2021-22 NYSSBA State Budget Priorities

Education Funding and Budgeting

- Decrease the overreliance on federal funding to fund school aid
- Reject attempts to consolidate and eliminate expense-based and categorical aids
- Expand proposal to reimburse certain transportation expenses during the pandemic
  - Support proposal to aid costs to deliver student meals, instructional materials and provide Wi-Fi
  - Fund these costs in 2020-21, not only Spring 2020
  - Reimburse other ‘stand-by’ transportation during the entirety of the pandemic
- Reject proposal to cancel funding and eliminate the prior year aid claims list
- Establish a new period of building and transportation aid amnesty
- Reject attempts to continue the shift of certain CSE special education costs from the state to school districts
- Disconnect tie between the STAR property taxpayer relief program and state aid for schools
- Increase the undesignated fund balance limit above 4%
- Increase flexibility with the use of restricted reserve funds
- Enact at least temporary adjustments to the property tax cap
  - Minimum 2% allowable growth factor
  - Eliminate negative tax caps

Additional Items

- Expand the low cost broadband proposal
  - Invest in new and improved infrastructure
  - Provide new dedicated funding for remote learning devices
  - Increase high speed broadband minimum upload/download standards
- Provide relief from cost drivers and unnecessary mandates
  - Permanent extension of the small group health insurance waiver (set to expire in 2022)
  - Repeal of the duplicative school district fiscal transparency reporting
  - Further authorization of Regional High Schools
- Support extension of contract “piggybacking” allowance
- Support the repeal of cap on the SALT deduction