

THE PATH TO EDUCATION JUSTICE

IN 2024 

Public education, from birth through college, has always been at the heart of the fight for civil rights in this country.

Public education is a key pillar of a just society, the surest path to dignity and opportunity for all. But for too long, those at the top have maintained their power by denying an equal education to Black and brown children, immigrant children and working class children.

Education justice is not just about what happens in the classroom, but about what can happen in a society where all children — regardless of race, class, or status — have the same opportunities to learn, grow, and ultimately lead.

From birth to graduation, here is how we will be fighting for education justice for New York's children in 2024.



SCHOOL FUNDING

Black and brown children, immigrant children, and working class children all have a right to the same excellent public education that wealthy children get. The needs of students and school communities are constantly evolving, especially after a global pandemic that changed our world forever. The federal government did the right thing by providing COVID relief funds for school districts, but that funding is set to expire in 2024, leaving students without essential programs and services.

1

Update the Foundation Aid Formula. Start by funding a commission to study the formula and make recommendations to meet present day needs.

Cost: \$1 million

2

Fund the immediate needs in the FY25 budget in order to ensure there is no gap in services.

Cost: \$2 billion



UNIVERSAL CHILD CARE

Early care and education is a right, not a privilege. High quality early childhood education creates long terms benefits for children, families, and community. It is an essential part of our early education system, and critical to our state's economy. Yet early childhood educators earn poverty wages and are leaving the workforce for better paying jobs. Parents can't afford to pay more for child care, but programs can't afford to charge less. This impacts both the quality of care and how many families can access it.

3

Invest \$1.5 billion into early childhood education to support families and educators...

A

...to invest directly in the workforce to put money immediately into the hands of providers and educators...

B

...and make child care subsidies available to ALL children, regardless of their immigration status.



REVENUES

All of us work hard so our families and communities can thrive. But corporate politicians and their ultra-wealthy donors have spent decades protecting the very rich at the expense of government services and community resources. When lawmakers stand with the many over the one percent, we can ensure our communities and public schools have the resources they need, and help all of us build a foundation on which we all can thrive.

4

Pass legislation so millionaires and billionaires pay their fair share, and highly profitable corporations pay what they owe.



WE CALL ON THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY TO PRIORITIZE NEW YORK'S CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN THIS YEAR'S STATE BUDGET...

...by ensuring our **public school students** are getting the resources they need to succeed and supporting New York's **child care educators and families**.