

## GEA

Southern Cayuga Central School District, like school districts throughout New York, continues to face fiscal stress as a result of the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) and mandated benefit increases. The GEA was introduced in 2010 as a way for the state government to close its budget deficit. As a result, current state aid revenue to SCCS remains far below state aid revenue levels given since 2008. Despite New York's anticipated surplus, the governor's current proposal calls for only a partial restoration (\$323 million) of funds withheld from all districts through the GEA.

Southern Cayuga has lost more than \$5.8 million to the GEA in the last four years. The projected state aid increase for Southern Cayuga is \$416,488, or 5.13 percent. However, less than 1% percent of that increase is in the category of base aids.

The distinction between the two categories of base and expense-driven aid is significant. The \$212,351 increase in building aid was anticipated to cover debt-related expenses and is not available for instructional purposes. As the legislature reshapes the Governor's budget, we hope for the elimination of the GEA and for the state to fulfill its fiscal promise to the Southern Cayuga community.

### Base aids

Foundation Aid	\$ 0
Gap Elimination Adjustment Restoration	<u>+\$64,107</u>
Total base aids	+\$64,107

### Expense-driven aids

BOCES aid	+ \$ 64,251
High excess cost aid	- \$ 18,676
Private excess cost aid	+ \$ 14,558
Transportation aid	+ \$ 81,617
Building aid	+ \$212,351
Technology, library, textbook aid	<u>- \$ 1,720</u>
	\$352,381