



Orange County School Boards Association

## **PRIORITIZE SOUND FUNDING OF PUBLIC EDUCATION**

- **Support the use of updated poverty factors in the Foundation Aid formula** and continue the process of identifying more comprehensive formula improvements.
- Phase in a meaningful **increase to the cap on aid for BOCES salaries** for Career & Technical Educators.
- Increase the unrestricted Fund Balance limit to a more fiscally responsible percentage point.
- Restore annual funding to make payments against the prior year aid claims list.
- Provide equitable universal Pre-K funding where per-pupil allocations account for actual program cost.
- Make Pre-K transportation an aidable expense.

## **ADDRESS SCHOOL HEALTH, SERVICE & SAFETY NEEDS**

- **Support universal free school meals** program - reduce student hunger and support student learning.
- **Provide expense-based aid for student mental health services** and school-based health centers.
- Provide flexible funding for the development and operation of school safety programs and/or permit a tax cap levy exemption for safety related expenses.

## **ZERO EMISSION BUSES**

- **Develop feasibility plan to assess current transition plan timeline and funding – make adjustments.**
- Increase state funding for the zero-emission bus mandate, as recommended by the Rockefeller Institute.
- Allow the installation of EV charging stations and related bus storage facility costs to be eligible for state transportation aid.
- Include the use of hybrid or retrofitted diesel school buses in the transition plan.

## **SUPPORT SOUND PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

- Improve student educational opportunities and mental well-being by **ensuring local control in district development of student cell phone use policy** to reflect the needs and priorities of local communities.
- Support executive proposals to the civil service process.
- Extend the \$35,000 earnings cap waiver for public sector retirees who return to the public workforce.
- Extend the BOCES budget vote date to a two-week window.

## **CORRECT PROPERTY TAX CAP FORMULA**

- Prohibit negative tax caps, and reform the tax cap override process.
- Account for enrollment growth in the calculation, and make the allowable growth factor a minimum 2%.
- Include PILOT properties in tax base growth factor.

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