

Westchester Library Association  
Legislative Report  
February 9, 2012  
Submitted by Donna Pesce

The deadline to submit comments on the second draft of *Creating the Future, a 2020 Vision Plan for Library Services in New York State: Preliminary Recommendations of the New York State Regents Advisory Council on Libraries to the State Board of Regents* is February 15. Comments can be emailed to [NYSLRegComments@MAIL.NYSED.GOV](mailto:NYSLRegComments@MAIL.NYSED.GOV). (NYLINE email, 2/3/12)

A NYLA Legislative Alert on January 17 stated:

- The governor had released his proposed 2012-13 Executive budget. Library funding was flat at \$79 million and \$14 million in Public Library Construction Funds.
- A 4 % increase was allocated for school aid, tied to a new teacher evaluation process.
- CUNY and SUNY received the same amount with authority to spend additional tuition increases.
- Community Colleges and Adult Literacy Education were held to last year's levels.
- Library SnapshotNY Day is the weeks of February 12 to 25.
- Library Advocacy Day is Tuesday, March 6 in Albany.
- Advocacy can begin with obtaining and increase similar to schools.(NYLA email, 1/17/12)

A recent email sent by Elise Burke of the Westchester Library Association stated:

Governor Cuomo has released his proposed Executive Budget for FY 2012-13 and has kept Library Aid at the same level as last year's final amount of \$79 Million.

Over the last 3 years, Library Aid has been cut by 23%--going from \$102 Million in 2008 to \$79 Million in 2011, which is below 1994 levels.

Please join us for **Library Advocacy Day in Albany on Tuesday, March 6**, to speak with our State Representatives about the increased need for libraries and library funding. (WLS email, 2/2/12)

A flyer was attached.

WLA has traditionally provided snacks for the bus ride.

