



New York State Archives

**New York State Education Department Special Schools
Bureau Correspondence and Subject Files Concerning
Schools for Indians, the Deaf, the Blind, and Other Special
Populations A3222**

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Table of Contents

Overview of the Records	3
Arrangement	3
Administrative History	3
Scope and Contents	4
Other Finding Aids	5
Use of Records	5
Administrative Information	5
Access Terms	5

Overview of the Records

Repository:	New York State Archives
Summary:	The Special Schools Bureau supervised Indian schools on reservations, schools for the blind and deaf, schools for adults in prison, and the New York State Nautical School. This series consists of correspondence, memorandums, reports, legislation, newspaper clippings, and samples of students' work. Topics which vary between types of special schools include conditions at schools, attendance, schedules and activities, hiring and conduct of teachers, and lists of students.
Creator:	New York (State). Education Department. Special Schools Bureau
Title:	Correspondence and subject files concerning schools for Indians, the deaf, the blind, and other special populations
Quantity:	3.5 cubic feet
Quantity:	16 35mm microfilm roll(s)
Inclusive Date:	1906-1925
Bulk Date:	1915-1925
Series:	A3222

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Arranged by type of school, then by reservation or name of school, then by subject or type of document.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative History

The Special Schools Bureau was responsible for supervising Indian schools on reservations, schools for the blind and deaf, schools for adults in prison, (until 1924), and (beginning in 1923) the New York State Nautical School.

Schools for the deaf were private, non-profit institutions that were heavily supported financially by the state. Two schools for the blind were state supported private institutions while the third was the New York State School for the Blind, supported and operated by the state. The New York Nautical School became a state institution in 1913 and provided education and training in navigation, seamanship, and marine transport and engineering.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Content Note

The files in this series contain correspondence, memoranda, reports, copies of legislation, newspaper clippings, and samples of students' work relating to several types of special schools supervised by the state.

Files on Indian reservation schools include information on: general conditions at schools; compulsory school attendance on reservation; crime and law enforcement at schools; school budgets; physical maintenance of school facilities; hiring of teachers; conduct of teachers; lists of school supplies and books; and monthly reports giving names, ages, and attendance figures for children.

Files on schools for the blind and deaf include information on: conditions at schools; placement of children; daily schedules and activities at schools; examinations given at schools; lists of students; students' work (samples); and school publications (e.g. newsletters).

Files on schools in prisons include: lists of prisoners taking courses; discussion of problems encountered in operating prison schools; and monthly enrollment reports.

A single file (1924-1925) on the New York State Nautical School contains: correspondence concerning a controversy over internal administration at the school, and financial affairs such as applying fees and assigning charges for keep of cadets aboard ship; correspondence and memoranda on the process (much delayed) and candidates for appointment as superintendent and commanding officer; routine requests for information on the Training Ship Newport and applying to the school; varied correspondence from the board of governors to the commissioner of education; draft resolutions of the board of governors on governance of the school, advisory notices of board meetings, and some minutes of meetings of the board; schedule of inland water cruising by the Newport; copies of winter scholastic schedule (1924-1925); and news clippings of graduation exercises (listing graduates).

At the end of the series are several general files on various types of special schools; special classes in public schools; news clippings of related stories; law revisions; and reports of work in the Special Schools Bureau.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Other Finding Aids

Available at Repository

Folder and microfilm roll lists are available at the repository.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Use of Records

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions regarding access to or use of this material.

Alternate Formats AvailableAlternate Formats Available

Microfilm is available for use at the New York State Archives or through interlibrary loan.

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Originally part of old accession -274, old series number 409, boxes 42-44 (part), 48-49.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Access Terms

- Nautical training-schools
- Deaf--Education
- New York (State)
- Indians of North America--Education
- Clippings (information artifacts)
- Blind--Education
- Training-ships
- Reports

- Naval education
- Prisoners--Education
- Education
- Administering schools
- Memorandums
- Bills (legislative records)
- New York State School for the Blind
- New York State Nautical School
- University of the State of New York
- New York State Merchant Marine Academy
- New York (State). Education Department
- New York (State). Education Department. Assistant Commissioner for Secondary Education