



NYSSBA 2026-27 Assembly One House Analysis

Foundation Aid – The Assembly accepts the executive proposal to fully fund the existing Foundation Aid formula. In addition, the Assembly proposes to raise the due minimum increase to 2%, adds a new formula weighting for homeless students and students in foster care (0.65), increases the weighting for English language learners from 0.53 to 0.60 and eliminates the cap on the Pupil Needs Index. The Assembly’s proposal also fully funds the cost of school aid database updates.

Universal Pre-Kindergarten – The Assembly generally accepts the executive proposal to fund a universal 4-year-old prekindergarten proposal statewide, which would include a requirement that school districts provide for a full-day prekindergarten seat for any eligible child whose parent or guardian seeks to enroll them, by 2028-29. The Assembly also proposes that 3-year-old prekindergarten be funded at a minimum of \$10,000 per pupil.

Math Literacy – The Assembly accepts the executive proposal to direct the State Education Department to provide school districts with instructional best practices for numeracy and the teaching of mathematics to students in kindergarten through fifth grade, and to require school districts to annually review and verify that their curriculum and instructional best practices are aligned with the Department’s.

High Impact Tutoring – The Assembly accepts the executive proposal that would appropriate \$9 million to provide high-impact, individualized literacy and math tutoring to students in high-need school districts.

Teacher Pipeline – The Assembly accepts the executive budget proposal that would appropriate nearly \$2 million for accelerated teacher preparation pathway programs meant to target career changers and other interested individuals.

Student Health and Mental Health – The Assembly proposes to permanently carve-out School-Based Health Centers from Medicaid Managed Care, and rejects the executive proposal to allow school boards to hire physician assistants to serve as school health service directors.

School Meals – The Assembly proposes changes to the local food purchasing incentive that currently provides some school food authorities (SFA) additional reimbursement if 30% of their school lunch purchases come from New York growers and producers. The change would allow school districts to include breakfast and snack purchases into their 30% calculation, which could increase participation.

Zero-Emission School Bus Transition – The Assembly proposes to earmark up to \$100 million of the Sustainable Futures Program for the purchase of zero-emission school buses and supporting infrastructure.

Prior Year Aid Claims – The Assembly proposes to fully pay down the entire \$326 million prior year aid claim list.

Career and Technical Education – The Assembly proposes to increase special services aid, that supports career and technical education in non-BOCES-component school districts, from \$4,100 per pupil to \$4,300 starting in the 2027-28 school year.

Community Schools – The Assembly proposes an additional \$100 million in community schools categorical aid for school districts to expand existing or create new community schools strategies.

New York City Mayoral Control – The Assembly rejects the executive’s proposed four-year extension of mayoral control.

Aid Claims Restriction and Database Freeze – The Assembly rejects the executive proposal to freeze state aid payments on a permanent basis to a maximum payment of those included in the school aid runs supporting the executive budget proposal based on the November database.

Special Education Cost Shift – The Assembly rejects the executive proposal to permanently eliminate the state share of costs related to Committee on Special Education (CSE) placements for districts outside of New York City, and transfer the state’s responsibility for maintenance costs of state-operated schools for the blind and deaf onto school districts.

Renewable Energy Projects – The Assembly generally accepts the executive proposal to confirm and clarify that certain renewable energy projects are eligible for building aid and included within a district’s cost allowance calculation, with slight clarifications to the definition of “renewable energy systems.” Additionally, the Assembly proposes to continue the Sustainable Futures Program, including an earmark of at least \$50 million for the Clean Green Schools program.

Digital Inclusion – The Assembly proposes \$5 million for a grant program to support digital literacy. School districts, in addition to local governments, libraries, and not-for-profits, would be eligible to apply for these grants.

NYC Class Size – The Assembly proposes an additional \$600 million to support New York City meeting its class size reduction mandate.

Stopping Illegal Homegrown Guns & Extending Orders of Protection – The Assembly generally accepts the executive proposal to create new criminal penalties for the manufacture of 3-D printed “ghost guns” or parts, the sale of guns that can be readily modified into automatic weapons, and the sale of digital ghost gun instructions with unlawful intent. However, the Assembly rejects the executive proposal to require courts to extend temporary orders of protection against a defendant when that defendant fails to appear in court. Currently, such extension is at the court’s discretion.

Protecting Sensitive Locations – The Assembly rejects the executive’s proposals to protect sensitive locations, including schools, from interference from civil immigration enforcement action and the executive proposal to prohibit drone use within 500 feet of a school.

Market-Based Interest Rate on Court Judgments – The Assembly rejects the executive proposal to tie the interest rate on civil judgments and accrued claims to a market-based interest rate. Current law caps the rate at a maximum of 9%

Modifications to STAR Eligibility Requirements – The Assembly accepts the executive’s proposed technical modifications to STAR. These include clarifying that the age requirements for the enhanced STAR exemption applies beginning with tax year 2026, basing STAR credit eligibility on homeownership status as of July 1 to synchronize it with the actual legal eligibility date, and re-enacting the subsection of law that contains that enabling language for the allowance of the credit itself, which was inadvertently repealed last year.