Mental Health Education and Services in Schools

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Agenda

- Recent Legislation
  - Health Education: Mental Health Education Bill
  - School Safety Plans: Annual Training for Staff on Mental Health

- Overview of Pupil Personnel Services

- Expanded Learning Opportunities

- Delivery Models For A Positive School Climate Framework

- Partnerships

- Resources
Health Education &
Recent Mental Health Legislation

Health Education

- Commissioner Regulations §135.3 Health Education
- Learning Standards for Health, Physical Education and Family and Consumer Science

Mental Health Education Bill

- Education Law Article 17 Section §804 was amended for schools to ensure their health education programs include mental health, along with alcohol, drugs tobacco prevention and detection of certain cancers.
- July 2018 effective date
Education Law § 2801-a: School Safety Plans

- Each district must submit certification to NYSED that all district and school staff have undergone annual training by September 15th of each school year on the emergency response plan, and that the school safety training include components on violence prevention and mental health.

- New employees hired after the start of the school year must receive training within 30 days of hire

- For more resources on mental health see the Student Support Services website at http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/ see the August 12th, 2017 memo
Pupil Personnel Services

Student Support Services are comprised of Pupil Personnel Staff (PPS). PPS staff include the school counselor, school social worker, school psychologist, school nurse, and school attendance officers. Each one provides expertise in their area that supports the whole child to be successful in school.

- **School Counselors** - Hold a PPS certificate and provide preventative and responsive services for all students in the academic, college/career and social/developmental domains. They are required in grades 7-12.

- **School Social Workers** - licensed mental health professionals with a PPS certificate who are expert in assessment, individual and group counseling, and crisis intervention.

- **School Attendance Officers and Teachers** - Teachers with a PPS certificate or other personnel who provide focused attention to the issues related to improving student attendance through prevention and intervention.
Pupil Personnel Services continued

- **School Psychologists** - Licensed psychologists with a PPS certificate who are highly trained in both psychology and education. They use varied models and methods of assessment to identify students’ needs and develop data driven services and programs.

- **School Nurses** - Licensed registered professional nurses whose expertise is in nursing practice, health counseling and teaching, and human response to health conditions advances the health of students; thereby maximizing their achievement.

**Pupil Personnel Services Advisory Committee** - A Department facilitated committee of PPS leaders in their professional organizations. Their mission is to share information and resources with colleagues so that all students can achieve their potential.
Expanded Learning Opportunities Team

- 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- Extended School Day/School Violence Prevention Programs
- Community Schools
- Extended Learning Time
21st Century Community Learning Centers

Overview: Since 2003, NYSED has administered this federally funded program that provides opportunities for academic enrichment, including tutorial services, primarily to help students in high poverty, low-performing schools, to meet State and local achievement standards in core academic subjects.

Eligible Applicants: Public school districts, BOCES, charter schools, private schools, nonprofit agencies, city or county government agencies, faith-based organizations, institutions of higher education, and for-profit corporations serving students, at least 2/3 of whom must attend schools eligible for schoolwide programs under Title I or schools with at least 40 percent of students eligible for free or reduced priced lunch; and the families of these students.

Total Amount: $86,949,773 School Year 2017/18

Number of Programs: 139 sub-grantees
Overview: Since 2000, NYSED has administered this State-funded grant program aimed at providing support to students through extended school day and/or school violence prevention programs.

Eligible Applicants: Public school districts and not-for-profit organizations in collaboration with public school districts are eligible to apply.

Total Amount: $24.3 M

Number of Programs: 83 sites
Community Schools

Recent funding initiatives assist schools in delivering co-located or school-linked academic, health, mental health, nutrition, counseling, legal and/or other services to students and their families.

Community Schools Grant Initiative (CSGI) (62 total programs)
- The 2013-2014 enacted budget provided $15 million over 3 years for Round 1 and an additional $15 million over 3 years for Round 2 in the 2014-15 enacted budget. In Round 1, 30 programs were funded and ended June 30, 2016; In Round 2, 32 programs were funded and will end June 30, 2017

Foundation Aid Set-Aside
- The 2016-17 Enacted State Budget created a $100 million set-aside within Foundation Aid for Community Schools programs. The set aside applied to 225 school districts that have been identified as high-need. The 2017-18 Enacted State Budget increased this set-aside to $150 million and approximately 230 school districts.

Aid to Localities
- The 2016-2017 Enacted State Budget created a $75 million set-aside for Community Schools Grants to 11 school districts designated as Struggling and Persistently Struggling in the 2016-2017 school year.
School Health Services

All public schools must provide a school health services program under the guidance of the director of school health services (a.k.a. medical director), who is a physician or nurse practitioner. Public schools are required to employ. School health services personnel, typically a registered professional nurse (RN), are able to address mental health needs of students.

Such services include but are not limited to:
- Development of individual health plans.
- Administration of medications prescribed by mental health professionals.
- Case finding and case management for students with mental health needs.
- Provide professional development for school staff on mental health issues.
- Health education and counseling related to individual health care needs.
- Health guidance information to students, parents, and school staff.
- Counseling, tracking, and follow up for students who are referred.
- Connecting students and families with community providers.
- Referrals when appropriate for the following:
  - Committee on special education.
  - Mental health issues.
  - Child abuse and neglect.
School-Based Health & Mental Health Centers

School-based Health Centers are operated by NYSDOH and provide a wide range of health services that, in partnership with schools, can result in improved academic outcomes. In addition, School-based Mental Health Centers are operated by NYSOMH.

In general, the following mental health services may be offered:

- Identification of children with behavioral and emotional health needs
- Assessments, Interviews and Evidence Based Evaluations
- Individual, Group, Family Therapies; and Psychiatric Evaluations
- Consultation with parents, teachers and providing crisis interventions
- Parent and Teacher trainings on mental health issues
- Staff are typically licensed social workers, psychologists and psychiatrists
- Private and confidential services and are more accessible to students
- Provide access to mental health services where services may be scarce
- Referrals to other community mental health programs can be made, if needed.