



## New York State Council of Catholic School Superintendents

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**JAMES D. CULTRARA**  
Executive Secretary

Wednesday, April 6, 2021

As a result of the considerable funding being provided to New York State under the federal American Rescue Plan Act as well as state lawmakers having agreed upon multiple revenue enhancing initiatives, the legislature and Governor are in the process of enacting a state budget amounting to some \$212 billion – nearly a 10 percent increase in spending over last year. The added revenue permits lawmakers to not only avoid the across-the-board cuts first proposed by the Governor in January, but they are initiating new programs and providing significant increases to many existing programs, including those benefiting our religious and independent schools – the pertinent ones of which are outlined below.

**Mandated Services Aid (MSA) and Comprehensive Attendance Policy (CAP):** \$115,652,000 and \$77,476,000 is appropriated respectively which we anticipate is sufficient to fully reimburse schools for mandated costs, including if another save-harmless provision is needed for the 2020-21 school year.

**Immunization:** \$1 million is maintained to reimburse our schools located in Buffalo, Rochester and New York City for expenses in complying with the state's immunization program as determined by a compliance plan to be developed jointly by the State Health and Education Departments.

**STEM:** is increased to \$40 million – a 33 percent increase.

**Health, Safety & Security:** maintained at \$15 million.

**Hate Crime Grants:** Security for at-risk not-for-profit facilities is maintained at \$25 million.

**Academic Intervention Services:** maintained at \$922,000 with \$1.84 million available annually.

**Learning Technology Grants:** maintained at \$3.29 million

**State Office of Religious and Independent Schools:** SORIS funding is maintained at \$800,000

**School Bus Driver Training:** maintained at \$400,000.

**Teacher Centers:** maintained at \$14.26 million, includes participation of private school teachers.

**UPK:** although the annual UPK program is maintained at \$340 million, lawmakers are utilizing newly awarded federal stimulus funds to provide \$195 million in formula grants and \$15 million in competitive grants to school districts for new full-day 4-year-old UPK expansion grants. The additional funding is expected to create additional opportunities for four-year old placements in religious and independent schools.

**School Nutrition Programs:** \$34.40 million is continued to subsidize school lunch and school breakfast programs. \$10 million is also maintained to cover the State share of reimbursing schools up to \$0.25 per meal for any school that purchases at least 30 percent of the food for its lunch program from New York farmers and growers. \$2.3 million is also maintained to support student meal costs.

**Instructional Material Aid:**

**Textbook Aid:** \$58.25 per pupil remains unchanged

**Software Aid:** \$14.98 per pupil remains unchanged

**Hardware Aid:** Average of \$12 per pupil remains unchanged

**Library Materials:** \$6.25 per pupil remains unchanged

**Re-Appropriations:** All re-appropriations appear to have been advanced by the Governor, including the \$25 million for addressing inequities under the **Smart Schools Bond Act**, as well as the \$25 million from the **Securing Communities Against Hate Crimes** program.

**EANS 1 & 2:** A total of \$500,228,000 is allocated from federal COVID relief funds for two equal rounds of \$250,114,000 for **Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools (EANS)**. Given the tight timeline required for implementation, non-competitive contracts are permitted for services and assistance to eligible schools through the State Education Department, BOCES and/or third-party contractors.