

# Buffalo Public Schools

## State Budget Update and Other Fiscal Updates

- Four Year Financial Plan
- Federal Stimulus

April 14, 2021 – Finance and Operations Committee

Dr. Kriner Cash, Superintendent  
Geoffrey F Pritchard, CFO



# 2021-22 State Budget Update – State Aid

2021-22 State Aid Numbers	Governor Proposal (January 2021)	BPS Legislative Request (March 2021)	Adopted State Budget (April 2021)
<b>Foundation Aid</b>	Flat	\$90m increase over 3 years	\$98m increase over 3 years; \$43m in 2021-22 (8.0%)
<b>Expense Based Aids</b>	Consolidate; \$20m cut	Reject	Reject
<b>Health Services Aid</b>	Cut \$1.2m bullet aid	Restore \$1.2m bullet aid; increase by \$1.4m	Restore \$1.2m bullet aid
<b>Charter Supplemental Tuition Reimbursement</b>	Cut \$4.6m (50%)	Restore 50% reduction; pay in same year tuition paid	Restore 50% reduction
<b>Local District Funding Adjustment</b>	Indeterminate cut which was TBD	Reject	Reject
<b>Overall State Aid</b>	Up to \$20m incr. (2.8%)		<b>\$72m increase (9.8%)</b>

- Adopted State Budget increase highest in memory; includes full Foundation Aid phase-in legislation
- \$29.7 million “Pandemic Adjustment” (offset by CARES Act funding) restored in 2021-22 budget
- Analysis of full legislation to follow, particularly related to charter school legislative requests

# 2021-22 to 2024-25 Four Year Financial Plan Update

- 2017-18 through 2020-21 Plan goals exceeded based on projections through third quarter 2021
- 2021-22 through 2024-25 Plan to be submitted for approval at April 21, 2021 Board meeting, as required by BFSA
  - Includes full phase-in of Foundation Aid per NYS legislation
  - Includes 2021-22 draft budget - \$25-30 million general fund deficit due primarily to Transportation Aid shortfall (down from \$90m deficit presented in February)
  - Notwithstanding Transportation Aid shortfall in 2021-22, the Plan is structurally balanced in following years
  - 2015-16 Plan was the last structurally balanced Plan
- Federal Stimulus Aid under the CRRSA Act (December 2021) and ARP Act (March 2021) will be recorded in the Grants Fund
  - More to follow on impact of Federal stimulus aid and Federal budget priorities

# Federal Stimulus Aid

- The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA Act) was signed into law in December 2020.
  - The funds allocated to the District are estimated at \$88.8 million
- The American Rescue Plan of 2021 (ARP) was signed into law in March 2021
  - The funds allocated to the District are estimated at \$201.0 million
  - 20% “learning loss” set-aside
- Together these funds are referred to as Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds – ESSER II and ESSER III
- Final allocations, guidance, and grant application to follow
- Funding treated as a grant, not general fund
- Duration is through September 2024
- These funds have a wide range of allowable uses up to and including activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in local educational agencies and continuing to employ existing staff of the local educational agency
- A process must be followed to develop a plan, starting with community engagement
  - July 1, 2021 deadline to post the plan



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