

A Legislative Forum on Ohio's

## SHARED AGENDA

on Mental Health  
and School Success



October 9, 2003

“**T**he mission of public schools is to educate all students. However, children with serious emotional disturbances have the highest



rates of school failure.

Fifty percent of these students drop out of high school, compared to 30

percent of all students with disabilities. While schools are primarily concerned with education, mental health is essential to learning as well as to social and emotional development. Because of this important interplay between emotional health and school success, schools must be partners in the mental health care of our children. Schools are in a key position to identify mental health problems early and to provide a link to appropriate services.”

The President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health  
Final Report, July 2003

**T**he Ohio Department of Mental Health and the Ohio Department of Education are partnering to promote state and local collaboration with families, schools and mental health programs and develop a Shared Agenda on Mental Health and School Success.

This Shared Agenda Legislative Forum is Phase III of the process to develop awareness and learn effective approaches to address the social, emo-

tional and mental health needs of children and help them succeed in school.

Phase I of the Shared Agenda development was completed in March with a Policy-makers Forum, followed by Phase II which featured six regional forums convened across Ohio in April and May. Successful

local collaboration and recommendations from these regional forums will be shared at this Legislative Forum to help guide state and local policy toward better alignment of education and mental health. Please join us in a discussion with legislative leaders on this important issue.



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## **SHARED AGENDA**

on Mental Health & School Success

**Please join us!**  
**Thursday, October 9**  
**9:00 - 11:30 a.m.**



### **The Statehouse - Senate Building Senate Finance Hearing Room**

Convened by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and the Ohio Department of Education with Ohio General Assembly Legislative Leaders

This legislative forum will feature:

- A Student Panel
- Dr. Mike Armstrong, Director, Office for Exceptional Children, Ohio Department of Education
- Dr. Mike Hogan, Director, Ohio Department of Mental Health
- Parents, School Administrators and Teachers
- Community Mental Health Professionals
- A chance to interact with legislative leaders

To confirm your attendance, or for directions or parking information, please contact: Jean Kendrick, (614) 466-1984 [kendrickj@mh.state.oh.us](mailto:kendrickj@mh.state.oh.us)