” to continue New York's legacy of educational support for immigrant youth who attend P-12 public schools.

## **SCHOOL-LEVEL FUNDING PLANS**

- ❖ CSA opposes the Executive Budget proposal to require New York City and other large school districts to have school-level funding plans approved by the State Education Department and the Division of Budget in order to receive additional State Aid.