



Assemblywoman **Solages**
is fighting for our schools

Dear Neighbor,

This year's state budget involved intense negotiation with the executive branch regarding the future of New York State's schools. When it came time to fight back against unacceptable "education reforms" proposals, the Assembly Majority was left without a partner, as the Senate was unwilling to take a stand for our schools. Given the fact that the Assembly was fighting alone on this issue, we were still able to make headway. One substantial change was to remove the teacher evaluation process from the control of the executive and place it with the Board of Regents.

This year's budget includes the largest increase in aid since 2008-09. I also secured significant increases in state aid for our schools in the 22nd Assembly District as well as grants for:

- Valley Stream School District 30: \$100,000
- Valley Stream School District 24: \$130,000
- Valley Stream School District 13: \$90,000

We are working to limit high-stakes testing and ensure that input from local schools and parents are heard. The fight isn't over. I'll continue fighting for an education system that works for both students and teachers. Please contact my district office if you are interested in participating in upcoming educational roundtables and public hearings.

Sincerely,

Michaelle C. Solages
Member of Assembly



Assemblywoman
Michaelle C. Solages

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Assemblywoman Solages fought for our dedicated, hardworking teachers and **secured vital state aid to help our kids get the education they deserve.**



The governor's proposal would have hurt teachers and students

- Under the governor's budget proposal, half of a teacher's performance would have been based on state test scores, which would have forced teaching to the test
- The majority of observations of teachers would have been done by "outside" evaluators
- Increases in school aid would have been tied to his education agenda

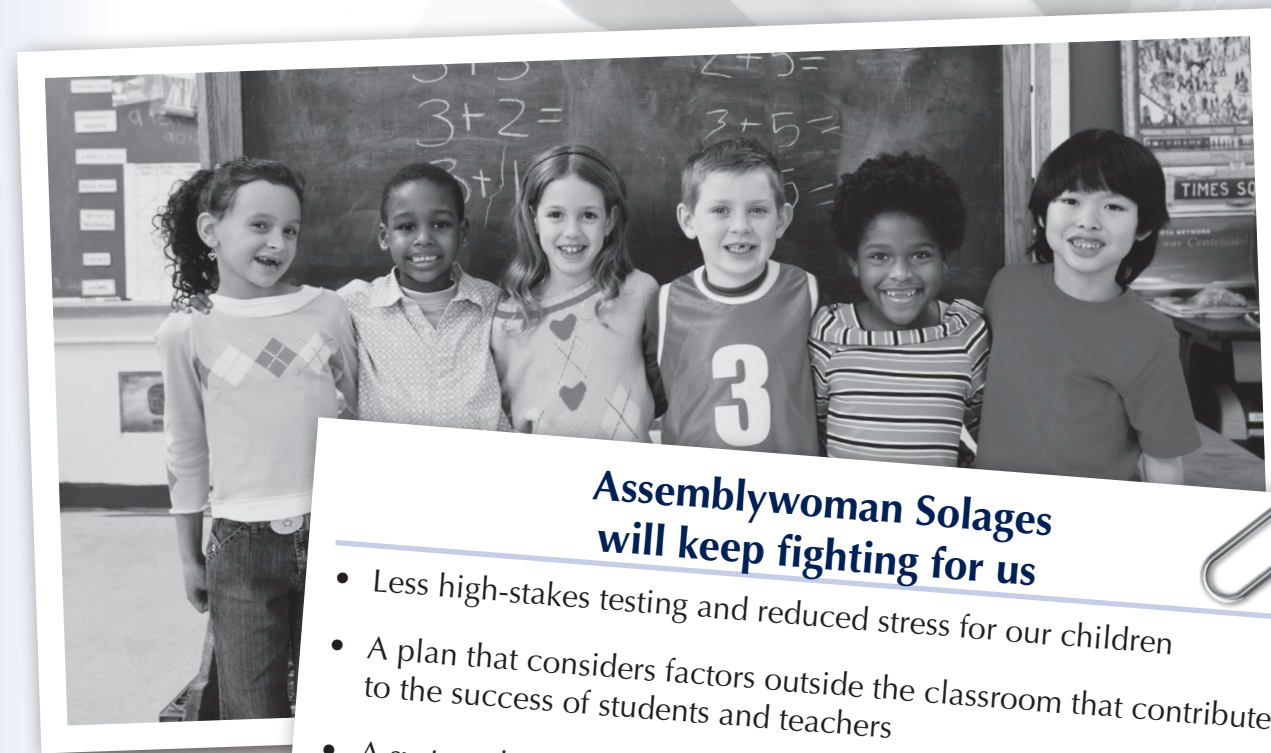
The Assembly fought for our educators

- Teacher evaluations will place less emphasis on state test scores and allow other measures of teacher effectiveness to be used
- The Board of Regents will study and consult with additional experts in order to finalize the specifics of the teacher evaluation system
- State aid for schools will increase by \$1.6 billion over last year

This year's state budget includes \$23 billion in aid for New York's schools

The funding includes:

- ✓ an increase of \$1.6 billion over last year
- ✓ a \$30 million increase in pre-K funding for 3- and 4-year-olds
- ✓ \$428 million more for Foundation Aid
- ✓ an increase of \$603 million to reduce more than half of the remaining Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA)
- ✓ \$75 million in grants for struggling schools
- ✓ a full restoration of \$14.3 million for teacher centers
- ✓ an increase of \$5 million for libraries
- ✓ \$98.5 million for 4201 schools which help students with disabilities
- ✓ an increase of \$1 million for bilingual education
- ✓ \$171.4 million for nonpublic schools



Assemblywoman Solages will keep fighting for us

- Less high-stakes testing and reduced stress for our children
- A plan that considers factors outside the classroom that contribute to the success of students and teachers
- A system that addresses concerns of parents and teachers