

# KINGSTON'S PLAN FOR HOW TO SPEND FEDERAL AID TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS OUT.

# NOW WHAT?

Kingston schools are slated to receive an additional \$25.8 million in state and federal aid. All districts were required to publicly post their spending plans for this new funding on or before July 1.

**With nearly 700 school districts in New York State, we need your help to determine whether YOUR district's plan adequately addresses the needs and demands of families, educators and students in your community.**

## HOW DOES KINGSTON'S PLAN MEASURE UP?

You can review [Kingston's spending plan](#) on the district's website by [clicking here](#).

### What's included, and what's missing

#### + Support Staff and Mental Health

*District-wide support staff and mental health approach, including on-site mental health clinics, social workers in each school, and "expanded trauma-informed training."*

#### + Smaller Class Sizes

*Class size reduction among grades K-3, and to lowering class sizes below 20 students across elementary grades*

#### + Technology

*Includes distributing more devices to students and increasing tech support for staff.*

#### + Infrastructure

*Address all HVAC issues with incoming federal dollars*

#### + Summer Programs & Accelerated Learning

*Addressing learning loss through summer programming for three years, in addition to extended credit recovery for secondary grades and after-school programming in all schools.*

#### - Community Schools

#### + Anti-racism/restorative practices

*Will establish by June 2024 a Restorative Practices Program - K thru 12" per its "Social Emotional and Physical Well-Being" Commitment*

#### + Recruit & retain diverse staff

*In the upcoming year, KCSD has committed to creating a plan for staffpersons to "proportionately reflect the diversity of our student body" by 2024, and to establish a DEI department*

#### + Culturally responsive & sustaining education

*"Will conduct a thorough curriculum review and adopt culturally relevant curricula and provide teacher support in the implementation of this curricula" by June 2022*

#### + Broad & Continual Community Engagement

*Creation of more "parent academies" for the unique needs of ELL-students, students with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged students.*



LEARN WHAT YOU CAN DO ►

## STEP 1 REVIEW THE PLAN WITH YOUR COMMUNITY



Meet with parents and community members to review and discuss your district's plan. Together, identify the top three initiatives that your district is investing in. You can list them below:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

## STEP 2 TAKE ACTION

Share your community's feedback and concerns with your local school district's decision makers. Remember to report back on the meeting with district leaders to community members that are not able to attend.

**For each of the programs you identified in Step 1, use the questions below as a guide for what to ask district leaders during the meeting.**

- How many students will this program serve?
- When do you expect to roll out this program?
- How will you measure the effectiveness of this program?

**In addition, consider the below questions to evaluate your district's plan:**

- Are there any strategic investments missing from your district's plan? If yes, inform district leaders of what essential programs are missing.
- Do you want the district to reallocate resources from another program to support this initiative? If yes, please explain.



### MEET WITH YOUR SUPERINTENDENT & CFO

Use this [sample letter](#) to request a meeting with your superintendent.



### SPEAK UP AT A LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Check your local school district website to find the date of the next meeting.



### ORGANIZE A PTA/PTO MEETING

Use these [step-by-step instructions](#) to organize a PTA or PTO meeting.

## STEP 3 BUILD PUBLIC SUPPORT & ENGAGEMENT

Organize an [education town hall](#) for your community to learn about the district's funding plan.

Write an [op-ed](#) in your local newspaper about how you and your community want this funding to be spent.

Organize a [press conference](#) to bring attention to the issues in your local community.

## CONNECT WITH US

### Statewide

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