



ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: School infrastructure and facilities.

PURPOSE: To examine the current state of New York's school infrastructure and facilities and study new ways to support, improve, and modernize New York State's schools and boards of cooperative educational services (BOCES).

ALBANY

Thursday, October 19, 2017

10:00 A.M.

Hearing Room B

Legislative Office Building, 2nd Floor

Albany, New York

Schools are supposed to provide a healthy, safe, and supportive environment for students to learn and grow. Throughout the country, however, our schools are deteriorating. According to the U.S. Department of Education National Center for Education Statistics, the average age of a main public school building in 2012-13 was 44 years old. Research has shown that failing school buildings contribute to lower academic achievement, overcrowding, low student morale, and greater health and safety issues. Currently, New York State invests \$3 billion annually to the nearly 700 school districts throughout the state for school construction projects. It is imperative that our state continue to invest in our school infrastructure and facilities to ensure that they are of the highest standard, so that students can receive the sound, basic education that they deserve.

The Assembly Standing Committee on Education seeks testimony examining the state of New York's aging infrastructure and facilities, as well as new ways to support, improve, and modernize our state's schools and BOCES. Additionally, this hearing seeks to examine the success of the Smart Schools Bond Act, which was passed in the 2014-15 enacted state budget to finance educational technology and infrastructure for students throughout the state.

Persons wishing to present pertinent testimony to the Committee at the above hearing should complete and return the enclosed reply form as soon as possible. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned so that persons may be notified in the event of emergency postponement or cancellation.

Oral testimony will be limited to 10 minutes duration. In preparing the order of witnesses, the Committee will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular times in view of special circumstances. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or communicated to Committee staff as early as possible.

Ten copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committee would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

In order to further publicize these hearings, please inform interested parties and organizations of the Committee's interest in hearing testimony from all sources.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Assembly, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.

**Hon. Catherine T. Nolan
Member of Assembly
Chair
Committee on Education**

PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM

Persons wishing to present testimony at the public hearing on school infrastructure and facilities are requested to complete this reply form as soon as possible and mail, email or fax it to:

Rob Loomis
Committee Assistant
Assembly Committee on Education
Room 513, Capitol
Albany, New York 12248
Email: loomisr@nyassembly.gov
Phone: (518) 455-4881
Fax: (518) 455-7250

- I plan to attend the following public hearing on school infrastructure and facilities to be conducted by the Assembly Committee on Education on Thursday, October 19, 2017.
- I plan to make a public statement at the hearing. My statement will be limited to ten minutes, and I will answer any questions which may arise. I will provide ten copies of my prepared statement.
- I will address my remarks to the following subjects:

- I do not plan to attend the above hearing.
- I would like to be added to the Committee mailing list for notices and reports.
- I would like to be removed from the Committee mailing list.
- I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. **Please specify the type of assistance required:**

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

FAX TELEPHONE: _____