

**Urgent! Advocate for full restoration of NYS Foundation Aid
for Long Beach Public Schools!**

What is happening?

Under the initial budget proposal from Governor Hochul, our district would lose \$4.3 million dollars in foundation aid next year, the same year in which our federal COVID relief funds end. Long Beach would be the recipient of the second highest cut in aid in the entire state! This cut in aid would have a catastrophic effect on district students, resulting in potential program cuts, layoffs to staff, and/or the closing of an elementary school. We do not want to cut programs for students or increase the burden on taxpayers, so restoration of these cuts is essential.

What can we do?

Write, email, call!

Please cut and paste the text below into the body of any texts or emails. If you have time, call! The list of government representatives who need to hear your voices is below.

Script for advocacy letter, emails, and calls:

We are writing to express our concern about the reduction in Foundation Aid in the Governor's budget proposal for next year. As residents of the Long Beach City School District, we have been informed by district leaders that the proposal would reduce Foundation Aid to Long Beach by more than \$4.3 million dollars this year, with additional cuts likely in subsequent years. This would have a devastating effect on our district's programs, and would negatively affect the more than 3,500 students who attend our district schools; nearly 30% of those students live below NYS poverty thresholds.

While we understand the need to make budget adjustments in difficult economic situations, this cut disproportionately affects our district in comparison to neighboring ones, and in fact, to most around the State. These cuts were proposed with no warning and no ability for the district to plan for such a dramatic cut in revenue. Our district, as do most, tries hard to run as efficiently as possible, and respects the State Property Cap as a way to keep taxpayer costs down. We implore you to vote against this cut, and to encourage the State to phase in any subsequent cuts with more notice and transparency.

Addresses, emails, and phone of government officials:

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

[1-518-474-8390](tel:1-518-474-8390)

Email here: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form>

Senator Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick
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Assemblymember Ari Brown
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Assemblymember Michael Benedetto
Chair of Education Committee
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Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie
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Senator Shelley Mayer
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Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins
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