

NASSAU SUFFOLK SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION, INC.



YEAR 2022 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION

**Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association
calls upon Long Island's Delegation to the 117th Congress
to commit its full support to measures that honor and protect the decades of investment
Long Islanders have made in building and sustaining a region with highly regarded public schools**

FEDERAL ISSUES

- Direct **significant increases** in federal funding to address **school safety and security** initiatives, including **mental health** and the **social and emotional needs** of students and staff
- Fully **restore deductibility of state and local taxes (SALT-D)** on federal tax filings
- **Support HR5984 and S3213** which would finally fulfill the promise of full funding for **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to 40%** of excess costs
- Address **technology inequities** highlighted and intensified by **COVID-19**; make **access to broadband** a national priority; support **significant increase to the E-rate** program to enable the purchase of devices, advanced information and technology services within school facilities; **expand E-rate eligible purchases** to include home **internet access to all students**; **protect school access to online materials and resources**; **overturn FCC's vote to repeal critical net neutrality**; provide funding to **assist schools** with need for **substantial investments in cyber-security measures**
- Directly **reimburse school districts** for expenses related to **COVID-19 measures** and precautions; provide **flexibility** in the use of COVID-19 funds to allow districts to meet individual **needs**; **commit to** future federal funding to help school districts avoid post-COVID-19 **funding cliff**
- Provide **immediate and ongoing federal resources** for districts experiencing increases in **enrollment of unaccompanied minors and Students with Interrupted Formal Education (SIFE)**
- Address factors driving **New York's** consistently **negative balance of payments** that result in a **disproportionate** amount of Federal taxes paid by **New York residents**; recognize **regional cost and wealth factors** in determining federal aid distribution; renew efforts to **create cost-of-living adjustments** to the **federal tax code**
- Prioritize federal investments in **Title I** grants for disadvantaged students, maintain Title funding for professional development, for critical after-school programs and services to promote safe, drug-free alternatives
- Protect funding for **school-based Medicaid**
- Defeat all attempts to establish **private school vouchers, tuition tax credits** and the **expansion of services and financial assistance to private, parochial or charter schools**; oppose redirection of **Impact Aid Program** towards **Education Savings Accounts (ESAs)**

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**Ensure that local school districts have greater flexibility to make educationally sound decisions
and be free of mandates that unnecessarily or counterproductively
hinder school districts from achieving their goals**