School-Based Health Centers + School Nurses = Student Success
Joining Forces for Our Nation’s Students

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Objectives

- Compare and contrast roles of school nurses and school based health centers (SBHC)
- Describe a model for increasing collaboration at all levels
- Discuss how to use the new NASN / NASBHC handout when working with policy makers
School Nurses fight FOR
(and sometimes with)
School Based Health Centers
A model for improving collaboration at all levels

National * State * District * School
Sit down together

- Identify roles
- Discuss the community needs assessment
- Collaborate to best serve the students
- Promote BOTH school nursing and SBHC

Seek first to understand…
The Beginning of School Nursing in America
School Nursing Today

In 75.1% of US schools

Public, private, parochial, DOD

Children from birth to 21

A public health model – the nurse is responsible for managing the health of all students while at school
School Nursing - Funding

Public School, 78%

Private Paroch School, 6%

Public Health, 5%

Other, 11%

NASN 2009 Membership Survey
Seek first to understand…

Identify roles

- Sit down together
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- Collaborate to best serve the students
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School Staff Roles at SBHCs

N = 1029

- 21.9% Not Present in School
- 39.9% In School but Separate from SBHC
- 38.2% In School Co-located Within SBHC

School Nurse
- 21.9%
- 39.9%
- 38.2%

School Mental Health Provider
- 18.1%
- 67.0%
- 14.9%
School Nursing – Basic Role

- Screen for barriers to learning
- Triage or treat accidents and illnesses
- Administer medications and manage chronic illnesses
- Support educational success through IEPs, IHPs, disaster plans
- Make appropriate referrals
- Educate students and families
- Enroll students in public insurance
School Nursing – The legal framework, additional layers

- State nurse practice acts
- State educational, public health and criminal law
- NCLB of 2001
- IDEA (fape)
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act
- FERPA and HIPAA
- Stewart B McKinney Homeless Assistance Act
- Americans With Disabilities Act
School Nursing – Issues Impacting the Role

- Wide disparities in caseloads
- Nurse practice acts written for hospitals
- Conflicting educational law
- Variable supervision
- Unfunded mandates
- A public that doesn’t understand public health and prevention
Seek first to understand...

Discuss the community needs assessment

Identify roles

Promote BOTH school nursing and SBHC

Collaborate to best serve the students

Sit down together
Discuss the needs assessment

• Public health reports
• Aggregate school nursing data
• Support services available to students with identified needs
• School health index
• Educational and attendance goals
• State and district mandates
• Wellness committee goals
• School nurse availability / SBHC location and hours
• Referral networks
• Enrollment in insurance plans
Truth: There is plenty of work to go around.
What about confidentiality?

- School nurses follow FERPA and HIPAA
- SBHC follow HIPAA
- School nurse should have a list of all students participating in SBHC

**BOTH**
- Release of information must be signed by the parent
- Immunization information may be shared, on a need to know basis
What about health records?

- School nurses have access to every student's cumulative health record
- SBHC has access to records generated by SBHC staff
- BOTH
  - Records are available only to the entity that creates the specific record
  - All health records must be locked, with limited access to school personnel
Seek first to understand…

Collaborate to best serve the students

- Sit down together
- Identify roles
- Discuss the community needs assessment
- Promote BOTH school nursing and SBHC
Define and agree on roles

• Prevent confusion for the students
• A strong complementary model
  – Increases seat time
  – Increases return to class
  – Decreases inappropriate referral
School Nurses and SBHCs (n=934)

- 22% Not in school
- 42% In school and co-located
- 36% In school and separate

Full coordination:
- 2
- 3
- 4
- No coordination

In school and co-located: 42%
Not in school: 22%
In school and separate: 36%
Questions to consider

- What are the mutual goals?
- What are the strengths?
- What is the structure?
- How will communication work? What are the styles? What are the challenges? What are the boundaries?
- Who does triage, treatment and followup? In crisis? For students with chronic conditions?
- How can services be seamless to students? When are services available?
- Are there joint policies and procedures that ensure quality and confidentiality?
More questions to consider

• What are the primary skills of the school nurse and the SBHC? What is the comfort level of each with the other?
• How is workload defined by each? Who is responsible for quality and performance?
• What does the school administration expect? What does the community expect?
• Where does funding overlap? What are the unique challenges to sustainability?
• Are we working together on professional continuing education?
Seek first to understand…

Promote **BOTH** school nursing and SBHC

- Sit down together
- Identify roles
- Discuss the community needs assessment
- Collaborate to best serve the students
National Association of School Nurses
Supporting Student Success 1968 - Today

Strategic Plan
• Advocacy
• Research
• Public Relations
• Programs
Research Priorities

1. Improve the reliability, quality and accessibility of school health data
2. Advance research and development of effective, evidenced based models of school health services
3. Discover the critical indicators sensitive enough to measure outcomes of nursing interventions
4. Solidify NASN as an authority on evidence based school nursing practice
Advocacy

1. School nurse staffing
2. School nutrition
3. Medicaid
4. School nurse at DOE

- Full funding and clarification of IDEA
- Chronic conditions, including obesity
- Mental health
- Substance abuse
Congratulations to NASBHC on inclusion in the health reform bill. However, we both have a lot of work to do on the hill...

• NASN is behind the Student to School Nurse Ratio Improvement Bills
  – HR 2730
  – S 2750
Children are our North star.

How can we work together the best interests of children?
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