



# **KEEP THE EDUCATION PROMISE MADE TO OUR SCHOOL CHILDREN!**

## **Promises Made by Our State in 2007**

- ✓ Four year \$5.5 billion increase in basic classroom operating aid (foundation aid)
- ✓ \$1.24 billion promised for 2008
- ✓ Increased accountability through requiring investment in smaller classes, after school programs, middle school and high school reform and other best practices
- ✓ Fair funding by distribution of school aid through a formula based on student need rather than political manipulation through multiple formulas
- ✓ Multi-year commitment to expand pre-kindergarten statewide

## **Support The Assembly Education Budget Bill**

- ✓ Restores \$300 million in basic classroom operating aid (foundation aid) to the governor's budget for a \$1.2 billion statewide increase. These funds are for smaller classes, after school programs, middle school and high school reform and other best practices.
- ✓ Adds foundation aid for high need and high and average wealth school districts upstate, in downstate suburbs and in New York City
- ✓ Fine tunes the formula for dividing foundation aid between districts to increase fairness for high need rural, suburban and urban districts statewide
- ✓ Makes multi-year commitment to expanding pre-kindergarten statewide
- ✓ Sticks to the principles of fairness, predictability and accountability

## **Oppose The Senate Education Budget Resolution**

- ✓ Only restores \$44 million in basic classroom operating aid (foundation aid), falling \$300 million short of the promise
- ✓ Instead of adding funds for upstate districts or needy districts statewide, the Senate adds \$140 million in so called "high tax aid" and "supplemental public excess cost aid." 90% of these funds go to downstate suburban counties with a large portion going to wealthy districts.
- ✓ The Senate bill does very little to add funds for upstate New York
- ✓ Uses grants and extra formulas to add funds based on political priorities rather than fine tuning the foundation formula
- ✓ Rejects fairness and predictability

**Call your Senator at 518-455-3216 tell them the Senate Education Budget breaks the promise by sending basic classroom funding increases promised to our children to wealthy downstate suburbs. Tell them to demand that the Senate supports the Assembly Education Budget and keeps the promise.**