

MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION  
LITERACY IN SCHOOLS  
LINKING TO A CONTINUUM OF WELL

## NEW YORK STATE MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (ADVISORY COUNCIL)

In August of 2017, NYSED, the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH), and the Mental Health Association in New York State, Inc. (MHANYS), established the Advisory Council of over 75 expert cross-disciplinary and cross-sector partners, to develop resources, and recommendations supporting mental health education in schools.

Mental Health classroom resources developed by the Advisory Council identify skills and functional knowledge students should acquire, and tools to address stigma and promote best educational practices. These resources include an instructional guide, aligned with New York State (NYS) Learning Standards for health education in the classroom. The guide is reflective of skills and functional knowledge, scope and sequence for all levels (K-12) focused on health-related outcomes; and includes an instructional resource section.

### WHAT SCHOOLS CAN DO

Review and assess current K-12 health education curricula for alignment to new mental health education requirements;

Build capacity and strengthen relationships between educators and pupil personnel services (school psychologist, social worker, counselor, nurse);

Develop school-community partnerships with mental health professionals and organizations;

Identify strategies to engage families