Working More Effectively with the Education Sector around School Health

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We are a resource for people who have ever wondered how to tap into the resources of a health department and for those who currently work in a health department and want to know how to expand their reach in school health.
The National Association of State Boards of Education exists to serve and strengthen State Boards of Education in their pursuit of high levels of academic achievement for all students.
Poll

When was the last time you were inside a public school building during a regular school day?

- Never
- This past week
- This past year
- Not in 5 years
- Over 10 years
Learning Objectives

• Identify strategies for communicating with and working more effectively with the education sector
• Describe the education system’s top priorities
• Discuss ways that public health professionals can overcome challenges working with educators and effectively collaborate

➢ Domains 2 & 4
Why is working with schools so important to public health?

Write a few words in the chatbox.
Why Schools?

- Schools have a big influence on the lives of children, more than any other societal institution.
- Schools can be a valuable setting for prevention and early intervention services.
- Schools can be a good place to assist families in poverty.
- Leading causes of mortality and morbidity among all age groups are related to categories of behavior that are often established during youth.
The Structure of Education Policy

State Education Agency

School District

School
What is Distracting Schools

TIME

BUDGETS

POLITICS

NOT AGAIN
What is Distracting School Districts

ACCOUNTABILITY
LIABILITY
BUDGETS
NOT EDUCATION’S JOB
TOO CONTROVERSIAL
What Is Distracting State Boards of Education

- ESEA
- Budgets
- Licensure and Certification
- Common Core
“Don’t tell me something to make me feel good, show me how it will impact achievement.”

State School Board Member
Speaking Education’s Language

Attendance
Absenteeism
**Average Daily Attendance**
Accountability
Achievement Gap
Assessment
Benchmarks
**Common Core Standards**
Course of Study
Content Standards
Curriculum
District Improvement Planning

Dropout
Graduation rate
High-Stakes Testing
Learning Supports
NCLB Waivers
Non-Academic Barriers to Learning
Performance Indicators
Response to Intervention (RTI)
School Climate
School Connectedness
**School Improvement Planning**
School Turnaround
Truancy
**Whole Child Initiative**
I'm afraid we're going to have to let some of you go.
Working More Effectively

Remember that in education’s world, public health is not the expert.
Working More Effectively

Learn about the education governance and key players in your state, district and/or school.
Working More Effectively

Educate yourself on the state and district-level school health policies or procedures that are already in place.
Working More Effectively

Shaking off the Silo: Moving toward Internal Coordination around School Health in the Health Department

Make sure to connect and coordinate internally within the health department before reaching out to an education partner.
Working More Effectively

Find out about the areas of school health that your education partner is already working on and identify ways to support it.

Your special skills
✓ Professional development
✓ Grant writing
✓ Evaluation expertise
✓ Analyzing health data
✓ What else?
Working More Effectively

When looking for student-related data, find out what already exists before proposing a new survey or needs assessment.

- Other areas of the health department
- Data collected by other state or local agencies
- YRBSS, Profiles
- National Center for Education Statistics
- County-level data from national organizations
Working More Effectively

Take the Long-term View

And

Celebrate Small Accomplishments Along the Way

Schools get Health Award

• The Chula Elementary School District has been named the first Live Well, San Diego! school district in the county in recognition of its commitment to improve the health and well being of its students. The County Health and Human Services Agency bestowed the award upon the district last week at the monthly school board meeting.

• “This district is a role model for school health and wellness, both locally and nationally,” county Supervisor Greg Cox said during the award presentation.
Working More Effectively

Consider
School
Employee
Wellness
The Dos and Don’ts

Dos

• Find out what the education partner’s top priorities are.
• Identify what you can offer schools that supports their priorities.
• Make the link between the public health policy or program and academic achievement, and have the research to support it.
• Involve the education sector in any health department planning around school health from the beginning.

Don’ts

• Approach education with “this is what we need you to do”
• Overwhelm an education partner with large amounts of public health data and lingo.
• Expect the health of children to be education’s #1 priority.
• Underestimate the barriers.
• Have a singular focus on obesity prevention.
• Measure the success of a school health program or policy only with health-related outcomes.
THE TROUBLE WITH OPPORTUNITY IS THAT IT COMES DISGUISED AS HARD WORK!
Resources to support your work

Promote School Health with decision makers and opinion leaders:
• American Association of School Administrators
• National School Boards Association

Physical Education and Physical Activity
• National Association for Sport and Physical Education
Resources

Nutrition
• Action for Healthy Kids
• National Association of State Boards of Education

Food Allergy
• Food Allergy Research and Education (FARE)

School Health Services
• American Academy of Pediatrics
• National Assembly on School-Based Health Care
• National Association of School Nurses
Resources

- **CDC:**
  [http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/partners/funded/cshp.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/partners/funded/cshp.htm)

- **NACDD:** [https://chronicdisease.site-ym.com/?SchoolHealth](https://chronicdisease.site-ym.com/?SchoolHealth)

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“Do Health and Education Agencies in the United States Share Responsibility for Academic Achievement and Health? A Review of 25 Years of Evidence About the Relationship of Adolescents' Academic Achievement and Health Behaviors”
QUESTIONS??