



# HEALTHY SCHOOLS NETWORK

## 2016 Year in Review

June 30, 2016

Thank you for partnering with us in the fight to keep our kids healthy and safe at school every day! We have new wins to share with you in this long fight for children's health!

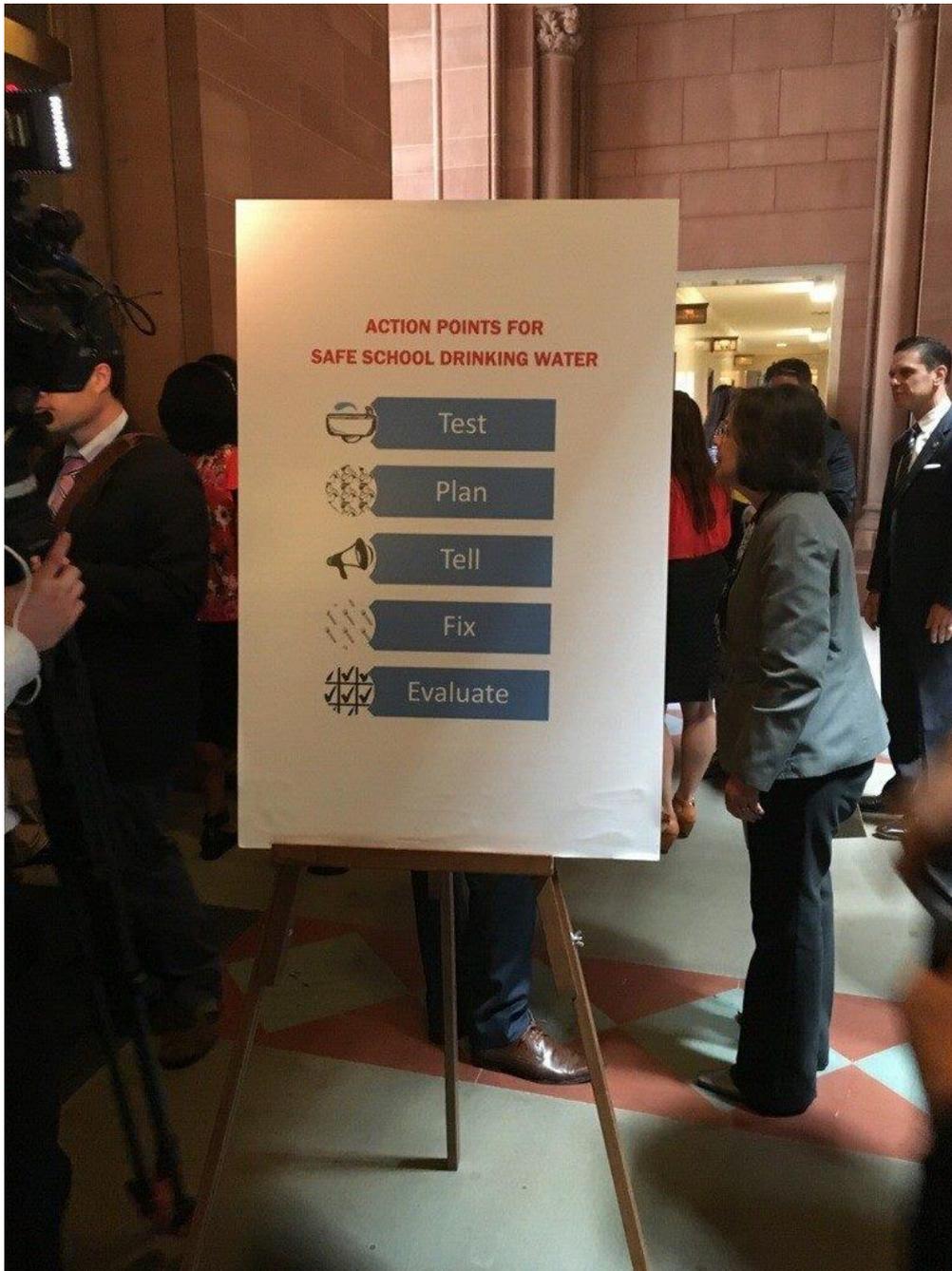
**First in the nation - We hosted two national conferences in the last 8 months, firsts in their field, to advance children's environmental health.** In November and June, we convened 75 individuals from 47 agencies and NGOs to discuss new systems and approaches to protect children from environmental exposures in schools. Results are already piling in: new educational efforts by pediatricians, a roundtable hosted by the national Council of Epidemiologists, two articles accepted by prestigious journals. Most exciting, we have linked medical and public health and research entities which have not worked together before. To sustain this new collaborative work, please [donate now](#).



Ruth Etzel, MD, PhD, Director, US EPA Office of Children's Health Protection; Jerome A. Paulson, MD, FAAP, is the immediate past chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Council on Environmental Health and coordinates the PEHSUs-East Network; Claire Barnett is founder and Executive Director, Healthy Schools Network; Suzanne K. Condon retired as Associate Commissioner and Director of the Bureau of Environmental Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health; Laura Anderko, PhD, RN, is Professor at the Georgetown University School of Nursing and Director, Mid Atlantic Center for Children's Health and the Environment; William Fisk is a Sr. Scientist and Leader of the [Indoor Environment Group](#) Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Missing: John Howard, MD, Director, National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health

Healthy Schools Network forwards an international message: in summer 2015 Executive Director Barnett presented "USA's Missing Mission: Protecting Children from Poor IAQ in Schools", at the Healthy Buildings 2015 America Conference of the International Society on Indoor Air Quality and Climate in Boulder, CO. The proceedings are found at <http://www.isiaq.org/publications.php>

**First in the nation – We championed and won NY’s Safe School Drinking Water Act.** Partnered with New York League of Conservation Voters, New York Public Interest Research Group, Learning Disabilities Association of America, NYS PTA, Empire State Consumer Project, WE ACT for Environmental Justice and dozens of other groups, we developed a five-point plan for addressing lead in school drinking water. On Saturday, June 18th, New York passed the Governor’s bill addressing all five points: testing at the tap, reporting, providing free clean water, reimbursing schools, and a state report on the scope of the problem due Dec. 1st. This is a national model we are thrilled to share and [donations](#) now are appreciated.



**Green Products and school environments** At the invitation of state and international school business officials’ associations (purchasing agents), we drafted ‘how-to’ policies and practices chapters on green cleaning for their handbooks. We also accepted invitations to speak at the California Asthma Summit, for the Ohio Department of Health, and for the NYS Department of Health’s new Healthy Green Schools annual conference. Green products emit fewer fumes and odors from cleaning products that otherwise irritate sensitive airways in schools.

**Boosting US EPA – again!** Beyond championing its federal budget, we helped the EPA reinvigorate its safer pest control program for school. We are also working with other national NGOs to advance new studies and practices. EPA released its School IPM initiative in May. A summary of the initiative can be found [here](#).

**And, we were deeply honored and humbled to have our work recognized in New Orleans in March.** The Walter L. Cohen Alumni Association, for the first-ever high school built for African Americans in that city, honored the Network’s help in preventing its school from being re-located to a toxic site – with FEMA funds. The Alumni Association won its case with the help of dozens of groups. A for-profit charter school has accepted the toxic site.



*New Orleans community workshop on school environments, March 2016.  
Barnett with Environmental Justice and Human Rights attorney Monique Harden.*

*Walter L. Cohen Alumni Association*

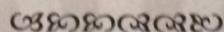


**CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

*Presented to*

**Ms. Claire Barnett**

**Executive Director of the Healthy Schools Network**



In recognition of your valuable leadership and dedicated service that protected the health and welfare of our youth and saved the Walter L. Cohen High School/Cohen College Preparatory Academy

*March 6, 2016*

We're hard at work on many fronts, and look forward to many more wins in the months ahead. Please make an end of the school-year [donation](#) today to sustain our leadership on key issues.

Thank you,

Claire Barnett, Executive Director, Healthy Schools Network