



94 Central Ave Albany, NY 518-432-5315

## **PARENTS MUST HAVE A VOICE!**

### **WHAT IS A CONTRACT FOR EXCELLENCE?**

The Contract for Excellence was created to tie increased foundation aid (basic classroom operating aid) to the best educational outcomes. The Contracts require investments in one or more of the following key educational strategies (program area): class size reduction, increased time on task, teacher and principal quality initiatives, middle school and high school restructuring, programs for students with limited English proficiency, full-day pre- kindergarten and kindergarten.

### **WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW**

School districts are required to hold a public hearing **BEFORE** submitting a proposed Contract to the State Education Department. Districts must provide reasonable notice of the hearing date.

The notice must include:

- A. A general description of the proposed 2008-09 Contract for Excellence.
- B. A detailed description of the proposed monetary allocations broken down by school, program area, student achievement targets and affected student population.
- C. Information on where to obtain a copy of the proposed 2008-09 Contract.
- D. A description of the public hearing process including the procedures for submission of public comments.

Each district is required to post a comment assessment (grouping of comments and district responses) on their website. By law the Commissioner of education will receive a copy of the transcript of the public hearing along with the proposed Contract for approval, all of which he is required to review.