

Public Relations, Advocacy & Legislative Committee

Meeting Agenda

Monday, 1/24/2022

1. New Business

- Confirm PRAL Committee Meeting Schedule:
At 6 pm on Monday before BOE Meeting
 - January 10
 - February 7
 - March 7
 - April 4
 - May 2
 - June 6

2. Public Relations

- Updates on initiating an annual website audit - <https://bit.ly/3FZAlum>

3. Advocacy

- Governor Hochul Education Priorities
 - Fully funding Foundation Aid by the 2023-2024 school year
 - Simplifying and speeding up teacher certification process
 - State grants to provide mental health support, and a new state program (Recover from COVID School Program) matching federal funds that districts dedicate to mental health (e.g., more mental health staff/services)
- Updates from LHEC Advocacy Meeting - BCSD BOE Priorities
 - Earmarked funds to address mental health needs based on concrete district feedback (e.g., creating more half-day facilities for students)
 - Foundation Aid formula
 - Clear, shared guidelines for when to phase out masks
 - Free school meals for all public school students
 - Permanently de-couple APPR and state tests
 - Plan to avoid sudden budget gaps once federal Covid funds end
 - No-excuse absentee ballots
 - Adjustments to graduation requirements, including needs assessment tailored to in-demand occupations in NYS
 - Exceptions to Open Meetings Law to allow for virtual committee meetings

4. Legislative

- Registration open for NYSSBA Capital Conference (online, Feb 2) and Lobby Day (Albany, Feb 9): <https://bit.ly/3faUxDm>