



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

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**Commissioner's Student Health and Safety Conference for Nonpublic Schools
(November 4, 2013)
Recap of Meeting**

Summary: In an effort to promote student health and safety for all schools in the State, the Department held a Student Health and Safety Conference for Nonpublic Schools on November 4, 2013. The purpose of this conference was to share health information and best practices tailored to support the needs of the non-public school. Professionals knowledgeable and experienced in the fields of school health services, medicine, and environmental health presented information in their respective areas of expertise, and over 100 administrators and personnel from nonpublic schools across the state were in attendance.

The conference provided non-public schools with information on school health services that are available to non-public schools; to provide an overview of the role of the New York Statewide School Health Services Center (SSHSC) in providing support to schools through resources, professional development, and technical assistance; infection control for communicable diseases, parental notification as appropriate of abrasions, cuts or puncture wounds and other conditions in the school setting; the role of a school medical director and other school personnel in a coordinated school health model; appropriate actions to take for ill students if no school health professionals are present; and the impact that environmental and building conditions may have on student health.

Presentations were made by the following:

Dr. Cynthia DiLaura Devore is a pediatrician and fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Dr. DeVore has dedicated her career to school health and sports medicine in upstate New York. She has served and chaired many local, state, and national level committees on school health and sports medicine, including the Executive Committee of the Council on School Health for the American Academy of Pediatrics. She currently serves as the Medical Director Consultant for the New York Statewide School Health Services Center.

Linda Khalil is the Director for the New York Statewide School Health Services Center. Prior to joining the Center, Ms. Khalil was employed as a NYS elementary school nurse teacher where she provided health services and health education to students and staff. Ms. Khalil has also provided leadership and training for staff in the areas of Coordinated School Health and Emergency Response Planning.

Christine Kielb is a Research Scientist from the NYS Department of Health, Center for Environmental Health. Ms. Kielb has worked in the area of school environmental health for over 10 years.

As an Education Department one of our goals is to promote evidence-based health practices; and strengthen communication to the field on resources and supports regarding State policies, guidance and recommendations. In order to insure that those who were unable to attend also have access to these valuable resources, the presentations will be made available online.

All of the presentations and resources are available on the professional learning page of the Statewide School Health Services Center's website, under environmental health and school health services. <http://schoolhealthservicesny.com/proLearning.cfm?subpage=139>.

Questions on school health services should be directed to the Department's Office of Student Support Services at studentsupportservices@mail.nysed.gov, or 518-486-6090.