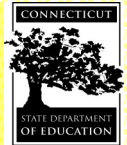




THE SCHOOL NURSE BULLETIN

MAY 2013



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Special Point of Interest:

- *National School Nurse Day - Wednesday, May 8, 2013*
- *2013 Election Day Nurse Cadre Regional Professional Development Opportunities*

National School Nurse Day! **Wednesday, May 8, 2013**

National School Nurse Day will be celebrated on Wednesday, May 8, 2013. This is a time to honor the more than 74,000 school nurses across the country, who make a difference in the lives of children and youth every day. This year, the National Association of School Nurses' (NASN) theme, **Advocacy, Access, Achievement: Leading the Way**, captures school nurses' significant role in improving students' health and academic outcomes.

According to the NASN, "we are in a unique position to promote prevention and wellness, providing access to care for our children and youth to stay healthy, safe and ready to learn. Research shows that early access to care and prevention strategies is vital, which is why school nurses promote healthy lifestyles and disease prevention for students during their early and most vulnerable years – and lasting through high school. School nurses are an invaluable bridge that connects health care providers, public health and families. Working with 98 percent of school-aged children in the United States, we are the daily eyes and ears of health care providers and public health, and serve our nation's most vulnerable children by addressing their health risks and helping parents navigate our complex health system."

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), NASN and the Association of School Nurses of Connecticut is proud to acknowledge the increasing recognition given to school nursing as a pivotal access point for student health.

Happy School Nurses Day and thank you so much for all you do!



Did you know?

National School Nurse Day Background: Since 1972, National School Nurse Day has been set aside to recognize school nurses.

Purpose: National School Nurse Day was established to foster a better understanding of the role of school nurses in the educational setting.

Date: National School Nurse Day is celebrated on the Wednesday within National Nurse Week and National Nurse Week is always May 6th through May 12th.

Connecticut: The CSDE's Health Promotion Services/School Nurse Program provides consultation to school nurses, school nurse leaders, school administrators and the community regarding the health and safety of students. This consultation and technical assistance includes addressing the provisions of health services during the school day and the promotion of health and wellness activities that support student achievement. Professional development programs are periodically organized to further assist and support school nurses.

Connecticut's State School Health/Nurse Consultant: Stephanie Knutson may be contacted at stephanie.knutson@ct.gov.

Field Trip Guidelines for Connecticut School Nurses

We are in the beginning stages of creating field trip guidelines for Connecticut's school nurses and are looking for the following information from school nurses, school nurse supervisors and other school personnel to be incorporated in the guidelines:

1. Sample field trip forms.
2. Sample field trip policies and procedures.
3. Frequently asked questions or other questions related to field trips.

Your contribution and feedback is important in the development of this electronic document, which will be made available on the CSDE's School Health Promotion/School Nurse Web site at www.ct.gov/sde/schoolnurse.

Please e-mail your sample documents and questions to Stephanie Knutson at stephanie.knutson@ct.gov prior to May 30, 2013.

Pre-K Influenza Immunization Survey

As of January 1, 2012, and each January 1st thereafter, influenza vaccine is required for all Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) students 24 through 59 months of age. In order to measure the effectiveness of this new requirement, the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) Immunization Program is asking all schools with local or regional board of education Pre-K programs to complete the Pre-K Influenza Immunization Survey. Pre-schools licensed by the DPH are surveyed separately.

Because the DPH is measuring compliancy with the influenza vaccination requirement deadline of January 1st, this survey only pertains to children who were enrolled in Pre-K as of January 1, 2013, and aged 24–59 months as of that date. Children enrolled between January 1, 2013, and March 31, 2013, should still be vaccinated to be compliant with the influenza requirement. The DPH is looking for the number of children who were vaccinated with at least one dose of influenza vaccine between July 1, 2012 and December 31, 2012, as well as any children with religious or medical exemptions. The information gathered from this survey and future surveys moving forward will help us track influenza coverage levels in these age cohorts as well as monitor the rate of flu exemptions.

More information about immunization laws and requirements, including a "Question and Answer" document about the new flu requirement, can be found on the DPH Web site at www.ct.gov/dph/immunizations (click on the Immunization Laws and Regulations icon and scroll down to the Elementary, Middle and High School section).

If you have any questions, please contact Michael Bolduc at the DPH Immunization Program at 860-509-7940.

Professional Development Opportunities

Epi-Pen Train-The-Trainer Professional Development Saving Lives at School: School Nurses Train Staff to Respond to Anaphylactic Emergencies

Students experiencing anaphylaxis need life-saving medication without delay – it can mean the difference between life and death. School nurses can take the leadership position in the school to train school staff members to administer epinephrine using an auto-injector. This one hour presentation will highlight the need for this training and provide the school nurse with an overview of anaphylaxis and every resource needed to provide this vital training at their school.

The trainers for this professional development opportunity are Sue Levasseur, Pat Krin, Andrea Dillon and Faine Gauthier. For additional information or to schedule a training session, please contact Sue Levasseur at slevasseur@westport.k12.ct.us.

Professional Development Opportunities, cont'd

Full Day Regional Professional Development Opportunities Tuesday, November 5, 2012 (Election Day!)

The Coordinated School Health Cadre of Nurse Trainers will be providing regional professional development opportunities on Tuesday, November 5, 2013 (Election Day)!

Registration: Complete the **Presentation Criteria Form** located on page 4 of this *Bulletin* and e-mail to Glenda Stuckey at Glenda.stuckey@po.state.ct.us.

Cost: \$20.00 per person. Up to \$260.00 per school district. (**Does not include the \$65.00 cost for CPR Training in South Windsor.**)

Deadline for registration: September 1, 2013.

Location: Addresses for each event will be announced in the June 2013, *School Nurse Bulletin*.

Regional Professional Development Opportunities:

- Bullard Havens, Bridgeport
 - 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. - Education and Rehabilitation Services: The role of the school nurse and medical advisor in education and rehabilitation services for students with special health care needs. Presented by school Medical Advisor, Dr. Ann Milanese.
 - 12:30 - 3:00 p.m. The Spectrum Unplugged: A Guided panel of experts who are on the Autistic Spectrum. They are articulate, brilliant, "left of center" and honest about their journey to home, school and in the community. FOCUS: Center for Autism.
- Newington High School, Newington
 - 8:00 - 11:30 a.m. Seizure Management.
 - 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. NASN's Saving Lives at School: School Nurses Train Staff to Respond to Anaphylactic Emergencies.
- South Windsor
 - A.M. Session - CPR Recertification Training for School Nurses (**\$65.00 per person**).
 - P.M. Session - Electronic Documentation for School Nurses.
- Westport Public School District
 - 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Developmental Considerations in Trauma in Children.
 - 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Anxiety in Children.

Walk-in registration will not be available at these events.

**STEPHANIE G. KNUTSON, MSN, RN, STATE
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Professional Development Opportunities, cont'd

**Connecticut State Department of Education
Cadre of Nursing Trainers
Presentation Criteria/ Professional Development Request Form**

**Tuesday, November 5, 2013 (Election Day!)
(E-mail completed form to: Glenda.stuckey@po.state.ct.us)**

Date of Request: _____

Requestor: _____

Job Title: _____

School District: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

=====

Title of Presentation: _____

Time of Presentation: _____

Location of Presentation: _____

Number of Participants: _____

Title of Presentation: _____

Time of Presentation: _____

Location of Presentation: _____

Number of Participants: _____

Note:

- E-mail this form to Glenda Stuckey at Glenda.stuckey@po.state.ct.us by September 1, 2013.
- Cadre presentations cost : \$20.00 per person. Up to \$260 per school district. Does not include the \$65 cost for CPR Training in South Windsor. CPR recertification training is an additional \$65.00 per person.
- Meals will not be provided.
- Handouts will be e-mailed to your attention prior to the event. You are responsible for copying handouts for each presentation.