



Georgia Department of Education

# Georgia School Nurse NEWS

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EDUCATING GEORGIA'S FUTURE

JANUARY 2018

## DEFINITION OF SCHOOL NURSING

School nursing, a specialized practice of public health nursing, protects and promotes student health, facilitates normal development, and advances academic success. School nurses, grounded in ethical and evidence-based practice, are the leaders that bridge health care and education, provide care coordination, advocate for quality student-centered care, and collaborate to design systems that allow individuals and communities to develop their full potentials. **Approved by the NASN Board of Directors June 2016.**



## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

### School Nurse Workshops...

- February 7th from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM **Pioneer RESA** 1342 GA-254 Cleveland, GA
- November 29th **CHOA/DOE School Health Update via Webinar** (SAVE THE DATE)
- **Stewards of Children**-Join **CHOA** as Stewards of Children demonstrates how to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse and teaches five proactive steps to protecting children.
  - ⇒ January 18th- 1:00pm-3:30pm
  - ⇒ February 14th- 1:00pm-3:30pm
  - ⇒ March 14th- 1:00pm-3:30pm



## JANUARY NATIONAL HEALTH OBSERVANCES

- ⇒ [Cervical Health Awareness Month](#)
- ⇒ [National Birth Defects Prevention Month](#)
- ⇒ [National Glaucoma Awareness Month](#)
- ⇒ [National Radon Action Month](#)
- ⇒ [National Winter Sports TBI Awareness Month](#)
- ⇒ [Thyroid Awareness Month](#)
- ⇒ [January 7-13 Folic Acid Awareness Week](#)
- ⇒ [January 22-28 National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week](#)

*The articles and hyperlinks to external websites appearing in the School Nurse News are intended to be informational and do not represent an endorsement by the Georgia Department of Education.*

*You Make a Difference  
Thank You for all you do!*



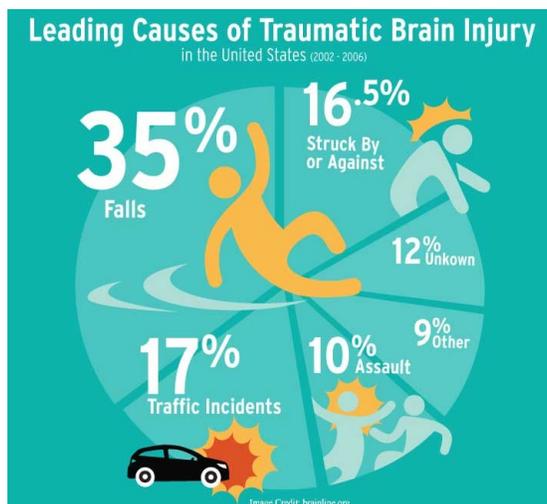
## National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week® (NDAFW) January 22-26, 2018

[NDAFW](#) kicks off with Drugs and Alcohol Chat Day. During this live web chat on January 22 (7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST), high school students can ask questions about drugs and addiction to scientists at the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Teachers may submit questions on behalf of students at [Register for Chat Day 2018](#). Educators must order [free materials](#) for NDAFW events by **January 15**.



## National Winter Sports TBI Awareness Month

National Winter Sports TBI Awareness Month is a public health and awareness campaign for highlighting the dangers of traumatic brain injury and the importance for taking precautionary measures when engaging in winter sports like skating, tobogganing and skiing. TBI stands for Traumatic Brain Injury which is a common result of injuries that involve the head. Every year, there are approximately 1.7 million head injuries in the United States according to the American Physical Therapy Association. More importantly, about 52,000 people die every year due to TBI. It is commonly caused by falling or crashing into another person or objects while skiing or skating. Many of these accidents lead to head injuries like concussions and traumatic brain injury.



## RESOURCES

- ⇒ **From Farm to Fork**

Johns Hopkins University has made available free of charge its high school curriculum [FoodSpan](#), which includes downloadable lessons based on national standards in health and other subject areas. The curriculum provides students with a deep understanding of critical food system issues and empowers them to make healthy and responsible food choices.
- ⇒ **Mindful Classrooms**

The nonprofit organization Mindful published the special edition magazine [The Future of Education: Mindful Classrooms](#), which may be downloaded. In addition to the noted educators and research, there is a guide for introducing mindfulness to schools and reading lists for adults and kids.
- ⇒ **School Climate and Attendance Webinar—January 16, 2018**

At 1:00-2:00 p.m. EST, the National Student Attendance, Engagement and Success Center (NSAESC) will host [Creating a Warm and Engaging School Climate to Support Attendance](#). The webinar will introduce Attendance Works' new Scan of the Environment and Attendance Tool (SEAT), which is free for schools to use and helps educators identify factors that can either support or inhibit student attendance.
- ⇒ **Opioid Misuse and Abuse**

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) provides the [Opioids & Other Prescription Drugs Event Toolkit](#), which schools may want to use during National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week® (January 22-26, 2018). **If so, materials for events must be ordered by January 15.** The Toolkit includes data from surveys, activity ideas, and steps for hosting an event.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- ⇒ **Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation [AED Grants](#)**

**Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 5:00 PM EST for 1st Quarter Grants**

What are the Foundation funding guidelines? Life-saving equipment, prevention education, scholarships and continued education, disaster relief and military support.
- ⇒ **Clif Bar Family Foundation Small Grants**

The Clif Bar Family Foundation awards [Small Grants](#) (approximately \$7,000 each) to nonprofit organizations for general organizational support as well as funding for specific projects. Projects must support a preventable approach to people's health, food and agriculture, the environment, or sustainable community development. The application deadline is February 1, 2018.
- ⇒ **GO! Grants for KIDS in the GAME Programs—Deadline: January 15, 2018**

Grants of \$1,000 to \$5,000 are available to K-6 public and charter schools to spark and sustain physical activity programs that take place before, during, or after the school day. **The brief [online application](#) for all five programs must be submitted by Monday.**



## WEBINARS AND RESOURCES

### ⇒ **Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) Awareness**

In October, the Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE America) offered a 43-minute [podcast](#) about SCA as a professional development opportunity for health literacy month. The podcast consists of a discussion among panelists who are board members of [Parent Heart Watch](#).

### ⇒ **CDC Webpage: Health and Academics**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently updated its [Healthy Schools website](#) to include new information that supports the link between student health behaviors and academic grades. Research is based on the September 2017 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) [Health-Related Behaviors and Academic Achievement Among High School Students – United States, 2015](#). This report confirms the association between health and academics found in an earlier, systematic review of CDC research. The new webpage includes fact sheets, data tables, and other resources.

### ⇒ **Continuing Education: Influenza Prevention with Vaccines**

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) highlighting a new continuing education (CE) opportunity provided by Medscape, LLC, which utilizes the CDC's August 2017 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) [Prevention and Control of Seasonal Influenza with Vaccines](#). Medscape will award 1.75 contact hours of CE credit for nurses. You can [register](#) free of charge or log in without a password.

### ⇒ **Resources to Fight the Flu**

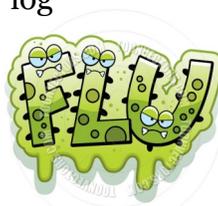
With flu-like illness on the rise, Georgians can find the most up-to-date information on <https://dph.georgia.gov/georgia-flu-information>. Here are two that may be particularly helpful: [Information for Schools: Questions and Answers](#) (see “Flu Resources for Schools” section) and [How to Clean and Disinfect Schools](#).

### ⇒ **Preparing Youth to Thrive: Promising Practices for SEL**

The Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Challenge was designed to identify promising practices for building skills in six areas: emotion management, empathy, teamwork, initiative, responsibility, and problem solving. The Field Guide, a product of the [SEL Challenge](#), shares best practices and collective expertise for equipping the rising generation with the SEL skills they need to thrive. Educators and out-of-school staff may download the [Field Guide](#) for use in developing SEL programming.

### ⇒ **Community Policing and Supporting Youth with Mental Health Needs**

This brief [Children's Bureau Express article](#) introduces the webisode [Diverting to Treatment](#). The hour-long webisode, created by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), looks at developments related to crisis intervention training (CIT) and the shift in law enforcement and community perceptions. The goal of CIT is to decrease violence and unnecessary arrests while improving access to mental health services. One of the professionals featured in the webisode is a police captain and supervisor of school resource officers.



# SCHOOL NURSE BULLETIN BOARD IDEAS



## CHOA SCHOOL HEALTH RESOURCES

Eighteen percent of children in the United States have a chronic medical condition. A well-trained school health professional can help these children manage their health and stay in school. Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA) works closely with school health personnel throughout the state to provide them with educational materials, training and support.

The Children's Regional School Health Coordinator, Gail Smith, provides the following services:

- ◆ [School nurse updates](#) and webinars on clinical pediatric topics
- ◆ Staff education for school districts in metro Atlanta
- ◆ Reviews and revisions of the [school health manual](#)
- ◆ Serve as prime contact for school nurses to call to discuss programmatic needs and difficult cases
- ◆ Provide the CHOA/DPH [Common Infectious Illness poster](#)
- ◆ [Behavioral Health resources](#)
- ◆ [Educational Videos](#)

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta also provides nutritional and wellness resources through the [Strong 4 Life Program](#). Please click the hyperlink for more information.

**For questions or requests, please contact:**

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Web Page: <http://www.choa.org/schoolhealth>

**Want to receive School Health News:**  
<http://pages.choa.org/School-Nurse-OptIn.html>



## HELPFUL LINKS

- ⇒ [ASTHMA](#)
- ⇒ [CHILDHOOD OBESITY](#)
- ⇒ [CULTURAL COMPETENCY](#)
- ⇒ [DIABETES IN CHILDREN](#)
- ⇒ [DISASTER PREPAREDNESS](#)
- ⇒ [DOCUMENTATION IN SCHOOL HEALTH](#)
- ⇒ [DRUG ABUSE](#)
- ⇒ [ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH](#)
- ⇒ [FOOD ALLERGIES & ANAPHYLAXIS](#)
- ⇒ [IMMUNIZATIONS](#)
- ⇒ [HEAD LICE](#)
- ⇒ [MENTAL HEALTH](#)
- ⇒ [ORAL HEALTH](#)
- ⇒ [SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICIES](#)
- ⇒ [SEASONAL INFLUENZA](#)
- ⇒ [SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH](#)
- ⇒ [VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS](#)
- ⇒ [VISION AND EYE HEALTH](#)

\*\*\*Resources obtained from the [National Association of School Nurses Website](#)



# Fight the Flu

## Flu Activity in Georgia

Each year from October to mid-May, Georgia's Department of Public Health tracks flu activity throughout the State and reports the findings in the [Georgia Weekly Influenza Report](#). Along with other [surveillance components](#), influenza-like illness is tracked with the help of volunteer sentinel providers (private providers, occupational health providers, student health clinics and emergency departments) as part of CDC's [ILINet](#) program. While each individual case of influenza is not reportable to health authorities, we monitor flu activity by watching the percent of doctors' visits that are for "influenza-like illness" (fever >100° F and cough and/or sore throat). When these doctors' visits for "influenza-like illnesses" begin to increase compared to baseline levels, we suspect that influenza is active in an area. Baseline levels are considered to be 0-3%.

After House Bill 198 passed in the 2017 Legislative session, schools are required to provide information to parents and guardians of students in grades 6 through 12 on influenza and its vaccine whenever other health information is provided. Below you will find many resources on Influenza and the flu vaccine.

## Influenza Resources

[About Influenza](#)

[Influenza Terms](#)

[Influenza Prevention](#)

[Novel Influenza A Infection-H3N2v](#)

## Influenza Related Pages

[Influenza: What You Need to Know](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Influenza Surveillance in Georgia](#)

[Vaccine Information Sheet Influenza](#)

[Flu Activity in Georgia](#)

[Novel Influenza A Infections](#)

[Georgia Pandemic Influenza](#)

[Preparedness Information](#)

