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To: District Superintendents
Superintendents of Public Schools
Administrators of Public, Charter, and Nonpublic Schools

From: Renée Rider 

Date: February 22, 2107

Subject: Brief Survey to Complete on Participation in the Opioid Overdose Prevention Program along with Resources to help Combat Opioid Use and Abuse

At the request of our dedicated Board of Regents, a panel presentation was provided by experts in the field at the New York State Education Department's (NYSED) Board of Regents Meeting in January 2017, highlighting State and local perspectives on the opioid and heroin epidemic claiming the lives of our youth. This Memo is being issued to provide schools with direct access to the webcast of this informative panel presentation, along with the Department's updated guidance and resources that may be helpful in addressing education and prevention of opioid overdose.

Additionally, the Department is requesting that by March 10, 2017, you complete a brief 2-minute survey questionnaire on opioid overdose prevention practices in your school(s) by clicking this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OpioidSurvey2017>. Public school districts should submit one survey for the district, nonpublic schools and charter schools should submit one survey for the school. Your participation will provide valuable information to assist in development of resources for schools and families. Questions can be directed to the Office of Student Support Services at 518-486-6090, or StudentSupportServices@nysed.gov.

Resources for schools include but are not limited to: NYSED Guidance Document and Option Chart (Appendix A), Opioid Overdose Prevention Training Webinar, NYS Kitchen Table Toolkit, Health Education Modernization Instructional Guide on Heroin and Opioids. These can be accessed at the New York Center for School Health website at www.schoolhealthny.com/OpioidOverdose.

- [Board of Regents Summary Item on Combating Opioid and Heroin Use and Abuse](#)
- [Power Point Presentation on Combating Opioid and Heroin Use and Abuse Presented to the NYSED Board of Regents on January 9, 2017](#)
- [Webcast of the Opioid Overdose Panel Presentation to the NYSED Board of Regents on January 9, 2017](#)

As we know, addiction can happen to anyone, any family, at any time. We appreciate the commitment of our school communities to combat the opioid and heroin epidemic. Working together, we can help make a difference in the lives of New York's children.

Appendix A

The Administration of Naloxone in School Settings Option Chart below describes the three options that are available to assist schools and school districts choosing to implement an Opioid Overdose Prevention Program. It can be accessed on the NYS Center for School Health website at: www.schoolhealthny.com/OpioidOverdose.

Administration of Naloxone in School Settings Option Chart

Prior to participation in an opioid overdose prevention program and providing an opioid antagonist in a school, district boards of education and school governing bodies should develop policies consistent with the laws and regulations of New York State.

All options should include communication with those providing health oversight to the school/school district.

Note: Education Law permits NYS school districts, boards of cooperative educational services, county vocational education and extension boards, charter schools, and non-public elementary and secondary schools to participate in NYSDOH opioid overdose prevention programs. Therefore, these groups will be generally referenced under school/school district.

	Options for Non-Patient Administration of Naloxone	Non-Patient Specific Order Is Issued By:	Opioid Antagonist (Naloxone) Available free from NYSDOH	Volunteer School Personnel Training	Volunteer School Personnel Administration of Naloxone	School Nurses (RN) Administration of Naloxone
Option 1	School/school district registers with the NYSDOH to operate a NYSDOH Opioid Overdose Prevention Program; School Medical Director required	School Medical Director Only	Yes	To be trained using the NYSDOH-NYSED approved training program	May administer to students or staff on-site at school who exhibit signs of overdose	RNs can only administer naloxone pursuant to a valid non-patient specific order and protocol issued by a licensed physician or NP May assign with proper training and on-site direction to Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) to administer
Option 2	School/school district allows school nurses to execute non-patient specific orders & protocols for administering opioid related overdose treatment to students and staff in school	School Medical Director or Licensed Physician or Certified Nurse Practitioner (NP)	No	Not applicable	Not applicable	
Option 3	The school/school district staff receives training as a participant in a NYSDOH Registered Opioid Overdose Prevention Program that is operated by another organization	Clinical Director of a NYSDOH Registered Opioid Overdose Prevention Program Note: An RN can only follow non-patient orders from a licensed physician or NP	Yes	To be trained using the NYSDOH-NYSED approved training program	May administer to students or staff on-site at school under a non-patient specific order	
PRACTICE NOTE: RNs and LPNs may administer an opioid overdose drug/treatment to a student that has a valid patient specific order prescribed by a duly licensed physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner. Students at risk for opioid overdose may already have these orders in place.						

This resource was created by the New York State Center for School Health and is available on the Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit and Resources Page at: www.schoolhealthny.com. Updated 12/2016