

COVID-19 Information for Pupil Services



School Nurse UPDATE

#19 June 2, 2020

FEATURED STORIES

Greetings!

We made it to the end of the school year. What a year it has been! It started with great concerns about an emerging public health threat to our youth (vaping) and ended with a global pandemic affecting us all. Through out the year school nurses have demonstrated their nursing expertise, their abilities to provide leadership and education, and their commitment to the health of their students, staff, and communities.

This will be the final School Nurse Update for the 2019/20 school year. I will continue to send information to keep school nurses and others on the (e)mailing list updated on any new guidance provided by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) or the Department of Health Services (DHS). Your local health departments will be the source for recommendations or requirements that school districts must follow. All information from the DPI or DHS should be considered suggestions for mitigating risk of COVID-19 spread.

Last week I recorded my session for the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) annual conference. The NASN conference is being offered virtually this year. During my presentation "Meeting the Health Needs of Students on Fieldtrips" I discuss Wisconsin's field trip toolkit. If you are in need of continuing education this summer consider registering for all or part of the NASN conference.

The status of the New School Nurse Orientation next fall remains undetermined at this time. DPI is awaiting a decision from the Department of Administration regarding when and if conferences can be held in person. It might be possible to offer a shorter scaled back version of the orientation in a virtual format.

Refresh and rejuvenate as best you can this summer and stay well!
Louise

PRACTICE POINTS –
Lessons Learned

NASN Conference Goes
Virtual

COVID-19 Health
Services Toolkit

SAVE THE DATES

JUNE 29–JULY 3
2020

National Association of School
Nurses Annual Conference
Las Vegas, NV [LINK TO
REGISTRATION](#)

AUGUST 4, 2020

DPI School Nurse Summer
Institute – Record Keeping

OCTOBER 2, 2020

DPI New School Nurse
Orientation

DPI News

School Nurse Weekly Zoom Meetings

June 3, 2020 will be the final Zoom meeting. Due to requests to keep networking and stay informed I will hold a Zoom meeting on June 24 and July 22, 2020. Both will start at 8:00 AM and be recorded, Zoom meeting will resume and run for 3 weeks starting August 12, 19 and 26, 2020. Invitations and information for these meetings are sent via the DPI Update email list.

School Nurse COVID-19 Webpage

Due to the volume of resources being shared and created for school health services surrounding COVID-19, a separate webpage is being created for school health services. At this time continue to use the link on DPI's [Pupil Services COVID-19 webpage](#) and scroll down to "School Nursing." Once created the link to the separate webpage will be linked there.

School Health Services Interim COVID-19 Infection Control and Mitigation: Toolkit

This document is in support of all the guidance documents being published by the DPI. It is understood that once published it will be updated as new resources and materials are created. The DPI would like to thank the following school nurses who provided help and support in determining promising practices by reviewing drafts, sharing materials; and providing feedback and guidance.

Lara Ginter BSN, RN

Kimberly Granger MSN, RN, FNP

Jamie Trzebiatowski BSN, RN, NCSN

Voluntary School Health Service Survey Link Open

It is critical that school districts report whatever information and data they can into this survey. This year there are questions specific to school nurse activities related to COVID-19. The link is located on the School Nurse Data Collection webpage: <https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/pupil-services/school-nurse/data>. See more information about the survey in PRACTICE POINTS [#18 DPI School Nurse Update](#).

District Administrator COVID-19 Updates – May 29, 2020

May 29, 2020, Deputy State Superintendent Mike Thompson sent district administrators an email that can be found [here](#). Previous emails can be found [here](#) under the district administrators' email tab. Topics in the May 29th the email include:

- CARES Act Grant Updates
- Special Education Guidance
- DPI Waivers



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Kimberly Granger MSN, RN, FNP

*Jamie Trzebiatowski BSN, RN,
NCSN*

NASN News

NASN2020 is Going Virtual

NASN is transitioning the Annual Conference to a virtual experience. Virtual NASN2020 will kick off on the same dates, will have a new look, new time slots for speakers, exciting new approaches to speaker engagement and interactivity with attendees, an updated lineup and exciting new additions.

[Virtual NASN2020](#) will take place from June 29-July 3 online. Here are some key details:

- June 29: Familiarize yourself with the virtual environment.
- June 30-July 3: Content will begin at 11 a.m. EDT and end around 4:30 p.m. EDT.

[SEE REGISTRATION OPTIONS](#)



Medscape Nurses

[Can You Catch COVID-19 Through Your Eyes?](#)

[COVID-19 Virus Found in Stool May Be Infectious](#)

[COVID-19 in Kids: Severe Disease Most Common in Infants, Teens](#)

AAP

AAP launches campaign urging parents to call their pediatricians to schedule check-ups and vaccines in light of falling immunization rates

A campaign, launched by American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) on May 20, urges parents to keep pediatric check-ups and routinely vaccinate their children. The [#CallYourPediatrician](#) campaign aims to help parents understand the importance of vaccinating in a world where vaccination rates have drastically dropped due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The world is covered in a thin veneer of stool," says David Brett-Major, MD, an infectious disease specialist at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, referring to [studies](#) that have found bacteria from stool on nearly everything we touch daily – from computer keyboards to the soles of our shoes to our clothes.

"Stool tends to get everywhere, so regular hand-washing is important," he says.

Practice Points

By Louise Wilson

Lessons Learned



I serve as the chairperson for the National Association of State School Nurse Consultants' (NASSNC) publication committee. State consultants have been busy connecting with multiple state agencies and providing information and resources to school nurses, school administrators, teachers, and parents. In March, before we suspended our activities due to limits on our capacities, I asked NASSNC members to think about their COVID-19 work and how it could generate inspiration to write an article for future publication. Some day I intend to write an article about the lessons I've learned during COVID-19.

I'll start now, by sharing two lessons I've learned.

First, I've learned how creative, innovative, and dedicated our Wisconsin school nurses are! Actually, I knew that before, but I've been blown away by the amazing videos, tools, and informational materials you have created to connect with, support, and educate your students, staff, and school communities.

Secondly, I've learned to seek and accept help that is offered. Frankly, that is a difficult lesson for me both personally and professionally. Previously I felt that accepting or seeking assistance somehow reflected upon my capability. How wrong! I've been enriched personally, and am providing better materials and resources than I ever could alone, thanks to all of you reaching out and sharing your wisdom, expertise, and experiences. I am grateful for, and find joy in all the connections I have made with school nurses and others through this "unprecedented time."

School nurses have always been my heroes. With or without pandemics, school nurses are present supporting students and staff, keeping children and communities healthy, and removing barriers to students learning. The COVID-19 pandemic has shone the light on what school nurses do. I am blinded by that light. Keep shining!

This publication is available from:
Learning and Support
Student Services Prevention and Wellness Team
(608) 266-8857
<https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/pupil-services/school-nurse>



JUNE 2020 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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Some of the data points we share with the National Association of School Nurses (NASN), so the definition of the data points are the same. No individual district identifiers are shared. Only aggregate data is reported for confidentiality reasons. I have attached to this Update a FAQ on the data points as explained by NASN.

Chronic absenteeism is a data point that was new for both the NASN survey and our Wisconsin Student Health Services survey for the 2019/20 school year. I am hearing from many school nurses that this is creating confusion and is difficult to calculate given the school closures. This data point targets all students, not just those with chronic health conditions, that were absent 10% of the school year. The NASN definition includes those missing 10% of the school year, or those missing 3 or more days per month. Absences can be excused or unexcused. How to count those students who have withdrawn from your school district needs more clarification. If they missed 10% of the school days or 3 or more days per month while in your district please count them - if you are able to access that data. I presume attendance data may be difficult to access this year. The survey can still be completed without this information!!

The link to the 2019-20 WISCONSIN HEALTH SERVICES REPORT SURVEY will be open this week. The link is located on the [School Nurse Data Collection webpage](https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/pupil-services/school-nurse/data) (<https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/pupil-services/school-nurse/data>). The introduction states the deadline is August 15, 2020 to enter data. If you find it is not possible for you to meet this time line please email me in August and we will discuss.

I cannot stress enough how important it is to have full participation from all public school districts. Private and independent school districts may also submit data to improve our understanding of the health needs of Wisconsin's school age children.

I look forward to tabulating the data next fall.



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