



8 Airport Park Boulevard
Latham, New York 12110
Phone: (518) 782-0600
Fax: (518) 782-9552
www.saanys.org

KEVIN S. CASEY
Executive Director

SAANYS Supports
A-8108
May 31, 2017

An Act to amend the education law, in relation to tenure in certain school districts.

Assembly Bill 8108 amends education law by allowing previously tenured principals, administrators, supervisors or other members of supervising staff of school districts, to be provided a shortened probationary period upon appointment by the board of education. Such administrators must have been appointed on or after July 1, 2015 and must not have been dismissed as a result of a 3020-a formal disciplinary hearing. The bill would be effective immediately.

The proposed bill would provide school administrators, transitioning to a new position, a reduced probationary period of three years, instead of the currently mandated four years. The proposed bill is specific to administrators who have been granted tenure in a previous school district, the current school district of employment, or a board of cooperative educational services. This provision allows school districts to affirm demonstration of effective execution of duties and attainment of appropriate skills via the granting of tenure in a prior setting as sufficient reason to shorten the probationary period. The shortened probationary period is not allowable for a person who has not been granted tenure previously. Currently, a shortened probationary period is allowable for teachers under similar situations. The proposed revision to the statute would provide equitable processes to school administrators.

The School Administrators Association of New York State (SAANYS) supports this proposed amendment of the statute. Granting tenure to school administrators is a serious decision and awarded only after educators demonstrate high quality service. The proposed allowance of a reduced probationary period for previously tenured administrators transitioning to other positions is sound practice and is warranted as the pipeline for school leaders decreases. A reduced probationary period could be an incentive for administrators to accept difficult and complex work in new settings.

The School Administrators Association of New York State (SAANYS) is a professional association of more than 7,000 administrators and supervisors working in New York State schools. As the largest professional school administrators' association, SAANYS is chartered by the New York State Education Department. SAANYS is also affiliated with the National Associations of Elementary and Secondary School Principals (NAESP and NASSP), the New York State School Administrators Consortium (NYSSAC) and the New York State Education Conference Board (NYSECB).