



Information from Catherine Nolan

Helping Our Community

Summer 2016

Dear Neighbor:

I am pleased once again to share my latest newsletter with you. Please find the latest updates from Albany and events that I have been working on for our community. If you have any other questions or concerns do not hesitate to call, drop by our new office or send me an email. I hope that you and your family are having a great, wonderful summer. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Catherine Nolan

Catherine Nolan
Member of Assembly

Discussing Paid Family Leave with Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

I was honored to meet with Senator Gillibrand and several advocates to discuss how we can make Paid Family Leave a reality at the national level. In April, our great state passed paid family leave that will greatly

benefit working families of New York. I look forward to working with the Senator to ensure that our state leads the way in bringing paid family leave to all 50 states.



Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan with Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and several members of the Paid Leave Coalition.



Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan with Richard Winston, Deanne Braveman and several members of the Paid Leave Coalition in Albany.

NEWS FROM ALBANY

Nolan Bills that passed both Houses

This session, I was successful in passing the following bills in both houses. These bills will be sent to the Governor for his signature:

A. 3887B - This bill calls on school districts to ensure that their health education programs recognize the multiple dimensions of health by including mental health and the relation between mental and physical health in health education.

A. 3880B - The goal of this bill requires school districts to report to the department of education and thereby to ensure compliance with physical instruction requirements in elementary schools.

A. 2921 - This bill requires the NYS Board of Regents to give notice of the time, place and agenda of their meetings.

2016-17 STATE BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The 2016-17 state budget puts our families first by including measures to revitalize the economy and support families. The \$146.7 billion plan invests in education, helps lift families out of poverty, allows more young New Yorkers to get a college education, cuts taxes and helps grow the state economy. The final state budget is a bold step forward consisting of landmark accomplishments like paid family leave and a robust increase in the minimum wage.

Additional Budget Highlights:

- Increases education aid by \$1.47 billion – or 6.3 percent – for a total of \$24.7 billion,
- In New York City, the minimum wage will increase to \$11 at the end of 2016, followed by \$2 increases each year after, reaching \$15 an hour on Dec. 31, 2018.
- Will cut personal income taxes by \$270 million in 2018 compared to 2017 tax rates.
- Provide \$500 million to critical environmental programs, including \$200 million in additional funds for water and sewer infrastructure improvements.

NYS Legislature extends Mayoral Control in New York City

The NYS Assembly and the Senate agreed to extend Mayoral Control for one year. This final agreement will keep in place the school governance structure that has given NYC Chancellor Carmen Fariña the tools and resources she needs to continue her great leadership in running the biggest school system in the country.

Over these last two years, the City of New York has undertaken several new initiatives like the expansion of citywide full-day pre-kindergarten and implementation of the holistic community schools model that are progressive steps to put our students on the achievement track from their earliest days in the classroom. Mayoral Control allows our education system to be accountable, gives parents a needed voice and most importantly puts the needs of our students first.

Safe Drinking Water in our Schools

As the Chair of the Assembly Education Committee, I was happy that both houses of the Legislature came to an agreement to protect safe drinking water in schools. This legislation (A.10740/S.8158) would require the state health and education departments to create statewide guidelines for school districts and boards of cooperative educational services (BOCES) to test drinking water for lead.

When parents send their children to school, they do so expecting they will learn in a safe environment. However, recent test results have shown some schools in New York State have unsafe levels of lead in their drinking water. This legislation will create standards that ensure every school across the state – whether in a wealthy area or a poor community – has

the resources it needs to test its drinking water, so we can be sure our kids aren't being exposed to harmful levels of lead.

Currently, some school districts like New York City have voluntarily tested for lead, however it is not required. This legislation further specifies that if lead is found in the water, testing must occur at a frequency to be determined by the regulations to ensure the water is safe. Additionally, safe drinking water must be provided and parents need to be notified of the test results in a timely manner. The costs associated with testing and remediation will be eligible for reimbursement by the state.

The legislation now goes to the Governor's desk for his action.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

New Office Open House

I was happy to welcome many community members to my new district office in Long Island City. I look forward to continuing to have many visitors. Please feel free to reach out to my office with any questions and concerns you may have.



Santiago Vargas Queens Community Board 2, Gerard Mariscano, Owen Salmon- Ridgewood YMCA, Nicholas Mariscano, Jim Grayshaw, Susan Lacerte- Queens Botanical Gardens, Ray Normandeau- Queensbridge US, Mitch Waxman, Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan, Susan Grayshaw, Vivian Selenkias- Long Island City High School, Officer Luis Diaz- Community Affairs, 108th Police Precinct, Britney Stinson- Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan's office, Dionne A. Jaggon- Principal P.S. 111, Rita Normandeau- Queensbridge, Cynthia Davis- The Floating Hospital, David Aglioloro- Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan's office, Rigo Cardoso- Sunnyside Chamber of Commerce, Former State Senator & Councilman John Sabini and Claudia Chan-LaGuardia Community College.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Central Astoria Housing Workshop Event

I jointly sponsored a housing workshop with Central Astoria Local Development Corporation at Sunnyside Community Services. At the event, residents were able to learn about both tenant and landlord rights when renting an apartment in NYC. Some of the issues that were covered included the rent stabilization laws, leases, repairs, evictions, rent

increases as well as services/programs available to senior citizens and the disabled.

Thanks again to Joanne Darcy and her team at Central Astoria for giving a marvelous, informative presentation. Also, thank you to Judy Zangwill for allowing us to use Sunnyside Community Services for the event.



Judy Zangwill, Executive Director, Sunnyside Community Services, Diane Ballek, Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan's Office, Jo Ann Darcy, Central Astoria Local Development Corporation, Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan, David Agliodoro, Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan's Office, Eileen McCallian, Don McCallian, President United Forties, Kerly Serrano, Director of Center for Active Older Adults and several residents from the community.

Sunnyside Flag Day Parade

I am always honored to participate and march in the annual Sunnyside Flag Day Parade. Thank you to the Sunnyside Kiwanis for organizing this wonderful event for our community.



Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan with Gerry Lederman, Sunnyside Kiwanis, State Senator Michael Gianaris, Council Majority Leader Jimmy Van Bramer, Councilman Daniel Dromm and Kate Brennan, Sunnyside Kiwanis.

Mobile Office Hours

I held mobile office hours at the Ridgewood and Sunnyside Libraries to help many residents of the district with any issues or concerns. Please know that my office will always be a resource for the community and I look forward to having additional events like this throughout the year.



Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan with several Ridgewood constituents.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Advocating for a Middle School



I completely endorse and agree with the efforts of concerned parents in providing additional middle school seats for our students. For too long, the Sunnyside and Woodside communities split between school district 24 and 30 have endured grossly overcrowding and antiquated facilities forcing our children into trailers for over 25 years. I look forward to working with my colleagues in government to continue the search for a suitable site for a middle school. Our students in Sunnyside and Woodside deserve nothing less.

Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan with Sean and Deborah McGowan from the Sunnyside/Woodside Middle School Project.

Ridgewood – Glendale Memorial Day Parade

I was honored to participate and march in the Annual Ridgewood-Glendale Memorial Day Parade. As the senior member of the NYS Assembly Veterans Committee, we always work very hard to ensure that our veterans receive all of the necessary benefits they are entitled to.

Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan, Congresswoman Grace Meng, State Senator Joseph Addabbo, Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley and several Veterans from the Parade.



Assemblywoman
**Catherine
NOLAN**
*Helping Our
Community*
Summer 2016

NOLAN SECURES \$3 MILLION IN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR NYCHA

I was able to secure over \$3 million for capital improvements for our NYCHA residents. All three developments including Astoria, Ravenswood and Queensbridge Houses will receive \$1 million each and will be used to make major improvements for their senior or community centers. I have worked with NYCHA to point out several priority projects that the funding will be used for. Some of the proposals include:

- 1) The Astoria Community Center will have their rest rooms renovated and an upgrade of the front door/main entrance with a new buzzer and camera system.
- 2) The Jacob Riis Settlement House will have their classrooms and conference rooms repainted and a have a new camera and security /buzzer system installed at the main entrances.
- 3) Ravenswood Community Center will have much needed painting and re-tiling of its floors.