

SCHOOL NURSE NEWSLETTER



The Role of the School Nurse

School nurses support the health needs of our students, their families and the community every day of the year. But, on National School Nurse Day, we take special time to celebrate and recognize the contributions that our school nurses are making to the health and learning of the students in our community.

To best meet the needs of our community, our nurses provide care in accordance with the ****National Association for School Nurse's (NASN) Framework for 21st Century School Nursing Practice**. This framework focuses on the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model that calls for a collaborative approach to learning and health. Our nurses work closely with students, their families, healthcare providers, teachers, administrators and other members of the school community to support the academic success of our students.

Many students face complex, life-threatening health problems, and/or physical and mental/emotional challenges that require skilled nursing care during the school day. Parents/guardians need to feel confident that their children will be cared for when they are at school. Our nurses provide student-centered care that is evidenced-based and includes medical and emotional support for our students and their families.

School nurses play an important role in student health and academic success by promoting wellness and improving health outcomes. School nurses support the health and educational success of students and families by providing access to care and by serving as members of school-based teams (e.g., school health services, 504/IEP, disaster/emergency planning) to collaborate with other members of the teams to ensure that student needs are met and appropriate measures are in place to maximize learning. School nurses understand the link between health and learning and are in a position to make a positive difference for children every day, to help our students to be healthy, safe and ready to learn.

Happy School Nurse's Day to all of the Nurses in the Cherry Hill Public School District!

****NASN's Framework for 21st Century School Nursing Practice™** (the Framework) provides structure and focus for the key principles and components of current day, evidence-based school nursing practice. It is aligned with the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model that calls for a collaborative approach to learning and health (ASCD & CDC, 2014). Central to the *Framework* is student-centered nursing care that occurs within the context of the students' family and school community. Surrounding the students, family, and school community are the non-hierarchical, overlapping key principles of Care Coordination, Leadership, Quality Improvement, and Community/Public Health. These principles are surrounded by the fifth principle, Standards of Practice, which is foundational for evidence-based, clinically competent, quality care. School nurses daily use the skills outlined in the practice components of each principle to help students be healthy, safe, and ready to learn.

