

# STATE OF NEW YORK

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7914--A

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

May 28, 2019

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Introduced by M. of A. MAGNARELLI, STIRPE, HUNTER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing the Syracuse city school district regional STEAM high school to provide instruction to students in the Onondaga, Cortland and Madison county BOCES and the central New York region in the areas of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) areas

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Legislative intent. The purpose of this act is to establish  
2 the Syracuse city school district regional STEAM high school. The STEAM  
3 high school shall provide a high school course of instruction for grades  
4 nine through twelve, dedicated to providing expanded learning opportu-  
5 nities to students residing in the Onondaga, Cortland and Madison county  
6 board of cooperative educational services region and central New York,  
7 in the areas of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics  
8 as well as the core academic areas required for the issuance of high  
9 school diplomas in accordance with the rules and regulations promulgated  
10 by the board of regents. The legislature hereby finds and declares that  
11 the establishment of the STEAM high school is a necessary component to  
12 the development of the greater central New York region of New York state  
13 and a necessary link to fostering the development and advancement of the  
14 arts and emerging technologies. This school will advance the interests  
15 of the central New York region and New York state by engaging students  
16 in rigorous and enriching educational experiences focused on the arts  
17 and emerging technologies, project-based learning and collaboration and  
18 by providing that experience within the context of a business and learn-  
19 ing community for the purpose of directly connecting student learning  
20 with real world experience in the arts and advanced technical facili-

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 ties. It is expressly found that the establishment and operation of such  
2 school pursuant to this act is a public purpose.

3 § 2. Establishment of Syracuse city school district regional STEAM  
4 high school.

5 1. A regional science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics  
6 ("STEAM") high school may be established by the board of education of  
7 the Syracuse city school district pursuant to this section for students  
8 in grades nine through twelve.

9 2. Such school shall be governed by the board of education of the  
10 Syracuse city school district. The school shall be subject to all laws,  
11 rules and regulations which are applicable to a public high school  
12 unless otherwise provided for in this act. The school shall be subject  
13 to the oversight of the board of regents and the program shall be audit-  
14 ed in a manner consistent with provisions of law and regulations that  
15 are applicable to other public schools.

16 3. The board of education of the Syracuse city school district shall  
17 have the responsibility for the operation, supervision and maintenance  
18 of the school and shall be responsible for the administration of the  
19 school, including curriculum, grading, discipline and staffing.

20 4. The board of education of the Syracuse city school district shall  
21 be authorized to enter into contracts as necessary or convenient to  
22 operate such school.

23 5. Students attending such school shall continue to be enrolled in  
24 their school district of residence. The Syracuse city school district  
25 shall be responsible for the issuance of a high school diploma to  
26 students who attended the school based on such students' successful  
27 completion of the school's educational program.

28 6. For purposes of all state aid calculations made pursuant to the  
29 education law, students attending such school shall continue to be  
30 treated and counted as students of their school district of residence.

31 7. The public school district of residence shall be obligated to  
32 provide transportation, without regard to any mileage limitations,  
33 provided however, for aid reimbursements pursuant to subdivision 7 of  
34 section 3602 of the education law, expenses associated with the trans-  
35 portation of students to and from the STEAM school up to a distance of  
36 thirty miles shall be included.

37 8. It shall be the duty of the student's district of residence to make  
38 payments as calculated in this act directly to the school district for  
39 each student enrolled in the school. No costs shall be apportioned to  
40 school districts that elect not to participate in such school.

41 9. The trustees or the board of education of a school district may  
42 enter into a memorandum of understanding with the board of education of  
43 the Syracuse city school district to participate in such school program  
44 for a period not to exceed five years upon such terms as such trustees  
45 or board of education and the board of education of the Syracuse city  
46 school district may mutually agree. Such memorandum of understanding  
47 shall set forth a methodology for the calculation of per pupil tuition  
48 costs that shall be subject to review and approval by the commissioner.

49 10. Any student eligible for enrollment in grades nine through twelve  
50 of a public school entering into a memorandum of understanding with the  
51 board of education of the Syracuse city school district to enroll  
52 students in the STEAM high school shall be eligible for admission to the  
53 STEAM high school. To the extent that the number of qualified applicants  
54 may exceed the number of available spaces, the school shall grant admis-  
55 sion on a random selection basis, provided that an enrollment preference  
56 shall be provided to pupils returning to the school in the second or any

1 subsequent year. The criteria for admission shall not be limited based  
2 on intellectual ability, measures of academic achievement or aptitude,  
3 athletic aptitude, disability, race, creed, gender, national origin,  
4 religion, ancestry, or location of residence. The school shall deter-  
5 mine the tentative enrollment roster, notify the parents, or those in  
6 parental relations to those students, and the resident school district  
7 by April first of the school year preceding the school year for which  
8 the admission is granted.

9 11. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the  
10 Syracuse city school district is authorized to transfer ownership of the  
11 Syracuse city school district regional STEAM high school facility to the  
12 county of Onondaga and the county of Onondaga is authorized to assume  
13 such ownership and to enter into a lease for such facility with the  
14 Syracuse city school district. The county of Onondaga may contract for  
15 indebtedness to renovate such facility and any related financing shall  
16 be deemed a county purpose. The county of Onondaga shall transfer  
17 ownership of the regional STEAM high school facility to the city of  
18 Syracuse upon the expiration of the lease.

19 § 3. Paragraph a of subdivision 6 of section 3602 of the education law  
20 is amended by adding a new subparagraph 8 to read as follows:

21 (8) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, for  
22 the purpose of computation of building aid for the renovation and equip-  
23 ping of a regional STEAM high school authorized for operation by the  
24 Syracuse city school district the building aid units assigned to this  
25 project shall reflect a building aid enrollment of one thousand students  
26 and multi-year cost allowances for the project shall be established and  
27 utilized two times in the first five-year period. Subsequent multi-year  
28 cost allowances shall be established no sooner than ten years after  
29 establishment of the first maximum cost allowance authorized pursuant to  
30 this subparagraph.

31 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately.