

## 2019 School Health Update February 2019

- 1) Welcome to Bill Deemer RN
  - a. Bill will be the school nurse consultant for the NW and SW districts
  - b. Bill will be in orientation for the next few months
    - i. Continue to submit questions to Sheri Mountz (NE, SW, NC) and Sue Templin (SC, NW, SE)
  - c. Bill has been a Community Health Nurse for Westmoreland County for the past 8 years and has been with the Department of Health for 18 years
  
- 2) Questions should be directed to the appropriate entities
  - a. Immunizations
    - i. <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/programs/immunizations/Pages/School.aspx>
    - ii. Contact your local State Health Center or your Immunization Nurse Consultant
    - iii. To order immunization materials  
<https://nws.pennsylvania.egov.com/forms/doh/immunizationmaterials>
  - b. Communicable and Vaccine Preventable Disease questions
    - i. Contact your local State Health Center or County Health Department
  - c. Dept of Education
    - i. <https://www.education.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>
    - ii. <https://www.education.pa.gov/Educators/Certification/Pages/default.aspx> (for certification questions)
  - d. Board of Nursing
    - i. <https://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/Nursing/Pages/default.aspx>
  - e. Department of Human Services
    - i. <http://dhs.pa.gov/>
  - f. Medical Marijuana
    - i. <https://www.pa.gov/guides/pennsylvania-medical-marijuana-program/>
    - ii. <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/programs/Medical%20Marijuana/Pages/Medical%20Marijuana.aspx>
    - iii. Email questions to: [RA-DHMedMarijuana@pa.gov](mailto:RA-DHMedMarijuana@pa.gov)
  
- 3) School Health Annual Reimbursement Request System (SHARRS)  
<https://apps.health.pa.gov/SHARRS/Login.aspx>
  - a. The SHARRS report must be **submitted** by the **Superintendent/CEO** no later than September 30 of each year
  - b. SHARRS opens for data entry on **May 15 and closes on September 30**
  - c. There is a link to the "Instruction Manual" on every page for further guidance
  - d. Schools who do not submit the report timely will forfeit their reimbursement
  - e. Timely submission is essential as the reports are used to gather statistical data for State and Federal government reports, educational and research studies
  - f. It is strongly recommended that a Certified School Nurse (CSN) review the report before submission.
    - i. Erroneous data entry causes inaccurate statistics
    - ii. Non-medical personnel may not recognize medical data errors
    - iii. For example, on the 2016-17 school year report several schools reported giving hundreds and thousands of doses of Narcan. If a CSN reviewed the data, as strongly recommended, this statistical error may have been avoided
  
- 4) Chronic Conditions Count is to be collected annually
  - a. The Chronic Conditions count is to be taken **March 15-30**
    - i. This data is saved and then reported on the school's annual SHARRS report when it opens on May 15
  - b. The SHARRS instruction manual Chapter 13 provides further guidance on collecting this data
    - i. <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/School%20Health/SHARRS%20User%20Instruction%20Manual%202016.pdf>

- 5) Dental Hygiene Services Program Authorization Plan (DHSP):
  - a. The plan must be **submitted** between **April 1 to April 30** for the upcoming school year
    - i. Completing the authorization plan does not submit it. Make sure it is submitted- **any SHARRS user may submit the plan**
  - b. A school is still required to employ or contract with a dentist when a school has a dental hygiene program
  - c. The written plan must be **approved** by the following professionals when created, amended, and at least every 3 years:
    - i. Certified School Dental Hygienists (CSDH) or CSDH/Public Health Dental Hygiene Practitioners (PHDHP)
    - ii. School Dentist (The School Dentist has dental responsibility for the school entity.)
      1. Required even when the CSDH is a PHDHP
    - iii. School Administration (Superintendent/CEO, Assistant Superintendent or Pupil Services Director)
  - d. The Authorizing Dentist assumes supervisory oversight of the Certified School Dental Hygienist (CSDH)
    - i. The **signature** of the Authorizing Dentist must be obtained annually for each CSDH
    - ii. The **signature** of an Authorizing Dentist is not required when the CSDH is a PHDHP
  - e. Any school that does not submit the Dental Hygiene Authorization Plan **by April 30** will automatically be classified as a “Mandated Dental Program” and will not be able to convert to a hygiene program after April 30- **NO EXCEPTIONS** permitted due to the dynamics of the SHARRS programming
- 6) Act 105 of 2018 Sunscreen self-carry and self-apply was signed into law October 24, 2018
  - a. Parents and students must each submit a permission form to the school for a student to self-carry and self-apply sunscreen
    - i. These forms are currently being developed by the Department of Education
  - b. Students who are unable to self-apply sunscreen must have an order from the school physician or their primary care provider along with parental permission as with any other over the counter medication
- 7) Child Abuse Training Requirements
  - a. Child abuse training is required every 2 years for RN license renewal
  - b. The training should be taken well in advance due to the time it may take the organization to officially notify the Board of Nursing (BON)
    - i. Prior to the nursing license expiration date, if the BON does not receive official notification from the organization that conducted the training, the license may not be renewed and may be put on inactive status
- 8) Naloxone
  - a. In 2017, there were 5,456 drug-related overdose deaths in Pennsylvania according to the U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, Philadelphia Field Division
  - b. On January 10, 2018, Governor Wolf signed a 90-day statewide disaster declaration to help combat the heroin and opioid overdose epidemic <https://data.pa.gov/stories/s/9q45-nckt/>
  - c. More information on naloxone initiatives across the state can be found on the main DOH webpage <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Opioids/Pages/Opioids.aspx>
  - d. Schools may order free Naloxone (Narcan) directly from the manufacture Adapt Pharma. The information to order Narcan, can be found on the school health webpage at <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/school/Pages/Naloxone%20Program.aspx>
  - e. Schools choosing to carry Narcan should have a standing order written by the school physician, parent notification, policy and procedures in place, staff training (please see the 2 approved training links below)
    - i. <https://www.getnaloxonenow.org/>
    - ii. <https://www.pavtn.net/act-139-training>

- iii. While the law does not specify how often to take the training the Division of School Health recommends annual training
- iv. It is also recommended to take training that is developed by the manufacturer for the specific product being administered

- 9) Limitations to Act 48 submission into the Professional Education Record Management System (PERMS)
- a. The Bureau of Public Health Preparedness (BPHP) was informed, by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), that they are not authorized to enter Act 48 continuing education credits for courses taken prior to June 8, 2017
  - b. BPHP was also informed that they are not authorized to enter Act 48 continuing education credits if a nurse's certification status is "Inactive"
  - c. The PDE must be contacted directly with any further questions or for assistance
    - i. <https://www.education.pa.gov/Educators/Certification/Pages/default.aspx>

10) Nursing Services Staffing:

- a. **Certified School Nurse (CSN)** is the only licensed registered nurse who may manage and direct the care of a caseload of students in Pennsylvania. The CSN is at all times responsible for the caseload while students are under school jurisdiction. There are no set number of hours/days that the CSN is required to be physically present in his/her assigned (public/private) buildings but must rotate through the buildings on a "regular" basis. "Regular" depends on the health needs of the students in that building. The CSN must spend enough time in each building to be totally familiar with the students' health issues, treatments, medications, maintaining health records, etc. The CSN is also responsible for coordinating the care of the student caseload in such matters as, developing plans of care, communicating with parents regarding concerns, being part of teams (such as Student Assistance, IEP, 504s), etc. Schools may hire supplemental nurses (LPNs or non-certified RNs) to assist the CSN. The supplemental staff may provide daily care of students and assist with completion of mandated screens and exams, as their licensure allows. The CSN needs to be "on duty" and be physically present or available by phone to provide the supplemental staff nurse with direction/assistance whenever needed.
  - i. Only a CSN may substitute for another CSN
  - ii. **Section 1401.** Definitions - As used in this article-- (8) "School nurse" means a licensed registered nurse properly certificated by the Superintendent of Public Instruction as a school nurse who is employed by a school district ...
  - iii. **Section 1402.** Health Services - (a.1) Every child of school age shall be provided with school nurse services...
  - iv. **Section 1410.** Employment of School Health Personnel - (a)... all school districts ... shall employ one or more school nurses ...
  - v. **Section 1421.** Powers and Duties of the Secretary of Health and of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; Rules and Regulations - ... Approve certification of school nurses and dental hygienists for employment by a school district or joint school board and administer and direct their services and program: Provided, That the services of school nurses and dental hygienists shall be utilized exclusively in connection with medical and dental examinations and associated health activities
  - vi. **23.34. School nurses** - The duties of school nurses shall be those assigned by the school district or joint school board which are **exclusively connected with medical and dental school health activities**. The technical content of the duties of the nurse shall be those prescribed by the Department of Health
- b. **Supplemental staff nurses (LPNs or non-certified RNs)** may be hired to assist the CSN to provide daily care of students and assist with completion of mandated screens and exams, as their licensure allows
  - i. The CSN needs to be "on duty" and be physically present or available by phone to provide the supplemental staff nurse with direction/assistance whenever needed.
  - ii. The **noncertified RN may not carry a caseload assignment** and functions in the school setting under the CSN who serves as the RN's team leader and case manager

- iii. If a CSN is absent and a substitute is a supplemental licensed nurse covering the daily needs, the caseload of the absent CSNs' assignment must be temporarily redistributed so the supplemental nurse has a CSN to report to and receive direction from
  - iv. The non-certified RN lacks the education that provides the concepts, framework, applications and issues unique to school based health care delivery
  - v. An LPN may be used in the school but per their licensure **may not function independently**
    - 1. **21.141. Definitions Practice of practical nursing**—The performance of selected nursing acts in the care of the ill, injured or infirm under the direction of a licensed professional nurse, a licensed physician or a licensed dentist which do not require the specialized skill, judgment and knowledge required in professional nursing.  
Example: there is no assessment language in the license
- c. Pa Department of Education Certification Staffing Policy Guidelines (CSPGs)
- i. [https://www.education.pa.gov/Teachers%20-%20Administrators/Certifications/Pages/Certification-Policies-\(CSPGs\).aspx](https://www.education.pa.gov/Teachers%20-%20Administrators/Certifications/Pages/Certification-Policies-(CSPGs).aspx)
  - ii. **CSPG 80 School Nurse (Kindergarten-12)** ... When a school district employs an individual in the job title “school nurse,” this person must be a certified School Nurse whether employed as a professional or temporary professional...
  - iii. **CSPG 95 Principal (Kindergarten-12)** ... Supervision and direction of certified and non-certified staff persons required for school operation exclusive of directing health services controlled by the Nurse Practice Act...
  - iv. **CSPG 101 Utilization of Paraprofessional Staff** ... Paraprofessionals serving as health room aides cannot be directed to engage in health-related activities reserved exclusively for licensed professionals and controlled by the Nurse Practice Act, or other medically related laws...

#### 11) Additional Resources

- a. The Division of School Health:  
<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/school/Pages/School%20Health.aspx>
- b. Multi-Hazard School Safety Planning Toolkit (includes the “Pa Emergency Guidelines for Schools 2018”): <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/school/Pages/All-Hazard-Planning-Toolkit.aspx>
- c. Previous School Health Updates and Presentations:  
<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/school/Pages/Updates.aspx>
- d. Pa Dept of Health Influenza recommendations for schools:  
<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Flu/Pages/School.aspx>