

Dear _____,

Date _____

We urge you to reject the Governor’s proposed revisions to the Annual Professional review (APPR) process in favor of a system based on Regents Teaching standards Adopted in 2011. The system we propose would:

- Use standardized tests for their original purpose of measuring effectiveness of the school community as a whole
- Judge performance of individual educators based on how they use diagnostic data to improve instruction and suspend links between teacher performance and student test results until all planned instructional reforms have been implemented
- Reduce time devoted to standardized Math and ELA testing in grades 3-8
- Appropriate \$8.4million that would permit the Education Department to eliminate stand alone field testing of test items and make more feedback on student performance available to teachers
- Use Regents adopted NYS Teaching Standards as the primary strategy for rating individual teachers and establishing the basis for developing and delivering effective professional development
- Employ rubrics that make teacher reviews more objective and develop the skills of administrators to use them
- Hold local administrators responsible for productive performance review of the teachers they supervise.

Name: _____

Address: _____



Signed: _____

Dear _____,

Date _____

We urge you to adopt the NYS Educational Conference Board’s \$1.9 billion state aid proposal. This proposal, developed in partnership with NYS PTA, would appropriate \$1.2 billion to avoid new program cuts and \$700 million in additional funding to:

- Eliminate the remaining \$1 billion Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA by no later than the 2016-17 school year
- Accelerate phase-in of \$4.7 billion in Foundation Aid that was originally scheduled for completion by 2011
- Honor commitments made a year ago to expand pre-kindergarten programs statewide
- Fund Regents efforts to establish new and creative pathways to High school graduation
- Support new populations of immigrants and unaccompanied minors by reinstating funding once made available through Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and current year growth aids

We further urge you to:

- Reject Education Tax Credit proposals whose public cost would divert funds from traditional public education
- Reject proposals to increase numbers of charter schools until outstanding commitments to adequately fund traditional public schools have been met
- Reform the local property tax cap by eliminating the current 60% super majority vote to exceed the 2% cap.

Name: _____

Address: _____



Signed: _____



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