

Working with Education Sector

Dos and Don'ts

Expecting children's health to be as high a priority as in health care

- Frame approach and language around the school, district, board, or agency's top priorities

Approaching an education partner with "What do I need from schools?"

- Communicate respect for education system

Mindset of working IN schools

- You're working with them, not just in them

Failing to do the background work around the 5P's of education

*adapted from NACDD's "Speaking Education's Language: A Guide For Public Health Professionals Working In the Education Sector"



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Dos and Don'ts

Misinterpreting “lack of interest in health concerns” as lack of caring

- Communicate role that poor health status plays as an underlying cause of the achievement gap

Underestimating barriers to some health initiatives

Assuming the availability of your health center resources and services means school wants it

- Acknowledge understanding of education sector's great pressures



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Dos and Don'ts

Measuring your work only with health-related outcomes

- Speak in health and learning language

Large amounts of health data

- Keep it simple and don't use large amounts of data

Assuming both sides have common understanding of words “school health”



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