Health Services for Students with Special Health Care Needs

Nicole Klein PhD, RN, NCSN, AE-C
Health Services Supervisor

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Chris Reykdal, State Superintendent
Vision:
All students prepared for post-secondary pathways, careers, and civic engagement.

Mission:
Transform K–12 education to a system that is centered on closing opportunity gaps and is characterized by high expectations for all students and educators. We achieve this by developing equity-based policies and supports that empower educators, families, and communities.

Values:
• Ensuring Equity
• Collaboration and Service
• Achieving Excellence through Continuous Improvement
• Focus on the Whole Child
Equity Statement:

Each student, family, and community possesses strengths and cultural knowledge that benefit their peers, educators, and schools.

Ensuring educational equity:

• Goes beyond equality; it requires education leaders to examine the ways current policies and practices result in disparate outcomes for our students of color, students living in poverty, students receiving special education and English Learner services, students who identify as LGBTQ+, and highly mobile student populations.
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• Requires education leaders to develop an understanding of historical contexts; engage students, families, and community representatives as partners in decision-making; and actively dismantle systemic barriers, replacing them with policies and practices that ensure all students have access to the instruction and support they need to succeed in our schools.
School Nurses play an essential role in the health and academic success of students receiving special education services. They are the link to educational communities and healthcare. School Nurses are also valuable resources to families, students, communities, and school staff. They have professional knowledge of developmental, socio-emotional, and physical conditions. Learn the role of the school nurse and how to utilize their skills to develop a robust Special Education program.

- Describe the role of the school nurse
- Differentiate the various roles of the school nurse
- Develop a plan with your nurse team to care for students receiving special education services
- Evaluate how best to utilize the school nurse in your own programs
“You see, you wouldn’t ask why the rose that grew from the concrete had damaged petals. On the contrary we would all celebrate it’s tenacity. We would all love its will to reach the sun. Well; we are the roses, this is the concrete and these are my damaged petals.”

Tupac Shakur
“Since the introduction of the school nurse, the importance of her work has been widely recognized and has resulted in a policy of conservation of school attendance instead of exclusion. ”

Lina Rogers, 1917 p.9
A Short History of the School Nurse

• Began in New York on October 1, 1902
• Home visits
• Health educator
• Liaison
Questions 1

Does Washington State have recommended ratios for school nursing?

yes
Where I’m From
Think – Pair – Share

List one thing you wish your school nurse could do to help with addressing the health needs of students receiving special education services?
Health Services Program Supervisor
through an MTSS lens

**Tier 1 - Universal Interventions**
- Provide leadership and technical assistance to all 295 school districts, Private schools, Charter schools, and throughout OPSI related to health
- Coordinate and coordinate school health program activities with statewide public and private stakeholders
- Manage the development and analysis of statewide implemented district health assessment data and make it available as a resource to school districts
- Design, develop, deliver, present and monitor statewide health related professional development
- Collaborate with public and private stakeholders to quality assurance for school health program and school nursing scope of practice, standards, and accountability
- Manage iGrants
- Maintain the Health Services Website

**Tier 2 - Targeted Interventions**
- Develop, update, and monitor operational guidelines, technical manuals, bulletins, policies and procedures related to health.
- Manage the School Nurse Corps program and supervise & provide leadership to the SNC Administrators in the 9 ESDs.
- Liaison for Children with Special Health Care Needs (C SHCN) Program

**Tier 3 - Intensive Interventions**
- Manage and Audit the Home Hospital Program and be available to the individual needs of applicants
- Health Liaison for Safety Net and Medicaid
- Provide consultation, policy recommendations, and assistance directly to the State Superintendent related to student and staff health and the school environment when warranted.

**Legislative Requirements**

- SSB 5883 SNC (2017) Sec 501(22)
  - RCW 28A.210.383
  - RCB 6128 Medication Administration by UAPs
  - RCW 28A.210.275

- SSB 5404 Sunscreen in Schools
  - RCW 28A.210.278
  - RCW 28A.210.260

- SB 6245 Visual Screening/Auditory Screening
  - RCW 28A.210.020
  - RCW 28A.210.030
  - RCW 28A.210.040
  - WAC 246-760

- SB 6566 School anaphylactic policy guidelines
  - RCW 28A.210.380

- SSB 5841 Prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of asthma
  - RCW 28A.210.370
  - ESSHB 6641 Accommodating children with diabetes in schools
  - RCW 28A.210.330
  - RCW 28A.210.340
  - RCW 28A.210.350

- SHB 1541 Medication in schools
  - RCW 28A.210.260
  - RCW 28A.210.270
  - WAC 392-172A-02100

- HB 2247 Types of medications that a public or private school
  - RCW 28A.210.260
  - RCW 28A.210.270

- ESB 5104 Epinephrine Auto-injectors in schools
  - RCW 28A.210.260
  - RCW 28A.210.270

- SB 5527 catheterization of students
  - RCW 28A.210.090
  - WAC 392-172A-02100

- SB 6237 catherization of students
  - RCW 28A.210.280
  - RCW 28A.210.290
  - RCW 28A.210.255

- SSB 1641 Consent for nonemergency services for unaccompanied youth
  - RCW 7.70.065
  - ESSHB 1612 Public health educational platform for suicide prevention
  - RCW 43.70.442
  - HB 1931 child Abuse Mandated Reporter
  - RCW 26.44.030
  - SSB 2449 School-based Truancy intervention
  - RCW 28A.225.018
Tiered System of Support – School Nurse Services

Tier One - Universal
Available to ALL

Tier Two - Group
Available to SOME

Tier Three - Individual
Available to A FEW

- Population health assessment
- Management of health room
- Health classes
- Small groups
- NCM ECPs/IHPs

http://www.k12.wa.us/HealthServices/SchoolNurse.aspx
Health Services Role

A Team Approach
Health Service Roles in Schools

ESA (Educational Staff Associate) RN
Classified RN
Contracted/Agency RN/ LPN
LPN
Health Aide
PDA- Parent Designated Adult (Epilepsy and Diabetes)
Functions of a RN and LPN

• RN functions in an independent role utilizing the nursing process.

• LPN are not licensed for independent nursing practice, but are accountable for their actions at all times.
Para Educator

- Many roles including health services
- Can be delegated to
- Unique to school setting
- Can do various nursing tasks
- Can only receive delegation from an RN
Health Services Staffing Models

- Nurse Administrator
  - Nurse manager
  - School nurse
  - LPNs/Assistive Personnel
- District Lead Nurse
  - District nurses
  - Building nurses
    - LPNs/Assistive Personnel
- School Nurse Corps Nurse Administrators
  - RNs in schools
    - Assistive Personnel
- School Nurses
  - LPNs/Assistive Personnel
Delegation and Supervision

• **Delegation** generally involves assignment of the performance of activities or tasks related to patient care to unlicensed assistive personnel while retaining accountability for the outcome. The registered nurse cannot delegate responsibilities related to making nursing judgments.

• **Supervision** is the initial direction and periodic evaluation of a person performing an assigned task to ensure that he or she is meeting the standards of care.
Things School Nurses Do

Traditional School Nursing, School Nurse Corps, & Nurse Case Management

- Manage chronic conditions
- Handle life-threatening allergy and asthma events
- Act as sentinels when epidemics strike
- Respond to students’ physical and emotional concerns
- Educate children about healthy lifestyles
- Learning Impairment Screening, ex., poor vision
- Refer students’ families to care providers and insurance programs
- Connect students with substance abuse treatment and mental, behavioral, and reproductive health services
- Ensure immunization compliance
- Develop health plans for students with disabilities
- Prepare for school-wide and community emergencies
- Administer medication and provide first aid

Ensure immunization compliance

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Federal Laws Related to School Health

- Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA)
- McKinney-Vento Act
- USDA MEMO—Dietary Accommodations
ROLE OF THE SCHOOL NURSE

The school nurse serves in a pivotal role to provide expertise and oversight for the provision of school health services and promotion of health education.
School Nurse Code of Ethics

- Client Care
- Professional Competency
- Professional Responsibility
Nurse As Case Manager

School nurses use the nursing process to provide case management services for students with special health care needs. The objective is to help students be safely engaged in learning and school related activities.
Nursing vs. Education Law

Health Laws

- RCW
  - RCW 18.79 Nursing Care
  - RCW 70 Public Health & Safety
- WAC
  - WAC 246 Department of Health
  - WAC 296 Labor & Industries (BBP)
- Department of Health
  - Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission

Educational Laws

- RCW
- WAC
  - WAC 392 Public Instruction
  - WAC 181-79A Teacher Standards
- Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
  - Student Support
    - Health Services
Staff Model for the Delivery of School Health Services

Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Washington State Department of Health
Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission

JULY 2019
On average, 3 children in a classroom of 30 are likely to have asthma.

On average, 6 children in a classroom of 30 live with a mental health condition.
What a typical classroom may look like
Question 2

True or False
Washington State has more than 1000 FTE certificated school nurses
False
“But the child’s health is the most important resource in the earning capacity of the man”

Lina Rogers, 1917 p. 4
Role of the School Nurse in Special Education
2018 Percentage of WA Students with Disabilities, by Eligibility & EL Status

- Students with Disabilities, age 6-21: **130,488**
- English Learners with Disabilities, 6-21: **20,717**

Source: Special Education Federal Child Count (Draft), Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, November 1, 2018.
• School health services long part in IDEA’s related services
• Term changed in 2004
• Services can include many health-related supports
Related Services

• IDEA’s full requirement for specifying a child’s related services in his or her IEP. This appears at §300.320(a)(4) and stipulates that each child’s IEP must contain:

  • (4) A statement of the special education and related services and supplementary aids and services, based on peer-reviewed research to the extent practicable, to be provided to the child, or on behalf of the child, and a statement of the program modifications or supports for school personnel that will be provided to enable the child—

• School health services have long been a part of IDEA’s related services definition. In IDEA 2004, the term has been changed to school health services and school nurse services, with the following definition at §300.34(c)(13):
Related Services

The term changed to school health services and school nurse services, with the following definition at §300.34(c)(13):

(13) School health services and school nurse services means health services that are designed to enable a child with a disability to receive FAPE as described in the child’s IEP. School nurse services are services provided by a qualified school nurse. School health services are services that may be provided by either a qualified school nurse or other qualified person.
Related Services

IDEA defines counseling services as follows:

(2) Counseling services means services provided by qualified social workers, psychologists, guidance counselors, or other qualified personnel. [§300.34(c)(2)]

Parent counseling and training means assisting parents in understanding the special needs of their child.
Related Services

Defined at §300.34(c)(3) as follows:

(3) *Early identification and assessment of disabilities in children* means the implementation of a formal plan for identifying a disability as early as possible in a child’s life.
34 CFR 300.111 (a)(1) – The State must have in effect policies and procedures to ensure that – (i) All children with disabilities residing in the State, including children with disabilities who are homeless or are wards of the State, and children with disabilities attending private schools, regardless of the severity of their disability, and who are in need of special education and related services, are identified, located, and evaluated.

• Screenings
• Evaluation
Hearing and Vision

**RCW 18.79.260** Registered Nurse-Activities Allowed-Delegation of Tasks

**RCW 28A.210** Health Screening and Requirements**
Other Roles of the School Nurse

How the School Nurse helps with other Special Education related issues
Navigating Healthcare Systems

The HIPPA/FERRPA Divide
• Why now?
• HIPAA generally allows disclosure of treatment information to another covered entity for treatment purposes without an authorization.
• When is an ROI is not needed to disclose information to the school?
• What forms do I need?
Home Hospital

• WAC 392-172A-02100
• OSPI Bulletin B042-19 – Home/Hospital Instruction Program Procedures for School Districts, Charter Schools, and Tribal Compact Schools
• Temporary
• Need LHCP order
• District assigns tutor
• District has obligation to meet FAPE
• Consider eligibility for 504 and Special Ed
Disaster Planning
District Assessment of Health Services

OSPI Assessment tool and Reports
2018-19 Annual School Health Services SUMMARY REPORT

The School Health Services Annual Report highlights data submitted to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Health Services Program Supervisor by 272 school districts* for the 2017-2018 school year. The report provides a snapshot of health services across the state and for the first time has representation from both Tribal Compact and Charter/Public Schools.

*Information may not include all districts that participated based on data analysis as of October 3, 2018

Washington’s Nine Educational Service Districts (ESDs)

School Districts within NEWESD 101

“The school nurse worked with tribal health in partnership with OneSight to provide free eye/vision exams and prescription glasses, if needed. We had 70% of our students participate with 50% of those receiving glasses. Teachers noted an improvement in the students’ ability to see the white board and read.”

“The nurse has worked with the PE teacher in creating a safety plan for when traveling to the community center for weekly PE. Because the gym is isolated from the main desk at the center, some of the safety issues discussed with the teacher and center staff ranged from potential physical problems such as injuries with a student whose more adult help is needed or additional staff help if the teacher felt unsafe for any reason.”

“The nurse met with a new transferring student and his mother. He was a diabetic and the parent was so pleased to have a school very aware of the diabetic plans and PDA. She felt he would be safe.”

“The nurse was a key member of the Community Trauca Board, and was instrumental in the effort to decrease chronic absenteeism related to health needs and chronic illness/disease. She helped identify significant mental health issues in youth, and provided referrals and resources to encourage these students to remain in school.”
Prescription Medications

- There was more than 119,000 medications prescribed. Epinephrine accounted for 19,501 medication orders.
- 35 districts provide stocked epinephrine. There were 221 epinephrine injections administered.
- Nurses administered more than 280 emergency medications (excluding asthma inhalers).

Students Health Conditions

- There were 428,699 total known health conditions.
- Top 4 medical conditions were asthma, anaphylaxis, ADHD/ADD, and mental/behavioral health.
- Diabetes accounted for 3,482 known conditions.
- Asthma accounts for the most identified known cases of chronic health conditions with more than 69,000 cases.

Student Health Room Visits

- Only 33% of districts collect health room visit disposition data.
- 53% of districts use WA School Nurse Standardized codes to document student health and health room encounters.
- 93% of districts are using computer software to document some aspect of student health.
- While only 15% use health data to identify the impact of school nurse interventions on student health and education outcomes.

Assessments, Screening and Treatments

- There were more than 40,000 treatments provided.
- 44,410 vision referrals and 11,705 hearing referrals were made.
- 78,189 care plans were developed by the school nurse.
- There are 51,850 known life threatening conditions per RCW 28A.210.320.
Immunizations
Infection Control
Marijuana-infused Products for Medical Purposes

- HB 1095
- Parents or guardian may administer
- Bulletin out soon
School Nurse Corps Legislative Authority

Legislative Appropriation Language

“A corps of nurses located at educational service districts, as determined by the superintendent of public instruction, to be dispatched to the most needy schools to provide direct care to students, health education, and training for school staff.”
Think – Pair – Share

Discuss how your school nurse could benefit you in addressing student health related conditions that impact student success
Question 3

True or False
The School Nurse Corps Nurse Administrators provide technical assistance to every district within their region
True
“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.”

- Benjamin Franklin
Nicole Klein PhD, RN
Nicole.Klein@k12.wa.us
Office 360-725-6040