

NEWS RELEASE

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North Dakota Department of Health Recognizes National School Nurse Day

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) is recognizing the important role that school nurses play in children’s lives during National School Nurse Day on Wednesday, May 10.

The theme this year, *Healthy Nurse, Healthy Students*, is reflective of the significant roles school nurses have in the healthcare of their school communities. Because healthy students learn better, school nurses work to remove barriers to learning; particularly those associated with chronic disease, mental and behavioral health disorders, obesity and poor nutrition.

“School nurses collaborate with students, the school community, families, the health care community, the community at large and government agencies so that children are in school healthy, safe and ready to learn,” said National Association of School Nurses (NASN) President Beth Matthey.

“School nurses are problem solvers,” said Renaë Sisk, North Dakota State School Nurse Consultant. “They not only take care of the immediate health care needs of students, but they also see the big picture. They want to get to the source of a problem and use their keen assessment skills to find answers in order to keep the students healthy and ready to learn.”

All teachers, school staff and parents deserve to feel secure that students are safe at school and their health needs are met every day. School nurses have the special skills needed to plan and implement care for students with chronically and medically complex conditions. They prepare school staff to recognize and respond appropriately to potential emergencies. By having a school nurse involved, teachers are better able to focus on instruction and students’ individual educational needs.

For more information, contact Sisk at 701.328.4526.

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