



ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: School health, mental health, and physical education.

PURPOSE: To examine the current state of health, mental health, and physical education programs, services, and instruction in New York State's schools and study best practices to continue to support our student's wellbeing.

ALBANY

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

10:00 A.M.

Hearing Room B

Legislative Office Building, 2nd Floor

Albany, New York

Schools play an integral role in teaching students the skills they need to lead a safe and healthy lifestyle. Health education, physical education, and other programs help students establish positive attitudes and behaviors about their physical, mental, social, and emotional well-being. Research has shown that comprehensive, quality health and physical education programs can lower risky behaviors among young people and have a positive impact on their academic achievement.

New York State recognizes the importance of high-quality health, mental health, and physical education. All students in grades kindergarten through twelve are required to attend and participate in a physical education program. School districts are also required to instruct students in health education and, in 2017, New York State was the first state in the nation to mandate mental health instruction in schools. In addition, the 2018-19 enacted state budget appropriated \$2 million for the Supportive Schools Grant Program to help school districts improve school climate, school safety and implement the Dignity for All Students Act; \$250,000 for mental health programs and services; and \$200 million in community schools funding that can be used for health and mental health services.

The Assembly Standing Committee on Education seeks testimony examining the state of health, mental health, and physical education programs, services, and instruction in New York State's schools and how schools are meeting the state's health, mental health, and physical education requirements. Additionally, this hearing seeks to examine best practices schools are utilizing to continue to provide programs and services to meet their student's health and mental health needs.

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 health, mental health, and physical education are requested to complete this reply form as soon as possible and mail, email or fax it to:

Ben Decker
Assembly Committee on Education
Room 513, Capitol
Albany, New York 12248
Email: deckerb@nyassembly.gov
Phone: (518) 455-4881
Fax: (518) 455-7250

- I plan to attend the following public hearing on school health, mental health, and physical education to be conducted by the Assembly Committee on Education on Tuesday, October 23, 2018.
- 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: _____

EMAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

FAX TELEPHONE: _____