# NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
## POLICY AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE (PAC)
### MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES – Nov 9, 2022

Signed _______ Date ___Dec 14, 2022_______

PAC Chair

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Discussion</th>
<th>Next Steps</th>
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<tr>
<td>Welcome and introductions</td>
<td>• Welcome and Introductions.</td>
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<td>Roll call</td>
<td>• Several members are attending APHA and could not make the meeting. Joining us for an experiential opportunity today is Stephanie Henske from Binghamton University. See member attendance at end of minutes.</td>
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<td>Approval of Minutes from the last meeting</td>
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<td>PAC Update: Actions since the last meeting, and related updates</td>
<td>State:</td>
<td>If members hear about other opportunities for PAC to support, or alerts to share, please let Gus know. Also, if you hear of mentions of NYSPHA advocacy positions, let Gus know.</td>
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<td>• NYSPHA joined the Healthy School Meals for All New York Kids campaign. (see discussion on this topic later in minutes)</td>
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<td>Federal:</td>
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<td>• NYSPHA signed on to an APHA/CDC Coalition led letter to Congress in support of CDC’s budget</td>
<td>If you have a bill of interest, we can weigh in, let Gus know.</td>
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### NYSACHO Update
- Met with Gov’s staff and Department of Budget on Oct 24. Gov. waiting for post-election before setting budget priorities or taking action on policies and priorities. NYACHO spoke to them in support of bonuses for all local PHD staff as some are not currently included in the bonus eligibility list, and for additional funding to help LHDs afford action and staff for the lower actionable lead poisoning level.
- This Governor’s administration has been generally supportive of PH and is very open to conversation.
- NYSACHO will be giving public comments on proposed regs about drinking water contaminant MCLs, including newly identified contaminants, and Early Intervention issues.

### Healthy School Meals for All New York Kids campaign.
Because of concerns by Ellen Morehouse expressed about supporting this proposal on the last call, Gus invited Jessica Pino-Goodspeed from Hunger Solutions NY to present today and to answer any questions. Jennifer joined today along with Krista Hesdorfer, also from Hunger Solutions.

The campaign and policy proposal aims to have the NY Governor include funding for universal free school lunches in her executive budget. This policy is built on federal programs, including nutritional standards and eliminating paid component of meals to make every meal at no cost to children. This is being modeled in several other states. Basically it is proposing a new state investment but also draws down significant federal monies. Free lunches for all would reduce school admin. burden, would eliminate means test, reduce stigma for students, and there is evidence that this creates a benefit to local economies.

Concerns were raised by by Ellen and Pennie Cuevas in regard to cost and other issues. Concerns were addressed at length by Jessica and Krista and discussion by members ensued. No additional members expressed concerns, but others who have concerns not yet stated are invited to communicate them privately to Gus. Gus will also brief the NYSPHA President on this discussion to see if any further action is indicated subsequent to Gus having
already signed onto a letter of support. Hunger Solutions is next planning some actionable items that individuals and organizations can take to indicate support for this proposal to the Gov’s office.

**Campaign website:** [https://hungersolutionsny.org/healthy-school-meals-for-all/](https://hungersolutionsny.org/healthy-school-meals-for-all/)

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<th>NYSPHA Budget recommendations letter</th>
<th>• The final letter to the Governor was sent October 21. You can view the comments here: <a href="http://www.nyspha.roundtablelive.org/2023-Budgetary-and-legislative-goals.">http://www.nyspha.roundtablelive.org/2023-Budgetary-and-legislative-goals.</a></th>
<th>If there are additional topics you feel should be addressed in priorities please contact Gus.</th>
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| **NYSPHA Policy Statements**         | • No time today for discussion on the alcoholism, adult use cannabis, and opioid use statements that are still in progress.  
• No time for a discussion on possible suicide prevention policy statement | We are looking for volunteers to work on policy statements.  
All statements rely on volunteer leadership and efforts.  
If you are interested in volunteering on any statement listed, or have a new topic to propose, please contact Gus. |
| **NYC PAC**                          | • No time today for NYCPAC discussion                                                              | If you live in NYC and are interested in joining the NYC PAC, contact Kavitha.  
NYC PAC meets 3rd Wednesday of every month from 12-1 PM.  
Kavitha’s email: kpd2102@gmail.com |
| **Other business**                   | • Our next monthly meeting is Wednesday, December 14, 2022. 12 noon-1 PM                          |                                                                                   |

**Attendance Log**

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