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**To:** BOCES District Superintendents, Superintendents of Public School Districts,  
Principals of Public Schools, Charter School Leaders

**From:** Kathleen R. DeCataldo

**Subject:** Opioid Overdose Prevention

The COVID-19 pandemic has reminded us how important it is to protect the health and safety of our students. This year we are reminding schools how they can take additional steps to prevent an opioid overdose occur in school. According to the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) Office of Drug User Health, there have been a total of 16 naloxone administrations on young people between the ages of 9 and 19 from January 1, 2021 to June 21, 2021. The NYSDOH Office of Drug User Health also reports that there were nearly 7,500 reported naloxone administrations from 2018 to 2020; 112 were on young people between the ages of 9 and 19. The pandemic has