

“Elevating Excellence” NESNC 2026, Stowe Vermont Breakout Sessions

Friday Night Breakout

SNAP Tips, Tricks, and Hints: Getting the most out your SNAP Health Center EHR - Marc Patterson & PSNI Team

Come join us in a session to make using your SNAP EHR more efficient for you! We will provide tips and tricks you may not know about. Bring your computer and we will work to answer any questions you may have with hands-on learning.

Saturday Breakouts

How to Create Meaningful Relationships with Principals and Teachers around Health and Wellness - Principal Gerry Brooks

Beyond Charting: Unlocking the Full Potential of Your EHR - Marc Patterson & PSNI Team

School nurses frequently use EHRs only for documentation, but these systems can offer so much more. This session explores practical strategies to maximize EHR functionality, from task management and care coordination to reporting and population health. Participants will learn how to use their EHR to streamline workflow, strengthen communication, and generate data that informs decision-making and advocacy. Attendees will leave with actionable strategies to elevate practice and improve outcomes by unlocking the full potential of their EHR.

Ears, Nose & Throat: Hands-On Otoscope Workshop - Suzanne Levasseur MSN, APRN, CPNP & Michael Corjulo, APRN, CPNP, AE-C

School Nurses need the skills in examining ears, noses, and throats in order to determine likely diagnosis in order to return the student to the classroom in the shortest time possible. Using computer technology, you will learn how to assess the ears, nose and throat. (Participants must bring their own otoscopes)

Every Day Counts: School Attendance and the Role of the School Nurse - Dr. Heidi Schumacher

Among the most consequential impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic for children are dramatic declines in school engagement and academic performance. In states across New England and the U.S., one in four students is now chronically absent (missing 10% or more of the school year), double the rates seen before the pandemic. Unmet health and social needs are leading contributors to missed school, leading to a call to consider absenteeism a pediatric vital sign. Given the close relationship between academic performance and long-term health, improving school attendance has been identified as a priority for health and educational leaders, including the National Association of School Nurses and American Academy of Pediatrics.

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Finding your North Star: Elevating Excellence through Data Driven School Nursing - Erin D. Maughan, PhD, RN, PHNA-BC, FNASN, FAAN

Data is power. This engaging, practice-focused breakout session will help school nurses find their north star and transform everyday documentation and data into a force for advocacy and excellence. Through interactive activities and real-life examples, participants will explore how to use data to guide decisions, communicate student needs, and demonstrate your impact. Learn practical strategies to elevate your practice, empower your voice, and rediscover the excitement of data-driven school nursing practice.

From Flavored Vapes to Online Spaces: What you need to know about Youth Inhaled Product Use - Dr. L.E. Faricy

The types of tobacco products marketed to young people are constantly evolving. We will talk about how these trends are influenced by the tobacco industry, peer groups, and online spaces, as well as how to support youth who want to quit.

The Healing Power of Humor: Creating Safe Spaces Through Laughter - Soph Hall and Allison Conyers, MSN, RN, NCSN

This activity will enable the learner to integrate humor into the health office, thereby creating a more welcoming and relaxed atmosphere. Through the use of humor techniques the school nurse will be able to improve communication, foster trust, and ultimately enhance student well-being and engagement in their own healthcare. School nurses will be empowered to effectively use humor and laughter strategies to enhance interactions with students.

Leadership Lessons from the Garden - Principal Bonnie Johnson-Aten

Explore the principles of leadership through the nurturing practices of gardening. This session will highlight the profound connections between cultivating plants and developing effective leadership skills. Participants will engage in discussions around key themes of Growth Mindset, Collaboration, and Sustainability. Whether you're an experienced leader or just beginning your journey, this workshop will provide valuable insights and actionable strategies to enhance your leadership approach. Join us to cultivate a deeper understanding of leadership inspired by nature!

Leading Your Journey Through Lifelong Learning - Amy Dark, DNP, RN, NCSN and Pat Endsley, DNP, RN, NCSN

This presentation will be facilitated by two experienced school nurses, who will share, through their lived experience and evidence-based resources, how school nurses, and the students they serve, benefit from attaining advanced degrees and additional training. The principles of Care Coordination, Quality Improvement, Leadership/Advocacy, and Community and Public Health in school nursing will be presented as they support the student, family, and school community. A panel of experienced school nurses with varied educational backgrounds will present examples from their own practice and field attendee questions.

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Lessons in Leadership with *Ted Lasso* - Erica McLaughlin

This breakout session is designed with the intention that folks will spend both afternoon breakouts in this session, but will be broken into two different parts so you could go to just one part. This breakout session is also pending grant funding. If we do not receive the grant, we will contact those who sign up during registration to pick a different breakout option. **Please note: Clips shown in this workshop from *Ted Lasso* will include profanity.** Positive culture shaped by school personnel has never been more important and lays the foundation for everyone's success. Participants in this full day workshop will be inspired to apply 6 high leverage, research based practices from Ted Lasso and other great leadership researchers to optimize your school culture where everyone thrives. We will take a look at Ted Lasso's play book of Knowing Your Why, The Power of Trust, The Power of Inspiring, Growing Your People, Relationships, Servant Leadership and Collective Efficacy. Participants will engage in reflection, meaningful dialogue with colleagues and laughter.

Supplements and Steroids: A Growing Health Issue - Brian Parker

The Taylor Hooton Foundation is the nation's leading organization dedicated to education on Appearance and Performance Enhancing Substances including high risk dietary supplements, energy drinks, Human Growth Hormone and Anabolic Steroids. This session will provide a pragmatic view of these substances – What are they? Who is using? Where are they coming from? What are the social issues and pressures driving their usage? What are the warning signs? This program will expose the scope of the problem, while preparing attendees with needed information to help safely intervene and help our youth face these issues together.

“Teamwork is the Dreamwork:” Leveraging a Bidirectional Consent Process to Spark Partnership with Medical Homes - Drs. Heidi Schumacher, Alyssa Goodwin and Mary Beth Miotto

Coordinating care with primary care providers is a bedrock in the practice of school nursing. However, lack of consent often is a barrier to real-time information sharing and problem solving. In this workshop, participants will learn about a new resource from the American Academy of Pediatrics and National Association of School Nurses to support consistent, family-centered FERPA/HIPAA consent. Participants will be refreshed on the basics of FERPA and HIPAA, then will apply those principles to interactive case studies. All will leave the session with practical tools and resources.

Your Great Untapped Potential: Practical School Nurse Strategies for Primary Prevention - Mandy Mayer, BSN, RN, Certified Health Educator

Nurses are extraordinary assets in schools! Participants will explore personal values and strengths in order to redefine and refresh their role as a school nurse. In this session, nurses will learn practical and creative ways to weave primary prevention activities into daily interactions with students. Attendees will leave with new strategies *for* their toolkit and inspiration to be a leader in improving both health and academic outcomes for students.