



# State of the State and 2016-2017 Executive Budget Proposal

SCSSA Advocacy Workshop  
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# Budget Highlights – Non Educational Focus on Building the State Infrastructure





# Overall School Aid Proposals



- ▶ Increase of \$408 million for reimbursement of expense-based aids.
- ▶ Increase of \$266 million for additional Foundation Aid statewide.
- ▶ Increase of \$189 million for GEA Restoration. Partial restoration.
- ▶ Increase of \$100 million for Community Schools Aid.
- ▶ An additional \$18.6 million to make payments against the Prior Year Claims list.



# Foundation Aid



## Proposes \$266 million

- ▶ Approximately 500 districts proposed to receive an increase in Foundation Aid; about 150 districts statewide will not receive anything. No district will receive less because of a save harmless component.
- ▶ Allocation looks at district needs (high and average will receive), GEA restoration, Community Schools Aid being proposed, and what was provided last year.







# Foundation Aid



- ▶ Under the Executive Budget, school districts would still be owed more than \$4.1 billion in Foundation Aid.





# Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA)



The Governor proposes \$189 million in Gap Elimination Adjustment restoration.

- ▶ Leaves \$245 million in GEA.
- ▶ About 200 districts would have their GEA fully eliminated - Those are generally high-needs districts.
- ▶ GEA elimination looks at student need factors (poverty, ELL, FRPL, student sparsity calculations), not district wealth (CWR).



# Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA)



- ▶ Statewide, the Executive Budget proposes a GEA restoration of 43.7%.
- ▶ Over the past 6 years, New York State schools have lost a total of \$8 billion dollars due to the GEA.





# Community Schools



- ▶ \$100 million to support the transformation of failing schools and other high-need schools into Community Schools.
- ▶ This is a new aid category to support school districts that wish to create Community Schools.







# Community Schools



- ▶ Proposal allocates \$100 million statewide.
- ▶ \$75 million allocated to the 17 districts with 144 struggling and persistently struggling schools.
- ▶ \$25 million for the remaining high-needs districts throughout the state.
- ▶ \$9 million of these funds have been designated to 11 high-needs Long Island districts.



# Prior Year Aid Claims



- ▶ This list is over \$300 million dollars.
- ▶ Over 4,000 individual claims on that list.
- ▶ Proposed allocation was \$18.6 million, no increase over past year.



# STAR Proposals



- ▶ Capping STAR benefits at current levels for property owners.
- ▶ STAR transitioning from a property tax exemption to a state income tax credit for new homeowners only.





# Tax Credit Program



- ▶ Governor Cuomo proposed \$150 million for the Parental Choice in Education Act. This program would include:
  - \$50 million in credits to support scholarships for low- and middle-income students to attend a non-public school or a public school outside of their district.
  - \$20 million in credits to support public school educational improvement programs such as pre-kindergarten and after-school activities.Corporation franchise and individual taxpayers who make donations will receive a nonrefundable credit equal to 75 percent of their authorized contributions, up to a maximum annual credit of \$1 million.



# Tax Credit Program (cont'd)



- \$70 million in reimbursements to families with incomes below \$60,000 per year for eligible tuition expenses paid to elementary and secondary schools in New York State.
- \$10 million to reimburse teachers for supplies that they have purchased up to \$200 per year.





# Charter School Support



- ▶ The Executive Budget unfreezes the charter school tuition formula in New York City
- ▶ The proposal also makes permanent the calculation of rental aid for New York City charter schools.



# Charter and Non-Public Schools



- ▶ Governor Cuomo also included a \$174 million increase to reimburse non-public schools' costs for state-mandated activities.
- ▶ The budget also provides \$125 million in extraordinary aid, first authorized in June 2015, to reimburse non-public schools for the costs of performing state-mandated services in prior years.





# Governor Safety Issues Proposal



- ▶ Required annual training on school safety plans by September 15, or for new hires within 10 days of their hire.
- ▶ Both building and district safety plans.
- ▶ Required fire drills are now fire and safety drills with a mandate for some of those to occur during large group gatherings.





# Pre-Kindergarten Proposal



- ▶ Establishes the Empire State Pre-Kindergarten Grant Board to oversee three existing pre-kindergarten grant programs.
- ▶ Proposes \$22 million dollars for a new pre-K for 3-year-olds.
- ▶ Establishes QUALITYstarsNY as a pre-K rating system that evaluates program effectiveness.

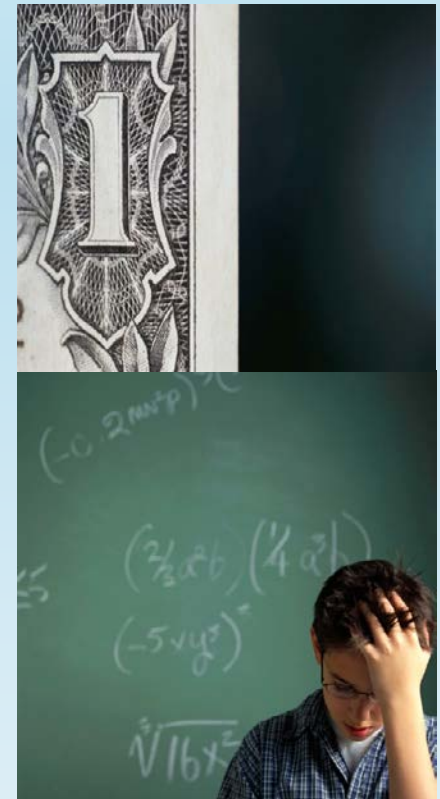




# Overall Aid to Long Island Schools



- ▶ State aid to Long Island schools is proposed to increase by \$126.8 million (4.5%).







# Proposed Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) for Long Island Schools



- ▶ Long Island schools have a proposed Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) restoration of \$39.2 million (33.4%). There is still over \$78.3 million of GEA remaining for Long Island districts.
- ▶ Long Island Schools have lost a total of **\$1.4 billion** due to the GEA over the past six years.



# What was Missing?



- ▶ Funding for the 21 recommendations from the Governor's Common Core Task Force
- ▶ Funding for CTE programs
- ▶ Increase in Shared Services aid
- ▶ Specific funding for ELL





# Long Island – Unfair Share



- ▶ Long Island schools educate **16.2%** percent of the students in New York State, but receive only **12.3%** of the total aid to schools.
  - This is a difference of **\$857 million** for Long Island Schools.
- ▶ Long Island state aid, per pupil, is 27.3% below the rest of the state (\$5,615 vs. \$7,724).





# Long Island: the Shifting Demographics



- ▶ Long Island has 43 “low-wealth” school districts (CWR <1) which enroll nearly half (219,281) of the students in the region.
  - These 43 districts are proposed to receive \$1.4 million (1.1%) in Foundation Aid.
  - A fully funded Foundation Aid would have provided \$15 million more for them in 2016-17.
  - These low-wealth districts have lost a total of \$832 million because of the GEA in the past 6 years.



Office of the New York State Comptroller  
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Fiscal Stress Monitoring System



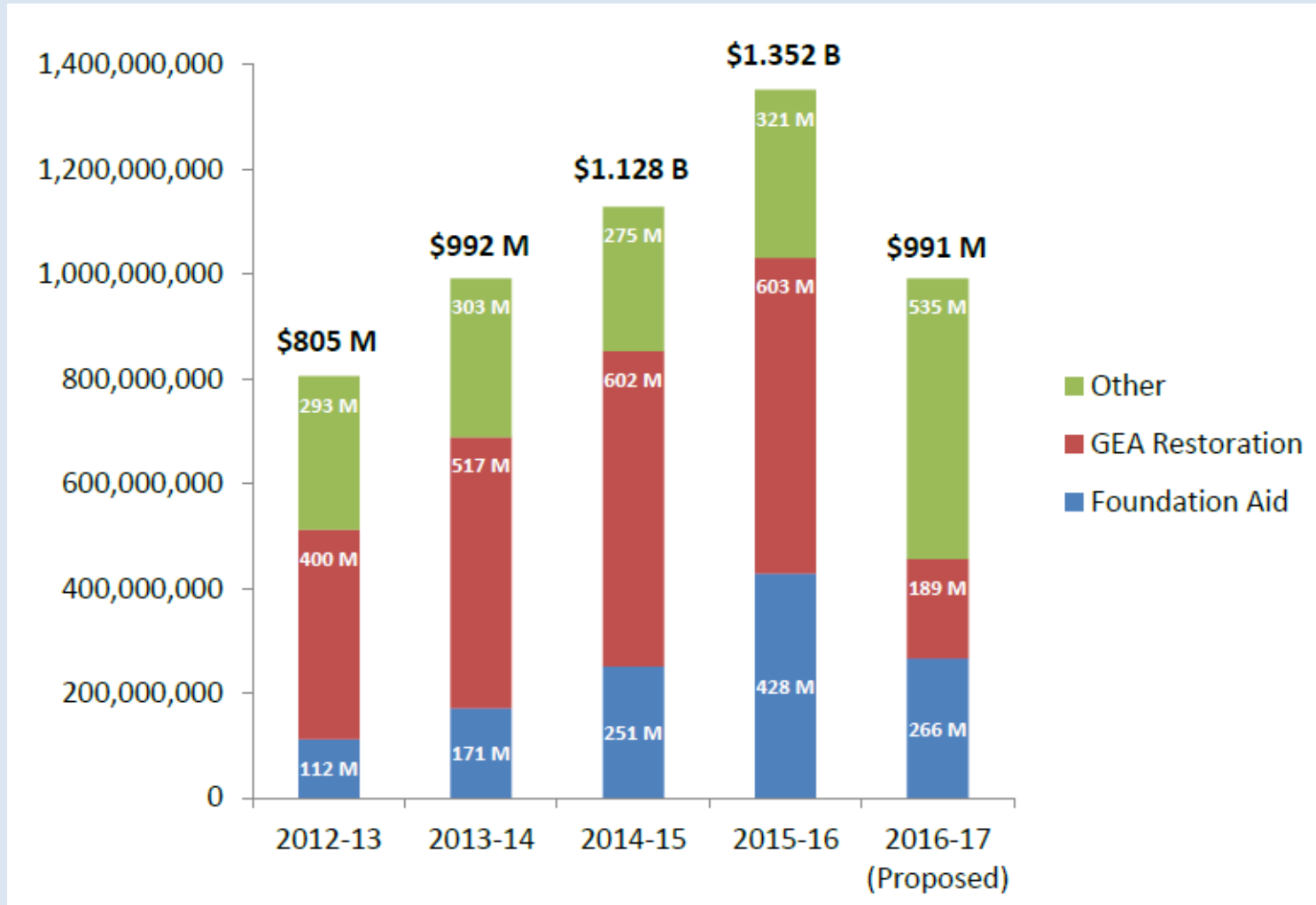
School Districts in Stress - Fiscal Year Ending 2015

***Significant Stress - Greater than or equal to 65% of total points***

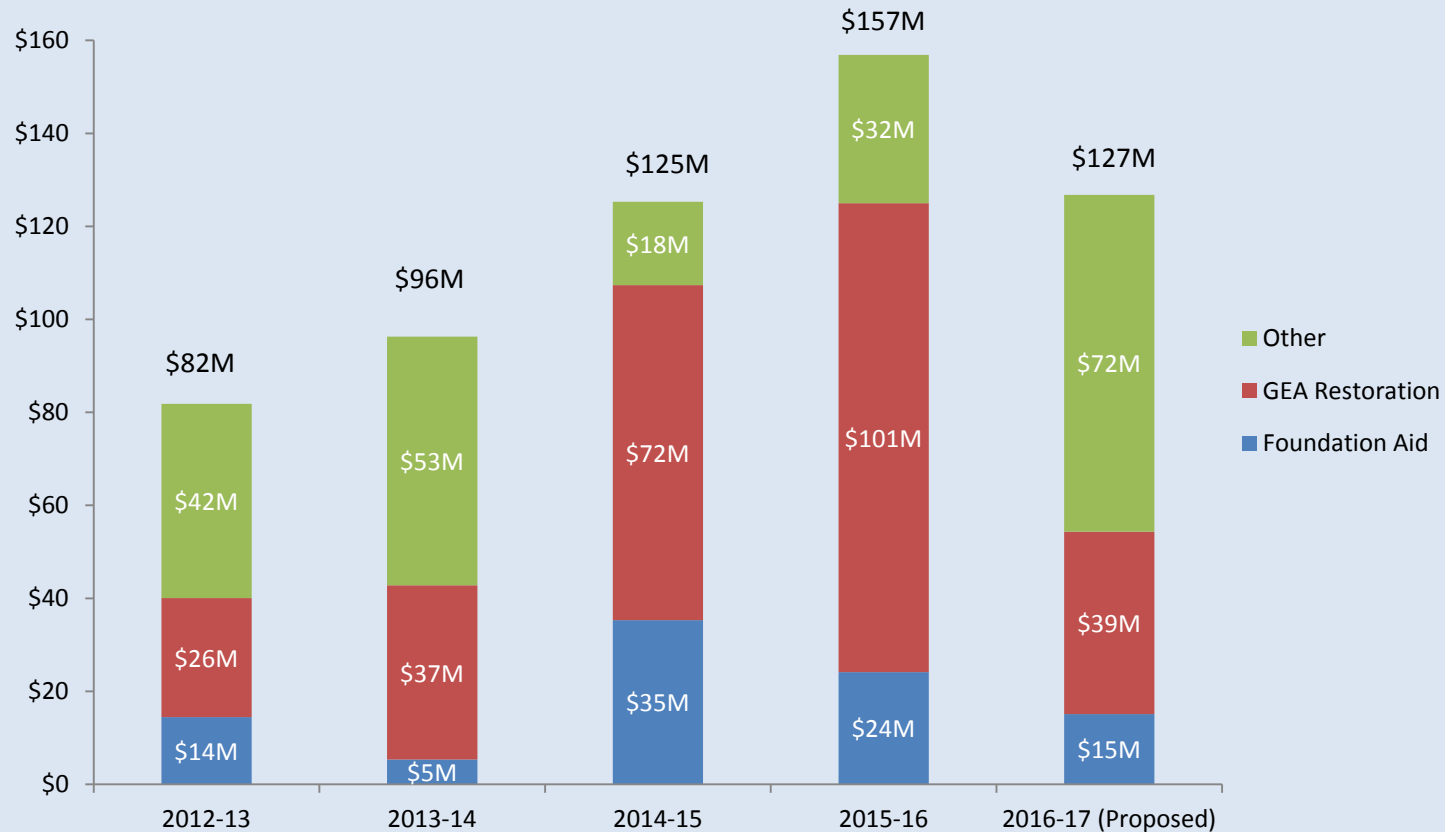
<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Economic Dev. Region</u>	<u>Fiscal Score</u>
Hempstead UFSD	Nassau	Long Island	98.3%
Sachem CSD	Suffolk	Long Island	75.0%
Wyandanch UFSD	Suffolk	Long Island	75.0%
West Seneca CSD	Erie	Western New York	73.3%
Corinth CSD	Saratoga	Capital District	73.3%
East Ramapo CSD	Rockland	Mid-Hudson Region	66.7%
Herkimer CSD	Herkimer	Mohawk Valley	65.0%
Copiague UFSD	Suffolk	Long Island	65.0%



- The Governor presented the 2016-17 education budget as a \$2.1 billion increase over two years.
- Of this, \$991 million is for 2016-17, and only \$266 million is a Foundation Aid increase.



# Of Long Island's total \$127 million increase in aid, only \$15 million is Foundation Aid.





# Next Steps



- ▶ *Know the facts about the proposals.*
- ▶ *Know how your district is impacted.*
- ▶ *Speak to the challenge of school funding in a year of a .12% CPI.*





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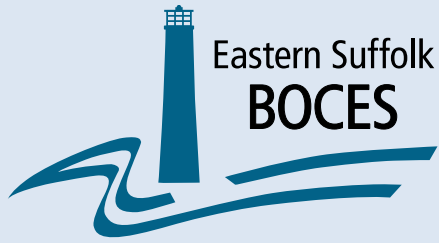
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