LOWER HUDSON EDUCATION COALITION

The Lower Hudson Education Coalition (LHEC) is counting on your school district's 2026-27 subscription as we begin a new year of action advocacy. With the continued support of school districts in our region, the LHEC will pursue a cohesive, proactive advocacy plan to address the issues that affect our districts.

WHO WE ARE

The school districts in our coalition are diverse in terms of size, wealth, and demographics, yet we have much in common when it comes to advocating for students and on behalf of school districts. As one of the few regional coalitions of superintendents and board members, the LHEC provides a united voice with a regional message focused on public education. The LHEC has been advocating on behalf of the public school districts of Dutchess, Putnam, Rockland and Westchester counties since 1976. In the 2024-25 school year, we increased our impact by inviting the public school districts of Orange County to join the coalition.

ADVOCACY STRIDES

The LHEC's continued partnership with Ostroff Associates, an Albany-based government relations firm, has permitted the LHEC to advocate more effectively with the NYS Legislature, Governor's office and the NYS Department of Education. Ostroff's relationships with key staff provide opportunities to share LHEC priorities and give input on emerging issues. In the past year, advocacy efforts on behalf of our region have included:

- Focusing support for legislation that targets current issues affecting individual districts and the region.
- Meeting on a regular basis with legislators and key staff to share LHEC legislative and funding priorities.
- Discussing public school regulations with the Board of Regents and State Education Department.
- Sharing recommendations for superintendents and school boards to support regional advocacy efforts.
- Support for Special Act Districts on fiscal and tuition legislation and implementation.
- Assisting individual districts with navigating the administrative and legislative processes of Albany.

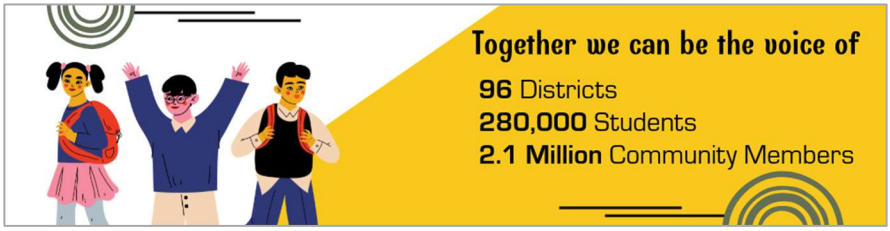
SUBSCRIPTION BENEFITS

Our collective effort of Superintendents and Boards of Education, working together to share information and advocate on behalf of the public schools we represent, ensures LHEC provides subscribers with:

- A strong, regional voice united in support of public education.
- Representation of superintendents and board members from each county on the Steering Committee.
- An annual advocacy agenda tailored to the needs of our region.
- Assistance from a leading Albany-based government relations firm to address local issues.
- A direct pipeline to NYS legislators and regulators through Ostroff Associates.
- Communications representing the regional perspective targeted at specific legislation.
- Periodic emails with updates about potential New York State legislation.

WHAT'S YOUR ROLE?

The LHEC needs the financial support of every district in our five-county region. Your district's annual $950 subscription fee provides us with the means to serve as a regional leadership hub and spearhead a comprehensive, well-defined advocacy plan in partnership with Ostroff Associates. Thank you in advance for your participation in our regional coalition. Our collective efforts make a difference for public education and the students we serve.



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