

**SFY 2007-2008 Subcommittee on Education
Report to the General Conference Committee**

To: Senate Majority Leader Joseph L. Bruno, Co-Chair
Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Co-Chair
General Conference Committee

From: Senator Stephen M. Saland, Co-Chair
Member of Assembly, Catherine Nolan, Co-Chair
Joint Conference Subcommittee on Education

Subject: Detailed Report of the Conference Committee on Education

Senator Stephen M. Saland, Co-Chair	Assemblymember Catherine Nolan, Co-Chair
Senator John J. Flanagan	Assemblymember Joan Christensen
Senator Frank Padavan	Assemblymember Darryl Towns
Senator James L. Seward	Assemblymember Adriano Espaillat
Senator George Winner*	Assemblymember Amy Paulin*
Senator Suzi Oppenheimer	Assemblymember James P. Hayes
Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins*	Assemblymember Rob Walker*

On March 30, 2007, after 4 meetings, the Education Subcommittee completed its work and presented a report to the General Conference Committee. We are pleased to present this report which provides detail on all the budget changes agreed to by the Subcommittee.

1. General Support for Public School (GSPS) Programs

Agreement has been reached on the following:

- An estimated \$1.7 billion increase for education aid over last year;
- Creation of a Foundation Aid Formula which increases aid by approximately \$1.1 billion over last year;
- The use of a State Sharing Ratio as well as a Mills Choice in order to calculate the State and local share of Foundation Aid in order to decrease the number of districts on Save Harmless;
- A four year increase in Foundation Aid of approximately \$5 billion;
- An increase in Universal Prekindergarten above the Executive;
- Supplemental Excess Cost Aid to recognize certain special education costs; and
- Other unrestricted aids which recognize school district needs and tax burden.

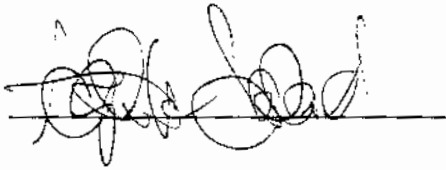
2. Grant Programs and Other Aid Categories

- The Legislature is still looking at other important programmatic adds including Libraries, Independent Living Centers, Teacher Centers, the Teacher Mentor Intern Program and Mandated Services Aid.

3. Article VII Proposals

The members of the Joint Conference Subcommittee on Education agree to accept the following Executive proposals:

- Allowing the Chancellor of the Board of Regents to delegate the Chairmanship of the Cultural Education Trust to his/her designee from the Board of Regents;
 - Chapter one advances and pension accrual extension;
 - Continuing language related to the use of Teachers of Tomorrow funds by New York City; and
 - Rochester BOCES extension to comply with health services requirement.
- The Legislature is still looking at language on accountability measures, class size and charter schools



Senator Stephen M. Saland, Co-Chair



Assemblymember Catherine Nolan, Co-Chair