

PROPOSED NYC DOE SMART SCHOOLS BOND ACT INVESTMENT PLAN

BACKGROUND

In January 2014, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo called for New York State to invest \$2 billion in its schools through The New York State Smart Schools Bond Act (SSBA). The SSBA was passed in the 2014-15 Enacted Budget and approved by the voters in a statewide referendum held during the 2014 General Election on Tuesday, November 4, 2014. The SSBA authorized the issuance of \$2 billion of general obligation bonds to finance improved educational technology and infrastructure to improve learning and opportunity for students throughout the State. The New York State Legislature has allocated \$783,141,339, for New York City. The SSBA requires that a Review Board from the New York State Education Department (SED) review and approve districts' Smart Schools Investment Plans (SSIP) before any funds may be made available for the program.

PROPOSAL

The DOE proposes distribution of the allocation as follows:

Category	\$ in millions	% of total
Technology	\$ 383.14	48.92%
Pre-Kindergarten	\$ 100.00	12.77%
Transportable Classroom Unit Removals	\$ 300.00	38.31%
Total	\$ 783.14	100.00%

1. Technology:

The DOE plans to invest approximately \$383.14MM of its SSBA allocation to continue developing and expanding its technology infrastructure in school buildings and acquire necessary learning technology equipment. Our goal is to provide all students and educators with the essential tools for academic achievements and professional success in today's digital age.

- \$272.8MM will be invested in the expansion and upgrade of schools' digital networks and will ensure their ability to have consistent broadband connectivity, including wired or wireless technology. This funding will ensure the DOE's ability to continuously install and upgrade the essential equipment to stay current with high-speed transmission technologies for the foreseeable future. Specifically, the funding will assist in covering the costs of school infrastructure build-out that is ineligible for discount under the E-Rate program, or for schools reaching their E-rate funding cap limitation of \$150 per student for such projects.
- \$88.3MM will be used to acquire student and teacher learning technology equipment over the next five years, to support programs that include Mayor Bill de Blasio's Computer Science for All. Allocating SBBA funds to these initiatives will support the DOE's strategic plan to provide these high quality programs and curriculum to more students.

- \$22.1MM will be allocated to fund a computer loan program for Non-Public school students. The SSBA requires public school districts, including the DOE, to provide equitable technology to Non-Public schools for all children in grades kindergarten through twelve who legally reside in and/or attend a school located within their school district. The amount we are proposing is based on the SED guidance models, up to cap of \$250 per student, as follows:

SSBA Plan Amount for Devices				
\$110,412,258	X	Non-Public Schools 2014-15 Enrollment	=	Non-Public School Allocation
Total NYC Enrollment		238,736		\$22,106,954
1,192,357				

SSBA Plan Amount for Devices	\$	110,412,258	
Per capita Amount for Devices	\$	92.60	
		Base Year Enrollment	
		2014-2015	Allocation
Public Schools		953,621	\$ 88,305,305
Non-Public Schools		238,736	\$ 22,106,954
Total NYC		1,192,357	\$ 110,412,259

2. Pre-Kindergarten

The expansion of pre-kindergarten for all has been identified as a critical objective. In order to support this goal, the pre-kindergarten initiative will address the capital investments required to meet the citywide seat need for full day pre-kindergarten.

\$100MM of the DOE's SSBA allocation will be used to construct new pre-kindergarten buildings and to lease space for pre-kindergarten centers in areas of high need.

3. Transportable Classroom Units (TCU)

\$300MM of the DOE's estimated allocation from the SSBA will be applied to the removal of Transportable Classroom Units (TCUs). There are currently approximately 200 TCUs throughout the five boroughs that have not been removed. The estimated cost for the removal and demolition of the TCUs, the associated utilities (water, sanitary, electrical) removal, excavation of piping, and removal of concrete/asphalt pavement where the TCU has been placed is estimated at \$500K per unit.

For further information, comments or questions, please email NYCSSBA@schools.nyc.gov or call (212) 374-6678.