April 26, 2018

To: BOCES District Superintendents
   Superintendents of Public School Districts
   Principals of Public Schools
   Charter School Leaders

From: Kathleen R. DeCataldo, Esq.

Subject: Feminine Hygiene Products in Schools

The Department would like to inform you of a new law, effective July 1, 2018, requiring all elementary and secondary public schools in New York State that serve students in any grade from six to twelve, to provide feminine hygiene products to students in school restrooms, at no cost. Feminine hygiene products are personal care products used by menstruating women, including but not limited to menstrual pads, and tampons. Public school districts, in consultation with their school nurse or medical director, must determine the types of products to make available. The text of the new law is below.

Questions related to this new law should be directed to the Office of Student Support Services at 518-486-6090 or StudentSupportServices@nysed.gov.

Section 1. Title 6 of article 2 of the public health law, as added by chapter 342 of the laws of 2014, is amended by adding a new section 267 to read as follows:

§ 267. Feminine hygiene products in schools. All elementary and secondary public schools in the state serving students in any grade from grade six through grade twelve shall provide feminine hygiene products in the restrooms of such school building or buildings. Such products shall be provided at no charge to students.

§ 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.