

Coronavirus News & Resources

The East End Counselors Association is sharing the following information from local, state and national organizations as resources for school counselors.

East End Counselors Association

We plan on holding our General Membership and Awards Meeting on June 2, 2021, at *John Scott's Surf Shack* in Westhampton Beach. Details to follow.

In response to the public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 virus, the East End Counselors Association cancelled the following events:

- * Spring Mental Health Professional Development Meeting
- * College Tour of North Carolina Colleges and Universities
- * Spring College Fair
- * Administrative Assistant Luncheon

The East End Counselors Association looks forward to resuming these events next year when it is safe to do so.



American School Counselors Association

ASCA reorganized material to make it easier to access information. The new [ASCA website](#) makes it easier for you to access what you need when you need it.

COVID Updates and Resources: [Get updates](#) on how the virus affects ASCA members and the school counseling profession.

2020 State of the Profession: Last month, ASCA released the [2020 State of the Profession Report](#), which gathered details on the school counseling profession. Take a look and benchmark your own practices against the national data.

Race Conversations: The following ASCA resources can help school counselors ensure ethical, equitable, and inclusive school environments: links to [positions](#), [articles](#), [webinars](#), [research and guidance](#), as well as new ASCA [initiatives and programs](#).

Helping Students In Troubling Times: [Here are some suggestions and resources](#) to consider as you provide ongoing support to your students. Before you take any action, review your school and district policies to be sure you don't violate any policies as you help your students. For example, some districts have policies prohibiting faculty from talking about politics with students. In addition, you should consult with your district to discover any guidance or response initiatives it has in place so your actions align with school and district programs.

Resources to Address Teen Dating Violence: *In the Mix*, an Emmy-Award-winning PBS series for teens and young adults, is offering school counselors discounted access to three programs on dating violence. Use code ASCA through March 31. Videos include "Twisted Love: Dating Violence Exposed," "Love Shouldn't Hurt: Recognizing Dating Violence" and "Abusive Relationships: Get Help, Get Out." To order or for questions, email inthemix2@gmail.com.

Teaching Internet Safety to Young Kids: The [National Center for Missing & Exploited Children](#) has released season two of Netsmartz's "Into the Cloud," a series of videos to educate children ages 10 and under about Internet safety. While season one addressed reporting unsafe and inappropriate interactions and content, season two addresses online exploitation, reporting and removing online inappropriate content. Those who viewed season one are invited to participate in a [feedback survey](#).

Here's What's New:

[Upcoming Events and Webinars](#) The latest on career development for students in a month's worth of webinars and sessions. In addition to traditional webinars focused on career development topics, these and others, give you access to a robust set of career your students should know about.

Three Tech Tools to Enhance Your School Counseling Program 5/26/2021

ASCA Annual Conference 7/11/2021

Catch up With ASCA Resources

You can access all of webinars and other recorded material on [ASCA on Air](#) to catch up on what you might have missed.

New CDC and GLSEN Data

Point to Crisis Among LGBTQ Youth: The Human Rights Campaign Foundation and 23 of its Project Thrive partners, including ASCA, released a [joint statement](#) this week on the importance of youth-serving professional providing LGBTQ youth the support they need to thrive. The statement is in response to the HRC Foundation's analysis of the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance \(YRBS\) data](#), which finds that many LGBTQ youth are living in crisis.

The New York State Education Department



The New York State Education Department offers guidance on supporting student mental health over the remaining months of the school year. Research suggests that during the pandemic, prevalence rates in the general population have quadrupled and tripled for depression and anxiety disorders, respectively. [Here are some suggestions and resources](#)

The New York State Education Department recognizes the COVID-19 outbreak is affecting schools and communities across the state.

The New York State Education Department (NYSED), Office of Special Education is sharing the following [new resources](#) recently released by US Department of Education's Office of Educational Technology to help teachers and school leaders meet the needs of students through creative learning experiences. Please be aware that the websites and links included may change. This resource is provided for

informational purposes only and does not constitute NYSED endorsement. The information provided is true and complete to the best of our knowledge.

The [Teacher Digital Learning Guide](#) includes insights on using educational technology, promoting personalized learning, and embracing professional development. The [School Leader Digital Learning Guide](#) provides suggestions on developing a digital learning vision and considering, planning, funding, implementing, and adapting learning programs to best serve and empower students of all abilities.

USDE's [Parent and Family Digital Learning Guide](#) aims to help parents and guardians understand how digital tools can provide tailored learning opportunities, engage students with course materials, encourage creative expression, and enrich the educational experience.

Education Technology Resources to Support Students With or At Risk for Disabilities During COVID-19

A network of special education software and assistive technology developers, researchers, and nonprofits with support from the Department of Education, National Science Foundation, and National Institutes of Health recently released a guide presenting information on [20 Education Technology Resources that are READY NOW to Support Special Education Practitioners and Children and Students with or At Risk for Disabilities](#)

NYSED (COVID-19) Information Page

The Board of Regents and NYSED are providing information and guidance for P-12 schools, colleges and universities, licensed professionals, adult education programs, and NSED employees in response to the Novel Coronavirus.

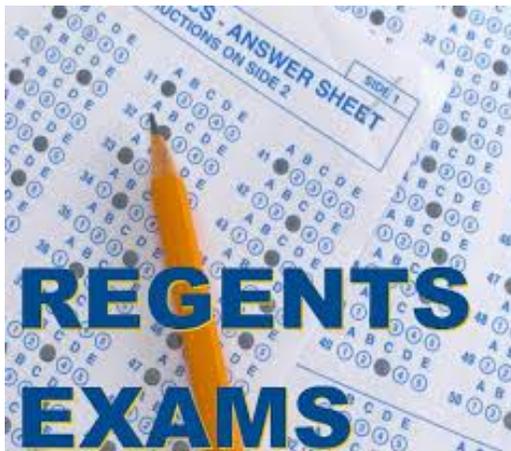
News and Information are [Linked Here](#)



NY Project Hope

This hotline can offer you strategies, community resources and a knowledgeable crisis counselor to help you and your clients navigate these very unusual times.

When someone calls the Emotional Support Helpline, they will reach someone who has been trained to offer the kind of support one needs during the pandemic...whether it's coping strategies, resources or a chance to talk — the call is always **free, confidential, and anonymous**. **NY Project Hope's** Emotional Support Helpline number is 1-844-863-9314. Trained crisis counselors are available every day from 8am to 10pm. For coping tips, relaxation exercises and much more, log onto NY Project Hope's website, [NYProjectHope.org](https://www.nyprojecthope.org). We also welcome you to take a look — and follow — our [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).



NYSED and 2021 Regents Exams

- Currently, NYSED plans to administer the following Regents Examinations in June 2021: Algebra I, Earth Science (written test only), English Language Arts, and Living Environment. NYSED is required to administer these four exams to comply with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- A schedule of administration dates for these four Regents Examinations is [Linked Here](#)
- These examinations shall be administered only in instances where schools and districts can ensure the health and safety of students and teachers. Students receiving remote instruction should not be made to come to school for the sole purpose of taking a Regents Examination.
- NYSED is cancelling the August 2021 administration of Regents Examinations as this administration period is not required to comply with ESSA.
- Eligible students may be exempted from the associated diploma requirement for any Regents Examination, Department Approved Alternative Examination, Pathway Examination, and/or Career and Technical Education (CTE) Assessment that was originally scheduled to be

administered in June or August 2021. See the Official announcement and details link below.

- Questions may be directed to the Office of State Assessment at 518-474-8220 or emscassessinfo@nysed.gov.

Official announcement and details are [Linked Here](#)

Frequently Asked Questions Related to the June 2021 and August 2021 Exams [Linked Here](#)

Information regarding Elementary State Assessments are [Linked Here](#)

Information regarding High School State Assessments are [Linked Here](#)

P-12 School Guidance

P-12 school guidance and resources are available from several sources, including NYSED, the US Department of Education, the NYS Department of Health, the CDC, and the NYS Center for School Health

Official announcement and details are [Linked Here](#)

Additional New York State Resources

- [NY Department of Health Updates](#)
- [Parents: Supporting Learning During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [NYSED-Talking about COVID-19 with young people](#)
- [Continuity of learning resources](#)

New York State School Counselor Association

The following NYSSCA Resources are posted on the [NYSSCA website](#). Visit them for a complete list of counselor resources.

Elementary School Counselor Resources are found [Here](#)

Middle School Counselor Resources are found [Here](#)



High School Level Counselor Resources are found [Here](#)

Upcoming NYSSCA Professional Development

May 6 & 7, 2021 — Elementary School Counseling Institute – We're In This Together: Hatching Your Elementary School Counseling [Program Info & Registration HERE](#)

May 6, 13, 20 — ASCA's RAMP Up Your Program. Free to All [Registration HERE](#)

May 10, 2021 — Intimate Partner Violence: Helping Victims and Their Families, Free for All [Registration Here](#)

May 13, 2021 — Grief is a Color. Grief is a Feeling. Grief is Learning. What Do Children Really Know About Death and Grief? (Good Grief Schools) Registration [HERE](#)

Check out NYSSCA Calendar often for upcoming Professional Development Opportunities. Our calendar is located on our website [linked HERE](#).



SUNY Virtual Events

Explore the State University of New York, the campuses, academy programs, application and admissions process, financial assistance, the Excelsior Scholarship and more.

Learn about the Educational Opportunity Program at a virtual Information session.

Explore financial aid programs and opportunities.

Attend a virtual workshop on applying to SUNY campuses

Official announcement and details are [Linked Here](#)

NACAC Virtual College Fairs

Virtual college fairs featuring more than 500 US and international colleges and universities continue throughout the spring. For school counselor resources, such as flyers, social media graphics and other information [click here](#).



SAT and ACT Updates

As students and colleges adapt to new realities and changes to the college admissions process, the College Board adapted their program in the following ways:

- * **SAT Subject Tests are discontinued**
- * **The optional SAT Essay is discontinued**
- * **The College Board is developing a more flexible SAT—a streamlined, digitally delivered test that meets the evolving needs of students and higher education.**

More information on The College Board's update on reducing and simplifying demands on student can be found [here](#)

College Board Coronavirus Updates: [click here](#)

College Board Updates on AP Testing: [click here](#)

ACT Testing Amid Covid-19 [click here](#)

ACT Covid-19 Resources [click here](#)

A promotional banner for NACAC Virtual College Fairs. On the left, a young woman with long dark hair, wearing a teal top, is shown in profile, resting her chin on her hand and looking upwards thoughtfully. The background is a dark blue gradient. Text on the left reads: "Find the college for you at the **May 2** College Fair". On the right, the NACAC logo (a white star) is above the word "Virtual" in a large, white, cursive font, with "COLLEGE FAIRS" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it. Further down, it says "Sign up now for FREE!" and "virtualcollegefairs.org". At the bottom right, it states "All high school students, transfer students, and families are welcome." The entire banner is framed by a dark blue border with white corner brackets.



COVID-19 Updates and Resources

US Government Resources

- [COVID-19 Handbook, Volume 2: Roadmap to Reopening Safely and Meeting All Students' Needs](#)

In Volume 2, you will find a list of allowable uses of funds made available through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). This list addresses student mental health, hiring school counselors, and other staff. Explicit language encourages district and school leaders to examine the current staffing ratios of school counselors, psychologists and social workers as well as developing a plan to meet recommended ratios are also listed within the document.

- [CDC Updates](#)
- [Supplemental Fact Sheet Addressing the Risk of COVID-19 in Preschool, Elementary and Secondary Schools While Serving Children with Disabilities](#)

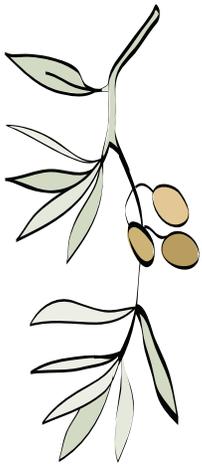
Other COVID-19 Updates and Resources

- [National Center for Grieving Children & Families](#)
- [National Center for School Crisis & Bereavement-Covid-19 Resources](#)
- [Protecting Educational Equity During Coronavirus School Closures-EdTrustNY](#)
- [CASEL Resources including CASEL Cares Initiative](#)
- [Question and answers on providing services to children with disabilities during the Coronavirus disease 2019 outbreak](#)
- [Understanding Covid-19 Statistics in plain English](#)
- [National Association of School Psychologists Covid-19 Resource Center](#)
- [Lasting Impact on Gen Z](#)

Family Educational Rights Private Act (FERPA) and Virtual Learning

- [FERPA & COVID-19 FAQs](#)
- [FERPA & COVID-19 FAQs \(Esp\)](#)
- [FERPA & Virtual Learning Resource List](#)

Questions may be submitted to the Student Privacy help desk at FERPA@ed.gov.



East End

Counselors
Share
Their
Resources

Resources From Our Members

Tom Rabbitt is sharing this link to NYSED's [Continuity of Learning website](#) featuring [Staying Connected: Your Stories](#) a collection of the work of individual teachers, district, and BOCES that encourages district-to-district support and collaboration across New York State. Your story might be a one-page account, a video, or pictures showing how your school, your students, and your community are staying connected. Please visit the [Staying Connected](#) page for suggested topics, components, and submission instructions. Please consider sending a copy of "Your Story" to trabbitt51@gmail.com so we can include it in our newsletter. The following features School Counselor Ryan Barker of Bridgehampton School.

Last March, when the Bridgehampton School joined other schools in shifting to remote learning as the coronavirus engulfed New York State, Principal Michael Miller sent out a video preparing students and staff alike for the disruption in their normal routine that was about to unfold.

Ryan Barker, who is in his third year as elementary school guidance counselor, said he immediately saw an opportunity to bring the school community together by making YouTube videos of the morning announcements that had previously been done over the public address system. Click on the Bee to see one of his morning announcements. (Courtesy of The Southampton Press)

WBEE VIRTUAL RADIO

**THURSDAY
10/15**

