



School Health & Nursing

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What's happening in School Health?

- What's happening in the school nurse's office?
- Infectious Disease
- Staff Changes
- Changes in Medication Delegation Policies
- Goals for the Year

What goes on in the health office?

There were **46,284** visits to the school nurses

- Majority of visits:
 - First Aid
 - Emergencies and illness
 - Administration of prescription medication and treatments
- 2,535 students had vision and hearing screenings
- 430 were referred for further evaluation
- 395 students had special health care needs requiring case management/care coordination
- 641 staff members were trained in the administration of emergency epinephrine for life-threatening allergic reactions

A photograph of a person's hands being washed in a white sink. A chrome Moen faucet is visible on the left, with water flowing from it. The person's arms and hands are visible, and the water is splashing. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent red filter. The text "Infectious Disease" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

Infectious Disease

Infectious Disease

- Occasional cases of COVID
- Normal childhood diseases returning
 - Hand, Foot & Mouth Disease
 - Respiratory viruses - it's hard to believe, but it's normal for young children to get up to 10 "colds" per year
 - Strep throat
- We have seen an uptick in the number of families requesting religious exemptions and currently have 24 students with them. However, our overall vaccine rate is excellent and we have recovered from the "COVID lag."

A photograph of two young girls sitting at a table in a classroom. The girl on the left is wearing a yellow turtleneck and is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The girl on the right is wearing a white shirt with a red and green floral pattern and has her back to the camera. On the table are two yellow pencil holders filled with colored pencils and a small box of markers. The background shows classroom shelves with various supplies and a window. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent green overlay.

Staff Changes

Fully Staffed, almost!

- As of today, 16 out of 17 positions are filled. A new nurse starts next week.
- We're excited to have full-time nurses in every school!

Our Health Coordinator and Health Assistant continue to do an amazing job reviewing incoming students, performing state-mandated screenings and so much more!

The image shows four amber-colored plastic pill bottles arranged in a row. Each bottle is filled with numerous yellow, oval-shaped capsules. The bottles have white screw caps. The background is a neutral, light-colored surface. Overlaid on the center of the image is the text 'Medications at School' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The image has a dark, semi-transparent overlay on the left and right sides, creating a frame effect.

Medications at School

State Regulations

Medication Administration at school is highly regulated.

Recent changes to **105 CMR 210.000** have presented opportunities:

- We can now “delegate” more emergency medications, which is helpful for field trips.

And challenges:

- Training of non-nursing staff is time-consuming, may present contractual issues

Goals!

- Expand CPR training to include more paraprofessionals and non-teaching staff
- Increasing the number of students who are able to get glasses after failing a vision screening, with additional supports for ELL and homeless students
- Work with other departments to create plans for medication during OST time



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