



# Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendents

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## **BOCES Regions**

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## 2016 ADVOCACY AGENDA

**Our districts are facing a funding cliff.  
The time to act is now!**

### *Five Steps to Save our Schools:*

1. Immediate support for the “de-coupling” of NYS aid from the July 1 2016 deadline for adopting a new teacher evaluation plan 3012d. . §3012-d is the largest unfunded mandate to face our public schools.
2. End GEA this year. Albany no longer has a funding gap. The year to end it is **NOW**. The districts of Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess and Rockland are still owed \$46,373,581.
3. Fully fund the Foundation Aid formula. The loss to our region for this school year is \$315,829,155.
4. Adjust the Tax Levy Cap formula to that of Albany’s – a 2% levy on expenditures.
5. End unfunded and underfunded mandates - or fund them!

The 2016 Executive Budget contains the smallest increase in support for our public schools in 6 years. This year's levy cap is near zero. Save our schools from this funding cliff.