



# School Health And School Nurse Services

## School Nurse Services

Iowa Department of Education

February 2014

### Special points of interest:

- Vision Screening
- School Wellness Plan
- Mental Health
- Iowa School Nurse List Serve
- Legislation
- TEAM
- I-Smile

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## Vision Screening Act

Governor, Terry Brandstad, signed into action Senate File 419 on April 26, 2013, requiring elementary parents to provide evidence of a vision screening before enrollment into kindergarten and again before third grade.

The Iowa Department of Public Health would like to thank all of the nurses who provided comments regarding ARC 1293C Notice of Intended Action. They have decided to rescind the rules and take a step back to incorporate all the comments that they have received regarding SF 419.

Moving forward, local education agencies are required in accordance with IAC 280.7A to give a vision card to the parents/guardian of each preschooler or kindergarten student. Additionally, it is always best practice to follow your

local district policy. Vision cards can be ordered from the Iowa Optometric Association by following this link: <http://iowaoptometry.org/>

Another great resource for Pre-school to Kindergarten students vision screenings is contacting the KidSight Office (319)-353-7616 or following this link:

[KidSight@uiowa.edu](mailto:KidSight@uiowa.edu)

They can put you in direct touch with the current KidSight coordinator in your area. This is a joint project of the Lions Club of Iowa and The University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology. Please contact them for more information on this free service.



SCHOOL HEALTH IS IMPORTANT!

## School Wellness Policies

Link to Webinar: <https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/nutrition-programs/quick-links-nutrition/learning-tools-nutrition/school-wellness-policy>

In 2012, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act began and schools were required to implement a Wellness Policy that supported at a minimum of one goal in areas based off of the needs of their schools. The Iowa School Board made available a sample wellness policy that can be retrieved by following this link:

<http://www.ia-sb.org/policyLegal.aspx?id=1040>

School health professionals are an important component of the team in assembling a needs assessment, development, implementation and monitoring a wellness plan to ensure compliance for a site visit.

The school nurse can begin the conversation by looking at the districts wellness policy to see how you can assist your schools in student and staff wellness. **Deadline: FEBRUARY 14th**

Upcoming Dates for Regional School Wellness Workshops are below.

### Upcoming Regional Wellness Work Shops:

Tuesday, February 25-Cedar Rapids and Tuesday February 26-Des Moines School Teams Should Consist of: 2 High School Students, 2 School Staff -PE Teacher, School Nurse, Food Service, Etc. Please Contact: [Carrie.Scheidel@iowa.gov](mailto:Carrie.Scheidel@iowa.gov)

**SAVE THE DATE!!**

**Mental Health News:**

Mental health needs in schools have been in the forefront of health services and meeting the child's educational needs during the day. It is necessary to encompass the whole child's wellbeing in promoting their educational success in the school setting.

Many great resources are available for school nurses to access as parent, education, and school health supports.

To see where Iowa stands with our student health files, you can access the "2012 School Health Profile" by following this link:

<https://www.educateiowa.gov/documents/health-education/2013/07/2012-full-report>

NAMII (National Alliance of Mental Health-Iowa) has resource books that can be downloaded in a PDF format to print for families, educators and school nurses.

These resources can be obtained by following the link: <http://namiowa.com/resource-books/>

The Iowa Youth Suicide Prevention Program, on the Iowa Department of Public Health Web-

site, has a wide array of toolkits and webinars that can be obtained by following this link (cont): <http://www.sprc.org/training-institute/workshops-and-toolkits>

There are many great resources out there that schools may have in place or have utilized in the past. Please feel free to share any websites or tools that you use on the list serve for other school nurses to access. Together, we can become unified in meeting the mental health needs of our students across the state of Iowa.

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/>

**School Nurse List Serve:**

This is a wonderful communication Tool . By participation, the nurse can access information and request information at the click of a button from other nurses across the state of Iowa.

Iowa nurses are the best at sharing news and initiatives, and requesting more information to ensure the best for their students.

To join the mailing list, send a blank email to:

[Join-iowasn@lists.ed.iowa.gov](mailto:Join-iowasn@lists.ed.iowa.gov)

To cancel the mailing list, send a blank email to:

[Leave-iowasn@listss.ed.iowa.gov](mailto:Leave-iowasn@listss.ed.iowa.gov)

No other commands are necessary and joining is free. Also when sending messages please include your school, address, and phone number. Also, it is very helpful if you collect and send out the responses you receive back to the list for oth-

ers to view.

Just as a friendly reminder, please use best practice when commenting or submitting on list serve. Please ensure that nothing is personally identifiable with students. This is a public forum for school nurses to collaborate and share resources. Anything posted can be utilized as a headline in your local paper.

You can access these documents to view at:

<http://legiscan.com/IA>

HSB 530 (immunizations)

HF 2044 (epinephrine)

HF 2167 (epinephrine)

HSB 611 (epinephrine)

**Legislation Update:**

There are a few things that are currently in legislation that relate to school nurses and worth keeping a close eye on. The first is a House Study Bill 530 that was introduced to require providers who administer immunizations or vaccines to enter the administered vaccine into the statewide immunization registry within 30 days

from administration.

The second item is house file 2044 that was introduced and relates to the maintenance and administration of epinephrine in schools and certain service providers regulated by the department of human services.

**Dental  
Awareness  
Month IS  
FEBRUARY!**

**What do you  
do for your  
students?**

**SHARE YOUR  
IDEAS ON  
THE LIST  
SERVE**

**TEAM Project Information:**

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is seeking participants for the third cohort of the Enhancing School Health Services through Training, Education, Assistance, Mentorship, and Support (TEAMS) project. Through the TEAMS project, the AAP provides customized training, resources, and technical assistance to school districts that are interested in strengthening policies, practices, and infrastructure related to school health services.

Participating districts assemble three-member teams including a district health services representative, health department partner, and physician partner. The AAP provides capacity-building assistance to the teams in engaging stakeholders, assessing their school health services, developing a strategic action plan, and implementing changes.

All public school districts that provide health services (nursing services) for students, excluding charter dis-

tricts, are eligible to apply. Please for more details about the project and application instructions. The deadline to apply is Friday, March 14, 2014.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact Laura DeStigter, Program Manager, at 847/434-7127 or at [ldestigter@aap.org](mailto:ldestigter@aap.org).

More information can be found at: [schoolhealthteams.aap.org](http://schoolhealthteams.aap.org)



**Resources:**

Oral Health:

<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/ohds/OralHealth.aspx?prog=OHC&pg=Screenings>

Lead:

<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/LPP/Testing.aspx>

Allergy Guidelines: (recommendations)

<http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/foodallergies/publications.htm>

CDC:

<http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/states/ia.htm>

IDPH:

[http://www.idph.state.ia.us/az\\_index.asp](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/az_index.asp)

ISNO:

<http://www.isno.org/>

NASN:

<http://www.nasn.org/Home>



**A MESSAGE TO ALL NEW NURSES!**

Welcome to School Nursing! I am so glad you joined this wonderful, specialized practice of professional nursing. Thank you for choosing to impact the educational success and well being of our Iowa Children! What you do will make an impression on a child that will follow him/her into adulthood to promote life long achievement.

Helpful Links:  
**Please see the School Nurse Section on the Iowa Department of Education Website:**

<https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/learner-supports/school-nurse>



**Melissa Walker**

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Please Feel Free to Email or Call Me  
Anytime!

For more information, join I-Smile™ on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ISmileDentalHomeInitiative](http://www.facebook.com/ISmileDentalHomeInitiative).

**LIVE. LOVE. SMILE.**

FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

The I-Smile™ Dental Home Initiative invites you to celebrate National Children's Dental Health Month in February.

I-Smile™ has helped Iowa families access preventive dental care and treatment for their children since its launch in 2006. During this time, I-Smile™ has made positive impacts on children's oral health in Iowa.

- **Six out of ten** Medicaid-enrolled children ages 3-12 saw a dentist in 2013.\*
- Since I-Smile™ began, **61 percent** more Medicaid-enrolled children have seen a dentist.\*

\*Source: 2013 Medicaid paid claims data

**WHAT WE'VE SEEN...**  
OVER **43,700** MORE MEDICAID- ENROLLED CHILDREN SAW A DENTIST IN 2013 THAN IN 2005.\* THAT IS ENOUGH KIDS TO FILL **874** SCHOOL BUSES!

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**WHAT WE'VE HEARD...**  
"...(THE I-SMILE™ COORDINATOR) IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF DENTISTRY IN OUR AREA AND HUNDREDS OF CHILDREN WOULD NOT HAVE RECEIVED DENTAL CARE WITHOUT HER DEDICATION TO HER PROFESSION. I CAN'T THANK HER ENOUGH FOR HER EFFORTS; SHE IS THE ULTIMATE ADVOCATE FOR CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY."  
-LOCAL IOWA DENTIST



WWW.ISMILEDENTALHOME.IOWA.GOV • WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ISMILEDENTALHOMEINITIATIVE

To find out more about what they can do for your school, contact Stephanie Chickering [IDPH] at (515)240-9819