nassau BOCES

January - 2026

Health & Safety *focus*

ADDRESSING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY NEEDS OF OUR 56 SUBSCRIBING NASSAU COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Illness & Injury Reporting (Feb.1-April 30, 2026)

New York State Labor Law Section 27-a, Part 801 requires public employees to record and report occupational injuries and illnesses. The following will explain this requirement.

The first thing to determine is if the injury/illness was work-related. If yes, then the injury/illness must meet one or more of the following criteria:

Death; Days away from work; Restricted work or job transfer; Medical treatment beyond first aid; Loss of consciousness; Significant injury/illness diagnosed by a licensed healthcare professional.

Once and event has been determined to be recordable, the next step is documentation. An incident report must be completed to document each event and be equivalent to the NYS Department of Labor ***Incident Report Form SH-900.2***.

Information from the incident report must then be transferred to the NYS Department of Labor ***Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses Form SH-900.*** All requested information must be reported and be legible. The information on this form is critical to the accuracy of what is ultimately required to be posted and reported to the State and Federal Government.

Lastly, the information from the Log Form described above will ultimately be complied for all school buildings and entered on the ***Summary of Work Related Injuries and Illnesses Form SH-900.1***. This summary form is required to be **posted in each school building from February 1– April 30, 2026 to document all reportable injuries and illnesses from the previous calendar year**. If you are subject to a NYS Department of Labor Inspection, the posting location of the SH-900.1 form will be requested for each building. **All required forms/records must be kept for a minimum of five years.**

Reminder: PESH amended employer recordkeeping and reporting requirements. Effective July 31, 2024, employers must report: **Within eight hours:** The death of any employee as a result of a work-related incident; The death of any employee in the work environment, regardless of the cause; The in-patient hospitalization of two (2) or more employees as a result of a work-related incident. **Within 24 hours:** The in-patient hospitalization of an employee; An employee's amputation; An employee's loss of an eye.

Contact your BOCES In-District Health & Safety Specialist for further assistance.



Nassau BOCES is proud to announce the appointment of Stephanie Cavalieri, to Senior Manager II. Ms. Cavalieri is a highly respected Administrator in the Nassau BOCES Health & Safety Training and Information Service where she assists in all 56 Nassau County School Districts with health and safety related requirements. In this new role she will support the Senior Manager, Beata Walerych-Janus, MPH in bringing the highest level of service to our schools through continued trainings, workshops, and In-District support. Congratulations Stephanie!

Nassau BOCES Workshops



Nassau County Commissioner of Health, Dr. Irina Gelman and Director of Epidemiology, Dr. Tavora Buchman address school nurses on immunization questions and current DOH programs.

On November 4, 2025, we partnered with the Bellmore School District and the Superintendent's council to train over 200 school Nurses on election day. Our guest speakers included the Nassau County Commissioner of Health, Dr. Irina Gelman and staff, and Ms. Melesha Brissett of the American Lung Association.

On November 17, 2025, Matthew Setteducati from the NYSDOL PESH Bureau, presented a workshop for Nassau County school districts on Title 12 Part 801 – 805 covering all aspects of a DOL School Safety Audit. The workshop also included Workplace Violence and Illness and Injury reporting as it relates to NYS Labor Law.

On December 4, 2025, we partnered with The Nassau County Police Department's Homeland Security Division and Lt. Robert Connelly to receive an update on School Threats and Emergency Preparedness. Nassau County Police Commissioner, Patrick Ryder provided a safety update for School District Administrators. In addition, the American Red Cross provided a presentation on Sheltering.



Nassau County Police Commissioner, Patrick Ryder updates school districts on ICE, the use of AI, drones, and E-bike/scooter safety.



Compliance Issues

Desha's Law-amendments to Education Law §§ 917 and 2801-a(2)(h)(n) effective 1/20/26.

Q: What components of Desha's Law take effect on January 20, 2026?

1. Training Requirements:
District-wide school safety training for students and staff must include **sudden cardiac arrest training**. District-wide school safety teams may also provide **voluntary first aid, CPR, and AED training** for staff, including building-level emergency response team members, in accordance with **PHL §3000-b**.

2. District Safety Plan Updates
LEAs must amend their district-wide school safety plans, hold **at least one public hearing**, and post the amended plan for **public comment at least 30 days before January 20, 2026**. Plans may remain at the same URL; if the URL changes, LEAs must notify **SafetyPlans@nysed.gov**.

3. AED Equipment and Maintenance
Schools must ensure AEDs are **clearly marked, accessible, and properly maintained** in accordance with **American Heart Association or other nationally recognized emergency cardiovascular care guidelines**, including manufacturer maintenance guidance. Schools should review AED signage and maintenance protocols to ensure compliance.

Q: How can Districts provide staff training?

1. Districts should deliver the required sudden cardiac arrest training that aligns with their specific emergency and safety procedures. Districts may use the **policies and procedures for responding to sudden cardiac arrest included in building-level emergency response plans** (effective September 1, 2025) as part of staff training in addition to the AHA handout on Cardiac Arrest vs Heart Attack.

2. The **NYS Center for School Health (NYSCFSH) training resource** may be used to help districts **develop their own customized staff training programs**. This resource is not a stand-alone training and requires districts to **maintain their own training records**.

Q: How can Districts provide student training?
Similar to the staff training, student training must be specific to the school/district emergency and safety procedures. District Leadership and Curriculum should develop developmentally and age-appropriate training protocols that are specific to school procedures and protocols.

Schools are strongly encouraged to consult their Medical Director when creating emergency policies, protocols and procedures.

Nassau BOCES
Health & Safety Training and Information Service

Nassau BOCES
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The Nassau BOCES *Health & Safety Focus* is a review of health and safety issues for subscribing school districts. Questions and comments on this document are welcome. Please contact the Health & Safety Training and Information Service staff at:

516-396-2387 (Main)
516-396-2388, or e-mail
bwalerych@nasboces.org.

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School District Health & Safety Liaisons
(Districts with BOCES Health & Safety Specialists in Bold)

Baldwin – Shari Camhi, Russ Randazzo
Bellmore - Joseph Famularo, Joseph Fiorino
Bellmore-Merrick – Michael Harrington, Jon Simpkins
Bethpage – Scott Harrington, Peter Cavassa
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Elmont – Marlon Small, Fernando DeBartolo
Farmingdale – Paul Defendini, Samuel Thompson
Floral Park - Anthony Lubrano, Robert Costa
Franklin Square – Jared Bloom, Michael Goldberg
Freeport – Alice Kane, Idowu Oqundipe
Garden City – Dana DiCapua, Robert Foley
Glen Cove – Theresa Kahan, Daniel Novak
Great Neck – John O'Keefe, Alfredo Cavallaro
Hempstead – James Clark, Martin Roman
Herricks – Lisa Rutkoske, Marty Abrams
Hewlett-Woodmere – Charles Carillo, Allan Wakefield
Hicksville – Marcy Tannenbaum, David Bell
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Jericho – David Cohen, Michael Hahn
Lawrence – Ann Pedersen, Jeremy Feder
Levittown – Michael Fabiano, Craig Cammarata
Locust Valley – Karen Horoszewski, Eric Nakutavicius
Long Beach – Michael DeVito, Don Kramer
Lynbrook – Paul Lynch, Joel Press
Malverne – Christopher Caputo, Daniel Balzan
Manhasset – Christohper J. Pellettieri, Jenny Carcana
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North Bellmore - Marie Testa, Richard Russo
North Merrick - Cynthia Seniuk, Sam Carder
North Shore - James Pappas, Matthew Backes
Oceanside – Phyllis Harrington, Jerel Cokley
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Plainedge – Carol Muscarella, Brett Prochazka
Plainview – Chris Donarummo, Andrew Ward
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Rockville Centre – Jacqueline Rehck, John Scalisi
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Roslyn – Susan Warren, Thomas Szajkowski
Seaford – Adele Pecora, Russell Costa
Sewanhaka - Kevin O"Brien, Scott Greene
Syosset – Patricia Rufo, Greg Hamilton
Uniondale – Monique Darnsaw-Akil
Valley Stream 13 – Judith LaRocca, Gary Gentiles
Valley Stream 24 – Unal Karakas, Jack Mitchell
Valley Stream 30 – Marcela Moran, Michael Deluca
Valley Stream Central – Wayne Loper, Anthony DeLuca
Wantagh—Anthony Cedrone, Robert Lovergine
Westbury – Mary O"Neill, Brian Sudran
West Hempstead – Brian Phillips, Peter Mayo