



School Nurse UPDATE

#11 April 8, 2021

Greetings!

My head spins when I contemplate the range of topics contained in this newsletter! The information under **DPI News (New School Nurse Orientation dates, survey for upcoming school nurse network meeting, OST Professionals Appreciation Week, and Child Abuse Prevention Month)** requires five pages to share with readers. DPI News also highlights an article on **student mental health and COVID** by a fellow Student Services Prevention and Wellness colleague and DPI consultant. In the same issue of “Wisconsin School News” (publication of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards) in which her article appears, are several other articles of interest. Check out the entire [April 2021 issue](#).

DHS released **graduation guidance** for 2021. DHS has not yet published updates to their outbreak guidance. COVID vaccines continue to roll out across Wisconsin with everyone 16+ now eligible. With the focus on COVID vaccination, the need for “normal” **childhood vaccination** is sometimes overlooked. **PRACTICE POINTS** discusses this and gives a **status update on the WIR/Student Information Systems project**.

The FDA has approved a **new ready-to-inject glucagon**. Under Miscellaneous read about **summer camps for students with diabetes**.

Confused about how the **American Rescue Plan** might benefit student health? Check out the resources under NASN News. Covering Wisconsin wants to remind families that they can still **sign up for health insurance** until August 15 (see p. 16).

We are still in the midst of a pandemic. **DHS/CDC/DPI encourages the use of face masks in schools**. Other COVID-related topics in this issue include Long COVID in children, role of school nurses, role variants may play in school transmission in the future, and new and recorded webinars.

Louise

DPI supports best practices/evidence-based resources, but does not vet or endorse products/services. User is responsible to evaluate the resource and how it meets local needs.

FEATURED STORIES

PRACTICE POINTS - Back to School Immunizations - 2021 (p. 17-18)

Tornado and Severe Weather Update (p. 3)

Deep Dive on Vaping (p. 9)

Vaccine Protects for Six Months or More (p. 12)

Every Kid Healthy Week is April 26-30 (p. 13)

THC Strips Product Alert (p.15)

SAVE THE DATE

Wisconsin School Nurse Network Zoom Meeting- April 21, 2021 1:00-2:00 PM. Link to meeting will be sent out 4/19/2021.

NASN2021 Conference- Transforming Student Health: School Nurses Leading the Way
June 24 - June 27, 2021
(preconference June 23, 2021)

DPI News



April School Nurse Network Meeting Survey

The next school nurse networking event will be on Wednesday, April 21. We will be discussing presenting to the school board during COVID-19. The planning committee has developed a short survey to gather information regarding what COVID-19 related data points and information was shared with your school board during this past school year. Here is the link to the nine-question survey: [Presenting to the School Board](#).

If you have additional thoughts and experiences that you would like to share, that are not captured by the survey questions, please feel free to email: Teresa@SchoolHealthAssociates.com.

DPI Consultant Publishes Article

Kate McCoy is a consultant with the Department of Public Instruction. Her article *“What Now” Supporting student mental health before, during and after the return to in-person instruction* was published in the April 21, 2021, issue of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards’ publication, “Wisconsin School News.”

Looking at the various fallouts from COVID leaves many educators wondering how they can meet “this tidal wave of need.” Schools are already expected to do so much. How can exhausted educators acknowledge increased student needs without feeling overwhelmed by them? The good news is that what’s best for mental health is, in many cases, exactly what schools do best, and the conditions that encourage learning are the same conditions that encourage strong mental health. [Read more](#) starting on page 4.

New School Nurse Orientation Dates Announced

DPI’s New School Nurse Orientation for fall 2021 will once again be held virtually over Zoom. The dates of the two day virtual event will be October 21 and 22, 2021. This training is for those registered nurses who are new to the specialty of school nursing or are working in a Wisconsin school district for the first time. It is appropriate for school and registered nurses who have worked in a school setting zero to three years. More information about the orientation and how to register will be sent out in late May. Registration will likely start in late August.

DPI’s New School Nurse Orientation for fall 2021 will once again be held virtually over Zoom.

DPI News

Summary of Revisions to CDC/DHS/DPI Guidance for Schools – March 24, 2021

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Prevention](#) and [Operating schools during COVID-19: CDC's Considerations](#) were updated March 19, 2021. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has endorsed the CDC's recommendations. The Department of Public Instruction's (DPI) documents are based upon these recommendations from the CDC as endorsed by DHS and were updated. DPI has created a summary of these changes for your use. This summary is located at [https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/sspw/pdf/Summary of Revisions to CDC-DHS-DPI Guidance 3.24.21.pdf](https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/sspw/pdf/Summary_of_Revisions_to_CDC-DHS-DPI_Guidance_3.24.21.pdf)

DPI documents will be further updated to reflect the recent state Supreme Court decision.

Tornado and Severe Weather Update

Due to unexpected technical issues, Wisconsin's Statewide Tornado drill on April 15, 2021, will no longer include a live test of the Emergency Alert System. As a result, the National Weather Service will not be sending out a test warning that triggers an alert on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radios and broadcast TV and radio stations.

Schools are still encouraged to conduct tornado drill procedures at 1:45 p.m. on April 15 or at any time convenient for their operations. If there is severe weather in the state on April 15, the drill would be postponed to April 16. Updated information about any decision to cancel or postpone the drill will be posted at <https://readywisconsin.wi.gov> by 10 a.m. on the day of the drill.

Save the Date: Out-of-School Time Professionals Appreciation Week

State Superintendent Carolyn Stanford Taylor will issue a Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) Proclamation that acknowledges April 19-23, 2021, as Out-of-School Time (OST) Professionals Appreciation Week! This week underscores the tremendous impact of OST staff throughout Wisconsin. Thank you to all OST professionals who offer their time and effort every day, all year round, to make a difference for students, families, and communities! During this week, the DPI will be celebrating OST professionals in the state in various ways. Look for more information on the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) website and the DPI's OST email lists.



Wisconsin's Statewide Tornado drill on April 15, 2021, will no longer include a live test of the Emergency Alert System.

DPI News

April is Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month

Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment. Please join us during April Prevention Month by promoting and strengthening child abuse prevention efforts in Wisconsin. More information on this topic will be released on [DPI-ConnectEd Stories](#) later this month.

Some ways to promote the importance of building productive and prosperous futures for our children include:

- Educating and engaging community members to focus on child abuse prevention.
- Reminding the community that being a parent is challenging.
- Highlighting approaches and resources that provide families with support.
- Encouraging community members to help lead, plan, and participate in events so that they have the opportunity to contribute and become invested.
- Be clear and consistent in your commitments to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Resources:

- [Celebrate Children Foundation License Plate Campaign](#)
- [WI Department of Children and Families Campaign Materials](#)
- [WI Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board Materials](#)
- [DPI Training on Child Abuse and Neglect](#)
- [DPI Resources for Reducing and Responding to Sexual Violence](#), including teaching protective behaviors, teen dating violence prevention, and anti-human trafficking.
- [Prevent Child Abuse WI \(Children's Hospital\) Resources](#)
- DPI Publication - [School's Role in Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect](#)
- [US Department of Health and Human Services Campaign Materials](#)

SEL Trainings Now Available Online

DPI announces that two SEL trainings are now available online. The SEL Training of Trainers (ToT) and the SEL Team Implementation Training are free, self-paced training opportunities to prepare your school and district to fully implement social and emotional learning. The ToT is for individuals interested in training their own staff in the foundational knowledge of SEL. The Team Implementation Training is for school or district teams who want to plan and implement systemic SEL. This Team Implementation training replaces the previous Day 1 and Day 2 in person training opportunities offered in 2018 and 2019. Also being offered is a Community of Practice for staff completing the SEL Training of Trainers, providing additional support to those tasked with training others. Please see the flyer attached to this Update for more information about these trainings and how to register for them.



Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment.

DPI News

COVID Funds Webpage

In a cross-agency effort, DPI has created the [COVID Response and Relief Planning Recommendations webpage](#), a resource page to assist districts in being thoughtful and planful in the use of the one-time funds for COVID relief. Each category has a drop-down box populated by subject matter experts and vetted by federal fiscal monitoring experts as allowable costs under federal relief funds. The list is alphabetized and highlights exemplars of districts maximizing available funds to address a need, or of external resources proved to be effective. The resource page is best used in conjunction with district needs assessments for planning purposes. The webpage will be evolving and updated routinely.



Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Update

Due to the pandemic, the 2021 YRBS was postponed until the fall. The fall survey window will run from September 7, 2021, until December 10, 2021. The registration form to sign up for the YRBS will be open by mid-April and remain open through the end of the school year. The 2021 questionnaire is under review by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) but will be very similar to the 2019 questionnaire. It will be posted to the website as soon as it receives final CDC approval. Stay up to date by visiting the [Conducting a YRBS](#) webpage or signing up for the YRBS listserv (instructions on website).

Vaccine Information for Families of Children with Disabilities and their Caregivers

Schools are often a point of contact for families with children with disabilities that are eligible to receive support from the county, municipal, and state service systems.

Please consider passing along the following fact sheets to your families in your school or district that were developed by the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities' (BPDD's) Living Well project, in collaboration with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). These fact sheets, available in both English and Spanish, were written in plain language about the COVID-19 vaccine. The links below and additional fact sheets in other languages and videos can be found on the [Living Well web page](#).

- [Vaccine information for Family Care participants and their caregivers](#)
- [Vaccine information for IRIS participants and their caregivers](#)
- [Vaccine information for Children's Disability Programs participants and their caregivers](#)

Vaccine fact sheets are available for families of children with disabilities. Schools may consider sharing them with families to promote vaccination.

DPI News

School-based Mental Health Services Grant

The Department of Public instruction is pleased to announce the 2021-23 Competition for the School-based Mental Health Services Grant (SBMH).

The Department of Public Instruction's (DPI) SBMH grant program, authorized under Wis. Stat. sec. 115.367, is designed to support public school districts, independent charter schools and consortiums of these, in collaborating with community mental health providers to develop and implement comprehensive school-based mental health programs and practices.

Grantees have used grant funds to support staff training in school-based mental health practices such as trauma sensitive schools, social and emotional learning, and mental health literacy. Funds can be used to purchase evidence-based curriculum and materials necessary to support the curriculum. Grantees may use funds for positions that support the grant work plan.

Collaborations with community mental health providers includes activities such as co-leading groups with school-based mental health providers, working to develop a clear and effective referral pathway, consulting with school staff regarding student needs, and providing training to staff and parents. While grant funds cannot pay for direct treatment services, many grantees work with community providers to locate clinics in school buildings to provide easier access to treatment and support services.

These are two-year grants (2021-2023). Applicants may request an amount between \$10,000 and \$75,000 and grantees will receive that amount in each of the two years. Applications submitted will be for the first year of the project only.

For the 2021-23 SBMH grant cycle, DPI is using the WizeHive online platform. All grants submitted by 11:59 p.m. on May 3, 2021, will be reviewed. The review process takes place in two phases: 1) External: school, community, and state personnel with background and knowledge in programs and services related to SBMH and the health and well-being of children review grants using a reviewer benchmark rubric. 2) Internal: DPI education consultants will review the projects to confirm ratings and to approve or make modifications/revisions in the plans and/or budgets so as to fund as many projects as possible and ensure budget items are fundable under the prescribed grant appropriation. Grantees are expected to be announced in July of 2021.

The application online portal link, guidelines, scoring rubric, and a PDF copy of the application (for reference only) can be found at the SBMH grant webpage: <https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/mental-health/school-based-grant-program>.

For Questions about the State SBMH Program Grant contact: schoolmentalhealthservicesgrant@dpi.wi.gov

DHS News

Respiratory Report

[The Weekly Respiratory Report](#) (detailing influenza data) is available and updated bi-weekly.

DHS Releases Guidance for Spring and Summer Activities/Graduation

DHS updated the [Staying Safe in Your Community webpage](#) to include recommendations for both fully vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. The webpage now includes guidance for a variety of spring and summer activities (including graduation), as well as guidelines for attending or hosting gatherings.

Increased Vaccine Supply Expands Federal Retail Pharmacy Program to More Locations

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) announced seven new pharmacy partners in Wisconsin will start receiving vaccine as part of the [Federal Retail Pharmacy Program](#). This includes select Costco, CVS, and Hy-Vee locations, as well as the following independent pharmacy networks: Good Neighbor and AmerisourceBergen Drug Corporation, Health Mart, Medicine Shoppe and Cardinal Health, and Topco. In addition, Community Pharmacy Enhanced Services Network (CPESN) which includes some Hometown Pharmacies, and Walmart and will both receive additional vaccine doses allowing them to offer vaccinations at more locations.

“We are excited to expand this program in order to bring more vaccine to communities across the state,” said DHS Interim Secretary Karen Timberlake. “Our vaccine team and partners are committed to making the vaccine as accessible to everyone as possible. We urge everyone currently eligible to visit the DHS website to learn about how to schedule an appointment. And please remember that whether you are insured or not, the vaccine is free to everyone.”

[View the entire news release.](#)

Post-Vaccination Guidance for Schools in Multiple Languages

Post-Vaccination Guidance for Schools, P-02944

[English](#) | [Hindi](#) | [Hmong](#) | [Somali](#) | [Spanish](#)

DHS materials are available in multiple languages as electronic files you can view online or download and print. You can use these materials at home or for your business. Visit the [DHS website](#) to view what resources are available to you.



The Department of Health Services (DHS) recommends that people avoid medium- and large-sized gatherings, including traditional graduation ceremonies. This guidance applies even for those who are [fully vaccinated](#). If schools decide to hold an in-person graduation ceremony, they should ensure that their events comply with all applicable state and local public health orders.

DHS News

DHS Urges Wisconsinites to Continue to Mask Up

On March 31, the Wisconsin State Supreme Court overturned the current public health emergency, which also ended the mask order. DHS is asking all Wisconsinites to do everything in their power to [support the adoption or continuation of mask orders in your jurisdiction](#).



Wisconsin Asthma Coalition

Children’s Health Alliance of Wisconsin, in partnership with the Department of Health Services, is looking to learn more about the Wisconsin Asthma Coalition’s member engagement. We’d love to hear from you about your asthma work in Wisconsin and how the Coalition can better support your work. For this purpose, we’ve prepared a short survey that should take about five minutes to complete. Your input will help us make improvements to the existing WAC structure and how to prioritize future activities. Please use the following link to complete the survey: <https://www.surveymzmo.com/s3/6210689/WAC-2021>

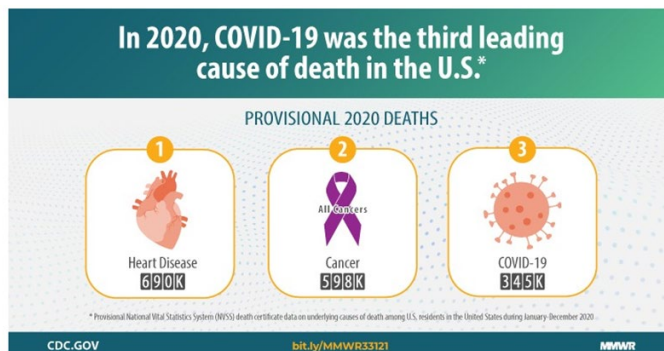
The survey is completely anonymous and will be open until **April 12**.

DHS is asking all Wisconsinites to do everything in their power to support the adoption or continuation of mask orders in your jurisdiction.

MMWR

Provisional Mortality Data – United States, 2020

[Read report.](#)



NASN News

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Advocacy Resources Available

The ARP, or COVID-19 Stimulus, passed by Congress and signed into law by President Biden includes \$122 billion for K-12 public schools. School districts can use the funds in a variety of ways, including hiring additional school nurses to support the health and well-being of students. NASN has prepared a [series of resources](#), including an overview of the ARP and funding flow and [social media graphics](#). The overview of ARP can be used to make a clear and compelling case on how to use ARP funds in their community with respect to school nursing services. Please [download and share](#) social media graphics on your own pages.

NASN Launches COVID-19 Interactive Tools

[Can I Send My Student to School](#): Designed for school nurses to share with parents, this interactive tool, based on CDC COVID-19 guidance, will guide parents through assessing when their child should stay home from school.

[How to Manage Difficult Conversations](#): A quick micro-burst of learning, this interactive module teaches school nurses a simple formula to use to respond effectively to challenging conversations.

School Nurse Chat: Deep Dive on Vaping

In this episode of NASN School Nurse Chat, NASN Executive Director Donna Mazyck is joined by youth leader Alyssa Williams, researcher Dr Karen Wilson, physician Dr Jose Torradas & NASN Nursing Education Specialist Elizabeth Clark to discuss vaping and how schools can prevent it. [Listen to the Podcast](#).

Safe Strong & Healthy Schools

Week 3 of [Safe, Strong & Healthy Schools](#) is in the books! We hope you and your networks enjoyed the episodes featuring Dr. Mala Mathur ("[The Physical and Emotional Effects of COVID-19 on Children & Families](#)") & Dr. Emily Ruedinger ("[Adolescence, Interrupted](#)").

See episode take-aways in the **attached weekly "Check-Up" newsletter**. As always, links to the episodes, presentation slides, and other useful resources can be found on [the series homepage](#). Please share these with others in your networks and school communities as you see fit!

Safe, Strong & Healthy Schools is taking a short break from broadcasting next week, but will return in early April with a final batch of episodes to close season one.



These funds are in addition to the \$10 billion recently made available to states by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to pay for COVID-19 testing for K-12 teachers, staff and students.

Immunization Action Coalition

CDC calls for children to get caught up on recommended vaccines for a safe return to school

Dr. Messonnier, director of CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, issued a letter titled [Help Kids' Safe Return to School - Get Caught Up on Recommended Vaccines](#). It asks for help getting children caught up on routine vaccines missed over the last year due to COVID-19.

The letter categorizes specific catch-up efforts that can be undertaken by healthcare systems and healthcare providers, healthcare provider organizations, schools, and state and local government agencies.

Schools and state and local governments agencies should:

- Send reminders to families about school immunization requirements.
- Follow-up with families of children who are not in compliance with requirements to encourage compliance.
- Use the state's immunization information system's reminder-recall capacity to notify families whose children have fallen behind on vaccines.

We all should:

- Communicate directly to families the importance of well-child visits and getting caught up on any recommended vaccines that were missed.

CDC's [Catch-up Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 4 Months–18 Years Who Start Late or Who Are More than 1 Month Behind, United States, 2021](#).



Vaccinated against COVID-19? Let your friends know by adding IAC's "I Got My COVID-19 Vaccine" Facebook profile photo frame!

Share your excitement about COVID-19 vaccination and inspire your friends! When you have received your COVID-19 vaccine, add IAC's new "I Got My COVID-19 Vaccine" Facebook photo frame to liven up your profile picture!

You can obtain the frame in two ways:

Click your profile picture, select "update picture," and then select "add a frame." Search for #igotmycovid19vaccine and select it. Accept the frame by clicking this link:

www.facebook.com/profilepicframes/?selected_overlay_id=2361854253958052



Immunization Action Coalition (cont.)

CDC posts new COVID-19 vaccine quick comparison chart for healthcare professionals

CDC's new [COVID-19 Vaccine Quick Reference Guide for Healthcare Professionals](#) is a two-page reference table providing basic information on the proper storage, preparation, and administration of the current U.S.-authorized COVID-19 vaccines.



IAC Spotlight! IAC's "Top 6" training materials will help you with proper technique and guidance for correctly administering COVID-19 vaccines and all others.

IAC's tallies show the following six print materials have risen to the top of the popularity list because so many new vaccinators are being trained on administering COVID-19 vaccines. You can use these materials in your healthcare setting, as well. They are excellent refresher materials and useful for teaching new staff about administering vaccines. Check them out.

- [Skills Checklist for Vaccine Administration](#) is a self-assessment tool for healthcare staff; supervisors can use the checklist to clarify expectations for staff who administer vaccines
- [How to Administer Intramuscular and Subcutaneous Vaccine Injections](#) shows the proper way to administer vaccinations with easy-to-follow instructions and images
- [How to Administer Intramuscular and Subcutaneous Vaccine Injections to Adults](#) shows the proper way to administer vaccinations to adults with easy-to-follow instructions and images
- [Medical Management of Vaccine Reactions in Adults in a Community Setting](#) describes the steps to take if an adverse event occurs after vaccination, including guidance on the management of anaphylaxis
- [Administering Vaccines: Dose, Route, Site, and Needle Size](#) is a one-page table with information on routinely recommended adult vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccine
- [Screening Checklist for Contraindications to Vaccines for Adults](#) is a questionnaire to help determine which vaccines ([other than COVID-19 vaccines](#)) an adult may be given during the visit

Useful materials if you need a refresher on how to administer vaccines.

Medscape Nurses



FDA Approves New Ready-to-Inject Glucagon Product

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved [dasiglucagon](#) (*Zegalogue* 0.6 mg/0.6 mL, Zealand Pharma) autoinjector and prefilled syringe for the treatment of severe [hypoglycemia](#) in people with diabetes aged 6 and older. The product has a shelf-life of 36 months at refrigerated temperatures and is stable for up to 12 months at room temperature. Full launch is expected in late June 2021. [Read more.](#)

CDC Adds New Medical Conditions to COVID-19 High-Risk List

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has added several new medical conditions to [its list](#) of those that predispose adults to more severe COVID-19 illness. [Read more.](#)

Dramatic Drop in Common Viruses Raises Question: Masks Forever?

Masks and physical distancing are proving to have major fringe benefits, keeping people from getting all kinds of illnesses — not just COVID-19. But it's unclear whether the protocols will be worth the pain in the long run. [Read more.](#)

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Protects for Six Months or More, Study Shows

The Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine affords at least six months of protection after the second dose. [Read more.](#)

Children Likely the 'Leading Edge' in Spread of COVID-19 Variants

Public health officials in the Midwest and Northeast are sounding the alarm about steep new increases in COVID-19 cases in children. Now, as more SARS-CoV-2 variants have begun to dominate, and seniors gain protection from vaccines, that pattern may be changing. Infectious disease experts are watching to see if COVID-19 will start to spread in a pattern more similar to influenza, with children becoming infected first and bringing the infection home to their parents. [Read more.](#)

Masks and physical distancing are proving to have major fringe benefits, keeping people from getting all kinds of illnesses — not just COVID-19.

Miscellaneous

Every Kid Healthy Week is April 26-30

Every Kid Healthy™ Week is an annual observance created in 2013 to celebrate school health and wellness achievements. Each day of the week shines a spotlight on the great actions schools and families are taking to improve the health and wellness of their kids and the link between nutrition, physical activity, mental health and learning – because healthy kids are better prepared to learn and thrive! [Learn more.](#)



Summer Camp Opportunities for Students with Diabetes

Diabetes Camp Options – 2021 [ADA Imagine Camps \(Virtual\)](#)

Ages: 5-17 years

Dates: One week sessions offered June 7-July 26, 2021. One-hour virtual sessions held daily, with other self-guided activities provided to campers to complete outside of camp.

Cost: Free

Registration: www.diabetes.org/ImagineCamp (can register for more than one week). Send questions to campsupport@diabetes.org

Wisconsin Lion's Camp (In-Person) (No longer associated with the ADA, not using "Camp Lakota" name)

Ages: 12-16 years

Dates: Session 1 July 11-16, Session 2 July 18-23 (restricted to 100 campers per session)

Cost: Free

Contact: 715-677-4969 to request an application/inquire about availability. This website will be updated with information: wisconsinlionscamp.com.

Getting One Vaccine Is Good. How About Mix-and-Match?

Researchers are exploring the possible benefits of pairing doses from two different Covid-19 vaccines. [Read more.](#)

*... healthy kids
are better
prepared to learn
and thrive!*

Miscellaneous

Child Trends Webinar on Role of School Nurses During COVID.

School nurses play a pivotal role in school communities during COVID-19 and will remain critical after the pandemic ends. In [addition to their regular duties](#), many school nurses are currently providing COVID-19 information to students, staff, and families; spearheading virus testing and contact tracing efforts at the school and district levels; caring for symptomatic students and staff; and serving as the school or district liaison to local health departments. Many states offer detailed guidance on the roles and responsibilities of school nurses at the district and school levels during the pandemic, including considerations for safely providing school health spaces and personal protective equipment (PPE). However, it is also critical that states consider ways school nurses' expertise can be proactively leveraged to develop and enhance state and district plans for school reopening, as well as future plans for pandemic response and emergency management.

On **Thursday, April 15, from 3:00 to 4:00 pm ET**, Child Trends and the National Association of State Boards of Education will host a webinar to review research and CDC guidance related to the role of school nurses in addressing public health emergencies like COVID-19. We will also review trends in state policy and school reopening plans with respect to school nurses. [Register here.](#)

UK Resource on Long COVID in Kids

So far I have not seen many U. S. resources on Long COVID in children. These resources from a website in the United Kingdom can be accessed at: <https://www.longcovidkids.org/> The recommendations do not necessarily match WHO's as "The only way to avoid Long COVID is to avoid COVID-19 and with little understanding of this chronic health condition, we all need to work together to reduce risk."



School nurses play a pivotal role in school communities during COVID-19 and will remain critical after the pandemic ends.

Miscellaneous

New THC Product Alert: THC Strips

Do you remember those breath strips that were very popular a few years ago? They dissolved on your tongue and were a quick and discreet way to freshen up your breath?

A similar product is making waves on the cannabis scene - THC strips. According to an article by the Honest Marijuana Company, THC strips are "used as an inconspicuous way to get a dose of THC anytime, anywhere." The article states that THC strips are the latest trend with cannabis users and a quick Internet search confirms that many companies are jumping on this trend.

Why is this concerning? This is an extremely discreet way to ingest THC and serves as a good reminder to us all that marijuana is not the same as it was 10, 15, or 20 years ago. It is important for parents and educators to stay up to date on the current drug trends, especially as they are evolving so rapidly! [Read more.](#)

At these Indianapolis schools, nurses help catch academic problems

"School nurses are getting renewed attention and heavier workloads during the coronavirus pandemic. But they also can play a crucial role in supporting students academically, by providing health care that [improves children's ability to learn](#) and by collecting data to help identify students who are likely to fall behind." [Read more.](#)

Webinar on Working with Transgender and Gender Expansive Youth

Please register for our upcoming Webinar...

UPMC CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH

Working with Transgender and Gender Expansive Youth

Thursday April 15th 1:00-2:00 p.m. (EST)

Please join us as Joanne Goodall, CRNP shares information on "Working with Transgender and Gender Expansive Youth".

Key learning objectives include: understanding terminology used in respectfully and effectively working with the transgender and gender expansive community, becoming familiar with various ways in which people transition and basics of medical and surgical intervention to affirm the client and reviewing ways in which to make the office/clinic friendly to the LGTQIA community.

In support of improving patient care, the University of Pittsburgh is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

- The maximum number of hours awarded for this Continuing Nursing Education activity is 1 contact hour.
- Participants must complete the evaluation and claim their credits by 4-29-2021 @ 11pm.
- * A recorded version will be available for credits- search: chp.edu/nursing/webinars

QR Code

ChildrensPgh

GoToWebinar



THC strips are "used as an inconspicuous way to get a dose of THC anytime, anywhere. It is important for parents and educators to stay up to date on the current drug trends, especially as are they evolving so rapidly!

[Register for webinar](#)

Covering Wisconsin

New opportunity to sign up for affordable health insurance!

The new COVID relief policy makes health insurance prices lower than ever before. Many more families could find plans for \$0 monthly premiums. From **now until August 15** you can sign up, or change your current plan.

What you need to know:

- Get free, expert help to find the best deals. Call 2-1-1 or visit [Wiscovered.com](https://www.wiscovered.com) to find local help.
- Look again at plans and prices on Healthcare.gov now until August 15! With the new COVID relief policy, there may be help for you to afford coverage no matter how much you earn. [Click here to learn more.](#)
- You can sign up at any time for BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid. These are free or low-cost state health insurance programs. Your kids may qualify even if you don't.
- Signing up for health insurance won't hurt your immigration status. Use a free texting tool to learn more about safe benefit programs. Text SUPPORT to 877-277-4413 on your phone or 651-333-2144 on WhatsApp.

If you have questions, Covering Wisconsin is here to help. [Covering Wisconsin](#) is a nonprofit organization that helps people in Wisconsin find and use health insurance. Our expert Health Insurance Navigators provide free help all year. Call 2-1-1 or visit [Wiscovered.com](https://www.wiscovered.com) to find a Navigator near you. Talk to a Navigator to:

- Find plans and financial help.
- Sign up for HealthCare.gov, BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid.
- Get answers to your health insurance questions. No question is too big or too small.
- Get help with billing or coverage problems.

Also available: a [toolkit of resources](#).

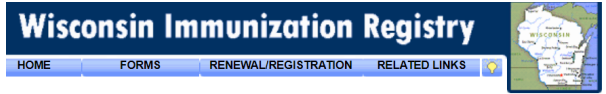


Covering Wisconsin is a nonprofit organization that helps people in Wisconsin find and use health insurance. Starting April 1, there is more financial help on Healthcare.gov for all income levels.



Practice Points

By Louise Wilson



Before I write about student immunizations, I want to point out recommendations regarding mask wearing in schools. On March 31, 2021, the Wisconsin State Supreme Court overturned the current public health emergency, which also ended the statewide mask order. The Department of Health Services (DHS) [continues to support](#) the wearing of face masks. [State](#) and [national](#) public health experts recommend mask wearing as an evidenced-based strategy to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) prevention strategies to reduce transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in schools is based on “universal and correct use of masks.” Therefore, the Department of Public Instruction recommends the wearing of face masks by all staff and students as per state and national public health guidelines. The CDC, DHS, and DPI recognize there are circumstances and individuals (students and staff) for which this is not possible and have guidance for these situations. The next revision of DPI’s Interim COVID-19 Infection Control and Mitigation Measures for Schools will address this recommendation in the absence of a statewide mask order.

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Back to School Immunizations -2021

Page 10 of this Update connects readers to the CDC’s National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases director’s letter emphasizing the importance of getting children “caught-up” on their immunizations. Children have fallen behind on receiving recommended vaccines as routine well-child visits were interrupted by the pandemic. I remember school nurses predicting this back in May of 2020. (School nurses are insightful professionals!)

School nurses are key public health communicators regarding childhood and school-aged immunizations. This is recognized not only by the DHS, but by vaccine manufacturers. DPI has been approached by a vaccine manufacturer who is interested in providing non-branded immunization promotion materials to school nurses. DHS is preparing school-specific materials to communicate the importance of well-child visits and getting caught up on any missed vaccinations. I informed both DHS and the vaccine representative that school nurses will be planning their back-to-school communication strategies in April and May. As soon as I have those materials I will share

School nurses can use their reach to promote back-to-school immunizations (along with COVID vaccination once COVID vaccines are approved for more school-aged children). As part of immunization compliance activities, school nurses send families reminders about school immunization requirements. You might want to tweak your messaging to inform families that COVID-19 vaccinations will not be a school immunization requirement this year. I suspect you have already answered that question several times.

Practice Points Cont.

Making it easier to track compliance for the 2021/22 school year is the [Immunization Registry Integration](#) project. Here is how the project is described on the DPI [webpage](#).

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) is providing an API integration solution to retrieve the student immunization records from the Department of Health Services (DHS) and pass it back to the LEA's student information system (SIS). Using the Immunization registry integration allows the LEA to automatically pull down immunization data from the Wisconsin Immunization Registry, also called WIR into their SIS. This includes vaccine groups, vaccine codes, administration dates, and other details. This automation not only saves significant amounts of staff time but also improves the accuracy of immunization data entered in the SIS.

This new integration is an opt-in feature for LEAs, meaning LEAs have to actively take action in order to show their interest in using this feature.

Translation... DPI is working with DHS and various student information systems (SIS) so that the SIS can download vaccine information from the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR) and it goes directly into the student's school immunization record. School districts will need to apply to be a part of this project (opt in).

Currently Skyward, FACTS, and JMC are in the process of integrating this feature. Other statewide SIS vendors -PowerSchool and Infinite Campus indicated to DPI that they intend to install this feature, but have not indicated a time table for this to occur. Vendors are aware that having this feature for September's immunization compliance activities is ideal.

School districts are not vaccine providers so do not enter data into WIR. Schools are able to view students' required immunizations in WIR according to [DHS 144.03\(10\)](#). District personnel must abide by the signed [WIR Security & Confidentiality Agreements](#) and the [User Security & Confidentiality Agreement](#). More information about sharing of immunization information can be found in the DHS [immunization booklet](#). DPI recommends if districts have questions about the sharing of immunization information they consult with their own legal counsel.

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Learning and Support
Student Services Prevention and Wellness Team
(608) 266-8857
<https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/pupil-services/school-nurse>
April 2021 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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(Online) Social Emotional Learning

IMPLEMENTATION TEAM TRAINING

This self-paced training is designed for SEL implementation teams. Each recorded module contains content followed by team activities and includes prompts to pause the recording to discuss, engage with a resource, or develop action steps. If you are an individual looking to see what it takes to fully implement SEL see the resources here.

You've decided to implement SEL across your school or district. Now what? This self-paced training, designed for SEL implementation teams, will show you "how" to systematically implement SEL. Using the Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning Theory of Action, teams will learn the vital steps to fully implement SEL and will create a multi-year plan to make it happen.

This training is designed for teams. Each recorded module contains content followed by team activities and includes prompts to pause the recording to discuss, engage with a resource, or develop action steps. *If you are an individual looking to see what it takes to fully implement SEL see the resources here.*

In this training SEL Implementation Teams will:

- Learn and understand the SEL Theory of Action
 - Building Awareness, Commitment and Ownership and Creating a Plan
 - Strengthen Adult SEL
 - Promote SEL for Students
 - Assessing SEL and Using Data for Continuous SEL Improvement
- Complete a program gap analysis
- Create a plan with clear action steps in each level of the Theory of Action

Run time for each module is 45 to 50 minutes plus time for team activities. Team activity time will vary for each team as you have the flexibility to spend as much or as little time as you choose. The course includes a training syllabus with estimated times for activities which are designed to be done sequentially.

There is no scheduled meeting time for this self-paced online course. *This online course is accessible to registrants 24/7 from any Internet-enabled device using the Canvas platform. A document with Canvas access info and FAQs will be emailed to you within approximately 1 week after you register.*

[Click here to register](#) for FREE online course access.

All team members should register to be given individual access. Registration for this self-paced online course is on-going.

See page 2 of this flyer for more information on the SEL Training of Trainers online course.

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OR [CLICK HERE](#) to book a 15 minute consultation to discuss the School based Mental Health Services Grant, Social and Emotional Learning or school mental health in general





Join the SEL TOT
Community of Practice
[CLICK HERE](#) to share your
interest in participating in
the SEL TOT Community of
Practice virtual meetings
(dates TBD)

(Online) Social Emotional Learning

TRAINING OF TRAINERS

Build your local capacity to train your own staff in the foundational knowledge of Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

This online, self-paced course is designed for individuals to become trainers of the foundational knowledge of social and emotional learning. The training will provide you with the agendas, slides and activities to conduct training for your staff. Also included are videos taking you through each training module to provide you with additional information about the content, training tips and guidance on conducting the activities. Each module also contains material to build your own SEL expertise.

Participants of this course will:

- Learn content and activities to train others in 8 modules to build foundational knowledge of SEL
 - Introduction
 - Module 1: Why SEL
 - Module 2: What is SEL
 - Module 3: SEL Frameworks
 - Module 4: Alignment, Coherence and SEL Implementation
 - Module 5: Advancing Equity Through SEL
 - Module 6: Adult SEL
 - Module 7: SEL in the Classroom
 - Module 8: Assessing SEL
- Determine the modules to be used for their purposes
- Plan for their own training

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Emotional Learning or
school mental health in
general**



Wisconsin
Safe and Healthy
Schools Center
www.wishschools.org

DHS Resources:

- [Vaccine Webpages](#)
 - [Am I eligible?](#)
 - [Where to get vaccine](#)
 - [Vaccine safety and efficacy](#)
- DHS COVID-19 vaccine fact sheets and more: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/resources.htm>
 - [General COVID-19 Vaccine Information](#)
 - COVID-19 Vaccine Safety [English](#) | [Chinese](#) | [Hindi](#) | [Hmong](#) | [Somali](#) | [Spanish](#)
 - Next Steps: After You Receive the COVID-19 Vaccine [English](#) | [Hindi](#) | [Hmong](#) | [Somali](#) | [Spanish](#)
 - [COVID-19 Post-Vaccination Guidance for Schools](#)
 - [Available COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
 - How Our Bodies Respond to the COVID-19 Vaccine [English](#) | [Hindi](#) | [Hmong](#) | [Somali](#)
 - COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility for
 - Education Staff [English](#) | [Chinese](#) | [Hindi](#) | [Hmong](#) | [Somali](#) | [Spanish](#)
 - Child Care Staff [English](#) | [Chinese](#) | [Hindi](#) | [Hmong](#) | [Somali](#) | [Spanish](#)
 - Individuals with Certain Medical Conditions [English](#) | [Chinese](#) | [Hindi](#) | [Hmong](#) | [Somali](#) | [Spanish](#)
 - Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine (easy to understand) [English](#) | [Hindi](#) | [Hmong](#) | [Somali](#) | [Spanish](#)

Other resources:

- The American Lung Association's and the Center for Black Health & Equity's [COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit](#) shares information to help explore concerns, answer questions, and start conversations about the COVID-19 vaccine. It has social media shareables, information on Operation Warp Speed and the clinical trials, and a joint statement from HBCUs.
- Milwaukee's Refugee Community Advisory Board's [COVID-19 Vaccine Information Videos for Refugees](#) are available in multiple languages. You can use the following scripts to create videos in your communities: [Vaccine Safety](#), [Vaccine Side Effects](#), [Vaccine Information and Side Effects](#).
- Detailed Q&A COVID-19 Vaccines from Children's Hospital of Philadelphia ([website](#) or [pdf](#))

Social Media

- [COVID Vaccine Facts](#) has social media graphics and messages for all platforms. Check out the COVID-19 Vaccine Safety fact sheet and FAQs on their website.
- [Vaccinate Your Family](#) has COVID-19 vaccine social media graphics and handouts you can share with your followers!
- [COVID Enders Toolkit](#) has FAQs, video diaries, and social media posts like [How was the vaccine created in record time?](#) (Added 02/05/2021)

From CDC

<u>English Channels</u>	<u>Spanish Channels</u>
Make a plan to get your COVID-19 vaccine Facebook Instagram Pinterest @CDCgov	V-safe text message system available in multiple languages CDC en Español Facebook @CDCespanol
FAQ: Can I get COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as another vaccine? Facebook Instagram @CDCgov	How to protect yourself and others when you're fully vaccinated CDC en Español Facebook @CDCespanol
Learn about the J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine Facebook Instagram @CDCgov Pinterest	Dr. Eliseo Pérez Stable answers your questions CDC en Español Facebook @CDCespanol
	Vaccine considerations for people with disabilities CDC en Español Facebook @CDCespanol

Suggested Social Media for March 15–21: **Know the facts about COVID-19 vaccines**

[Note: This was for earlier in the month, but may still be helpful.]

- Educators now have wider access to #COVID19 vaccines. Learn the facts so you can feel confident about your decision to get vaccinated: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html> #SleeveUpForSchools #SleeveUpforChildcare #SleeveUpforHeadStart
- Educators now have wider access to #COVID19 vaccines. Learn about the benefits of vaccination so you can feel confident about your decision to get vaccinated: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/vaccine-benefits.html> #SleeveUpForSchools #SleeveUpforChildcare #SleeveUpforHeadStart
- You always put your students first and take care of them. Now it's time to take care of you. Visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html> to find a #COVID19 vaccination location near you. #SleeveUpForSchools #SleeveUpforChildcare #SleeveUpforHeadStart

Consider sharing your own experiences with your followers:

- If you had questions about the vaccines, tell others how getting the facts influenced your decision to get vaccinated.
- Tell them how you got the facts and why you feel confident about your decision to get vaccinated.
- Quiz your followers about COVID-19 vaccines and provide the correct answer in a follow-up post.
- Consider attaching a video or image to increase engagement. You can use these images from CDC's [COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit for School Settings and Childcare Programs](#).

The American Rescue Plan (ARP)

What is the American Rescue Plan (ARP) and what does it mean for schools and students?

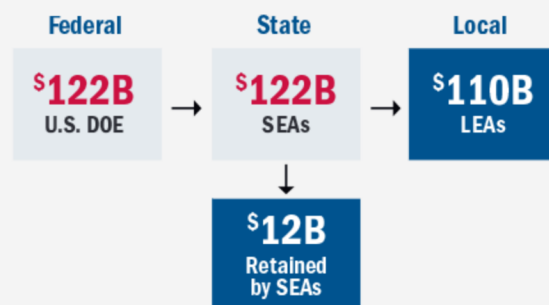
- The ARP, or Covid-19 Stimulus, passed by Congress and signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, provides \$1.9 trillion in federal funding to accelerate the recovery from the economic and health effects of the Covid-10 pandemic.
- The package includes **\$122 billion for K-12 public schools** with the goals of:
 - Safely reopening schools for in-person instruction as soon as possible;
 - Sustaining their healthy operations; and
 - Addressing significant academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of students.
- School districts can use the funds in a variety of ways, including improving ventilation, reducing class sizes and allowing for social distancing, purchasing personal protective equipment, and **hiring additional school nurses to support the health and well-being of students.**
- **These funds are in addition to the \$10 billion recently made available to states by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to pay for Covid-19 testing for K-12 teachers, staff and students.**

How will ARP funds be distributed to schools and how will funding decisions be made?

- The U.S Department of Education has pledged to begin making funds available to state educational agencies (SEAs) immediately, and it has announced how much of the \$122 billion in funding each state will receive based on the Title 1 funding formula (<https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/department-education-announces-american-rescue-plan-funds-all-50-states-puerto-rico-and-district-columbia-help-schools-reopen>).
- **SEAs must distribute at least 90% of the funding to local educational agencies (LEAs)** based on the Title 1 formula.
- This funding can be used to fund obligations incurred through September 30, 2023.
- SEAs can retain up to 10% of the funding for activities, such as after-school and summer enrichment programs, to respond to students' academic, social and emotional needs and address disproportionate impacts of Covid-19 on underrepresented student subgroups.

¹JAMA Pediatr. 2014;168(7):642-648. doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2013.5441

ARP School Funding



- **LEAs, which are typically the central offices of local and regional school districts, will determine how nearly \$110 billion from the American Rescue Plan will be allocated, with input and approval from local and state school committees/boards.**
- **Nurses have an important perspective on what schools need to operate safely and support the health, wellness and learning of students, and local decision makers need to hear from us!**

School nurses are an excellent investment



For every \$1 invested in a full-time, registered school nurse, society would gain \$2.20¹.

Talking Points for School Nurses on the ARP

- I'm sure we all agree that the COVID-19 pandemic has impeded the learning of students and undermined their physical and mental health.
- Prior to the pandemic, schools were already woefully understaffed with regard to nurses and other support personnel. As schools reopen, **nurses have a critical role in ensuring that schools effectively address issues related to the health and well-being of children**, including the immediate and long-term impacts of COVID-19 on youth.
- As you know, the ARP provides funds to safely reopen schools for in-person instruction as soon as possible and sustain those operations, and school districts can use the funds in a variety of ways, including **hiring more school nurses**.
- On behalf of the students in our district, I respectfully request this infusion of federal funding is invested in ways that will most effectively achieve the goals of safer classrooms and schools, improved student physical and mental health, and academic readiness. Among the investments that I believe will achieve this goal is (INSERT DISTRICT SPECIFIC request).

Today's school nurse is **so much more** than the stereotype of "ice, lice and band-aids."

School nurses serve as a **critical health hub** for students, ensuring that students are **ready for learning** by **managing complex, chronic conditions**; identifying and **addressing mental health issues**; **leveling the field** on health disparities and promoting healthy behaviors; enrolling children in health insurance and **connecting families to healthcare providers**; handling **medical emergencies**...and now, navigating through the COVID-19 pandemic by **testing, tracking and vaccinating** students and school personnel.



School nurses are essential...
for healthy kids...healthy schools...and healthy communities.



SAFE STRONG & HEALTHY SCHOOLS

Episode Highlights | Episodes 6 & 7 | Week of March 22, 2021

Episode 6: Physical & Emotional Impact of COVID-19 on Children & Families (with Dr. Mala Mathur)

Changes inflicted by the pandemic that have impacted mental health include:

- Social isolation
- Sedentary lifestyle—which has led to increases in obesity
- Reduced access to community support resources
- Reduced access to well child check-ups

UW Health has seen higher rates of **anorexia, eating disorders, and trauma/stress-related disorders.**

Economic losses experienced by families may have impacted housing and food security.



Mental health of parents and caregivers may also impact the wellbeing of children.

Trauma, grief and loss experienced by families has an impact on children's behavioral and mental health.



Schools and communities can support children's mental and behavioral health by:

- Partnering with medical and mental health providers in creative ways
- Promoting outdoor play and activity
- Increased outreach to families to provide supports as children transition to new forms of learning in the coming months.

Episode 7: Adolescence, Interrupted: Special Considerations for Adolescent Health during the COVID-19 Pandemic (with Dr. Emily Ruedinger)

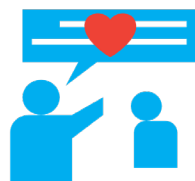
The pandemic has **interrupted the growth and developmental milestones** experienced by adolescents.

The stresses caused by the pandemic have contributed to an increase in **adolescents experiencing a higher level of anxiety and depression, as well as an increase in eating disorders and substance use.**



Adolescents are resilient—but **care needs to be taken as we enter more transitions** with return to school and their lives.

If you see something, say something—if **something seems off with the youth you know, reach out and inquire.**



Empathy and curiosity are key. Set boundaries and have high expectations to help them strive towards healthy development.

Many teens have been treated like adults in the pandemic so **setting appropriate boundaries** will benefit them.

Move towards **body neutral comments**—"it is so good to see you" rather than "you look so good."

Youth need to participate as citizens, as members of a household, as workers, as members of a society.

Youth need to try out various roles without having to commit oneself irrevocably.



Youth need to **cultivate a capacity to enjoy life!**