



Georgia Department of Education

Georgia School Nurse NEWS

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EDUCATING GEORGIA'S FUTURE

APRIL 2018



APRIL NATIONAL HEALTH OBSERVANCES

- ⇒ [National Child Abuse Prevention Month](#)
- ⇒ [National Autism Awareness Month](#)
- ⇒ [Alcohol Awareness Month](#)
- ⇒ [National Distracted Driving Awareness Month](#)
- ⇒ [National Donate Life Month](#)
- ⇒ [Oral Cancer Awareness Month](#)
- ⇒ [Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month](#)
- ⇒ [Sports Eye Safety Awareness Month](#)
- ⇒ [STI Awareness Month](#)
- ⇒ [April 2-8 National Public Health Week – Healthiest Nation 2030: Changing Our Future Together](#)
- ⇒ [April 7 World Health Day](#)

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!*



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...

- **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.
 - ⇒ April 17th– 1:00pm-3:30pm
 - ⇒ April 25th– 8:30am-11:00am
 - ⇒ May 22nd-1:00pm-3:30pm
 - ⇒ June 20th– 1:00pm-3:30pm
- April 11th from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
Pioneer RESA 1342 GA-254 Cleveland, GA

WEBINARS AND RESOURCES

⇒ **Counselors and Special Educators in Rural Schools Working Together**

School counselors and special educators can be a powerful team in helping schools create a positive school community. For example, one school community through the guidance of their counselors and special educators implemented a School Wide Positive Behavior support program. To learn how school staff can work together to implement support programming, [read the article](#).

⇒ **How Can School Nurses Manage Allergies and Anaphylaxis at School?**

The role of the school nurse is complex and encompasses many aspects of allergy care. NASN outlines the school nurse's role in the [Framework for 21st Century School Nursing Practice](#). The [Allergy & Asthma Network's Allergy & Anaphylaxis: A Practical Guide for Schools and Families](#) also addresses the school nurse's role in allergy management.

⇒ **IDEA and Section 504 Teams- The School Nurse as an Essential Team Member**

In January, 2018 the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) released a position statement describing the importance of the school nurse in providing services to kids who may be eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA, 2004) and the Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. It is the position of the NASN that the registered professional school nurse is an essential member of multidisciplinary teams participating in the identification, evaluation, and monitoring of eligible students. To learn more about the school nurses role in servicing special needs children, [read the full position statement](#).

⇒ **ASCD: How Capturing Student Voice Can Improve a School**

Sturgis High School is working to improve the relations of their students, faculty, and their overall school community by capturing the student voice. By using both a Student Connection Survey, and developing a Positive School Culture Team the school has seen improved attendance, decreased behavior problems, increased graduation rates and student satisfaction. To learn about the power of relationships and the positive effect they can have on student health, [read the article](#).



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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

Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 12:00 AM EST for 2nd Quarter Grants

What are the Foundation funding guidelines? Life-saving equipment, prevention education, scholarships and continued education, disaster relief and military support.

⇒ **Action for Healthy Kids: Parents for Healthy Kids Grant**

Action for Healthy Kids is pleased to announce that grants are now available for the 2018-2019 school year. Their Parents for Healthy Kids Grants are for parents or parent groups that are interested in leading school based physical activity or nutrition programming that will engage more parents in student and family health. Grants of up to \$1,000 are available. Learn how to apply [online](#).

⇒ **2018 National Healthy Schools Award Applications Open**

Alliance for a Healthier Generation is offering schools enrolled in its Healthy Schools Program the opportunity to apply for the annual National Health Schools Award. Schools that receive this award meet best practice criteria established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and outlined in the Healthy Schools Program Framework of Best Practice Criteria. Applications will be open until April 6, 2018. All awarded schools will be automatically entered to receive a Target Gift Card valued up to 500 dollars for their school. [Apply online, today](#).



WEBINARS AND RESOURCES

⇒ Exposure to Electronic Cigarette Advertising among Middle and High School Students

In the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, e-cigarette advertising's effect on kids was highlighted. With e-cigarettes being the most commonly used tobacco product among US middle and high school students, exposure to e-cigarettes advertisements is associated with higher odds of current use among school kids in grades 5th to 12th. The CDC analyzed the National Youth Tobacco Surveys to examine four kinds of advertising effects on kids. To learn more, [read the report](#).

⇒ Webinar— Coping with Stress and Depression-Strategies for Families

April 10, 2018 join Families for Depression Awareness at 7:00 p.m. EST for a webinar discussing stress management in the family environment. The webinar will discuss how to manage stress and identify depression. Dr. Lisa Zwiebach of Emory University will lead the discussion and provide resources. [Register for the webinar online](#).

⇒ NASN Position Brief: Wearable Medical Technology in Schools – The Role of the School Nurse

Adopted in February, 2018, it is the position of the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) that the school nurse be involved in the coordination of care of students with wearable medical technologies. The school nurse should lead the development of written policies and procedures that focus on safe and effective use of wearable medical technology in schools, including raising concerns over inadequate Wi-Fi capabilities and complying with Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). To learn more, [read the brief online](#).

⇒ American School Health Association Announces Creation of a School Violence Taskforce

In response to the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, among other acts of violence, the American School Health Association (ASHA) has created the ASHA School Violence Taskforce. The taskforce will be chaired by the ASHA's immediate past president and will include eight additional, former ASHA presidents and the current executive director. The goal of the group will be to develop resources, such as position statements, to assist in change efforts. [Read the brief to learn more](#).

⇒ Safe Medicine Storage: Recent Trends and Insights for Families and Health Educators

Safe Kids Worldwide just released a research report that discusses current trends in medicine poisonings among children and looks at how parents store medicine. Safe Kids Worldwide has developed a shareable infographic to highlight findings from the research and provide tips parents can use in their homes. [Review the resources](#) online.

⇒ National Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Strong, nurturing communities that are supportive of families, including schools, can get involved and play a role in preventing child abuse and neglect. The Children's Bureau within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has provided resources including a comprehensive guide, tip sheets, publications and more. [Learn more by going online](#).

⇒ Archived Webinar: Teaching Health While Meeting the WSCC Model

Originally broadcast on March 29, 2018, this webinar from the American School Health Association discussed empowering health educators with materials to, in turn, empower students with knowledge and skills. Presented by Paula Prentis, LMSW, a unique social, emotional and character development program titled "Your Self Series" is discussed. Strategies to assist health educators in meeting National Health Education Standards are also presented. [View the archived webinar online](#).



STOP THE BLEED

Nine-year-old saved by nurse

Alexander Popp

Updated: March 30, 2018

In life, there are certain moments when one is forced into action. When crisis arises, and one is left with a split second to react, the only questions left to answer are how the problem is to be faced and what the outcome will be.

Such a pivotal moment came for Cumming Elementary School nurse Kathy Gregory on March 16, and when it did she reacted quickly, effectively and saved the life of a child at her school.

“I happened to be standing out in the hallway, outside the clinic, and a teacher turned the corner with a ... panicked look on her face, and honestly all I can remember hearing was, ‘come quick, there’s blood everywhere,’” Gregory said.

A little girl, 9-year-old Jennifer Leon-Lopez, had fallen on the playground and through a “freak accident” had broken her arm so badly that an artery had been punctured. She was rapidly losing blood from the wound.

Gregory said that one day prior to the incident, she had received a shipment of emergency tourniquet kits from Stop the Bleed — a program aiming to train bystanders to respond to emergencies — and that after hearing about the child she grabbed one of the kits and sprang into action.

“I could just tell, even though she had on long sleeves, from the pattern of the blood and the amount of blood that was there in such a short time, that we needed to stop the bleeding,” she said.

Gregory said that by the time she reached the playground and began administering the tourniquet to Leon-Lopez’s arm, other staff members had cleared the playground and contacted emergency services.

“Within 20 minutes they were loading her on the ambulance and were able to get her to medical care,” she said.

Gregory said that she and nurses from other schools in Forsyth County received their training with the emergency tourniquets in January as part of the Stop the Bleed School Response Program.

Stop the Bleed, a \$1 million dollar program funded by the Georgia Trauma Commission, was approved in March of 2017, aimed at turning bystanders with little or no medical training into “heroic lifesavers,” according to a news release from the organization.

For Gregory, the incident was a wakeup call: everyone, not just school medical staff, needs to know how to use the kits in case another accident happens.

“This was a freak accident. It could not only happen at a school, it could happen anywhere ... I’m a huge advocate for these [tourniquet kits] now. I would say that if you have someone who can train your staff ... go ahead and do it, because you never know when something like this could happen,” she said.

According to Capt. Rick Hamilton, EMS coordinator for the Forsyth County Fire Department, the agency plans to have each of the 37 public schools in Forsyth County fully trained on how to use the emergency tourniquet kits by the end of April.

“Over half the schools now have the kits in place and training done,” Hamilton said.

Hamilton added that according to the Georgia Trauma Commission the incident March 16 at Cumming Elementary School has sparked renewed interest from the community.

“Within the next couple of days, I received a number of emails either requesting training or saying that they had done the training. We have also had a couple of private schools inquire about training,” he said.

Hamilton said that he expects more groups and communities to request the training, as news of its effectiveness spreads.

“This can take off and just spread like wildfire. The goal is for it to be as easy to get as CPR class,” he said.



NATIONAL SCHOOL NURSE DAY



It's Almost National School Nurse Day!

Wednesday, May 9, 2018 is National School Nurse Day! We honor more than 95,000 school nurses in the United States who make a difference in the lives of children every day! The theme this year is School Nurses: Advocates for 21st Century Student Health. Listen to NASN President Nina Fekaris share how school nurses lead the way to advance health and support education by ensuring that students are safe, healthy, and ready to learn. Let's celebrate our school nurses! Learn more at: www.schoolnurseday.org.

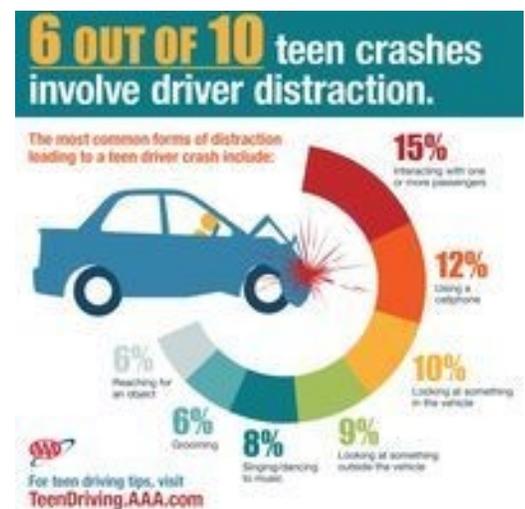


DISTRACTED DRIVING MONTH

Distracted driving is a public health issue that affects us all. The latest statistics show motor vehicle fatalities are up 6% from 2015. More than 40,000 people were killed on our nation's roadways last year, and distracted driving is a major contributor.

Each death is 100% preventable. From cell phones to dashboard infotainment systems to evolving voice command features – all pose a threat to our safety. Just one second of your attention is all it takes to change a life forever.

Distracted Driving Awareness Month in April is a united effort to recognize and eliminate preventable deaths from distracted driving. Join us to help save lives.





April is
NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS
month

About 1 percent of the world population has autism spectrum disorder. ([CDC, 2014](#))

Prevalence in the United States is estimated at 1 in 68 births. ([CDC, 2014](#))

More than 3.5 million Americans live with an autism spectrum disorder. ([Buescher et al., 2014](#))

Prevalence of autism in U.S. children increased by 119.4 percent from 2000 (1 in 150) to 2010 (1 in 68). ([CDC, 2014](#)) Autism is the fastest-growing developmental disability. ([CDC, 2008](#))

Prevalence has increased by 6-15 percent each year from 2002 to 2010. (Based on biennial numbers from the [CDC](#))

Autism services cost U.S. citizens \$236-262 billion annually. ([Buescher et al., 2014](#))

A majority of costs in the U.S. are in adult services – \$175-196 billion, compared to \$61-66 billion for children. ([Buescher et al., 2014](#))

Cost of lifelong care can be reduced by 2/3 with early diagnosis and intervention. (Autism. 2007 Sep;11(5):453-63; The economic consequences of autistic spectrum disorder among children in a Swedish municipality. Järbrink K1.)

1 percent of the adult population of the United Kingdom has autism spectrum disorder. ([Brugha T.S. et al., 2011](#))

The U.S. cost of autism over the lifespan is about \$2.4 million for a person with an intellectual disability, or \$1.4 million for a person without intellectual disability. ([Buescher et al., 2014](#))

35 percent of young adults (ages 19-23) with autism have not had a job or received postgraduate education after leaving high school. ([Shattuck et al., 2012](#))

It costs more than \$8,600 extra per year to educate a student with autism. ([Lavelle et al., 2014](#)) (The average cost of educating a student is about \$12,000 – [NCES, 2014](#))

In June 2014, only 19.3 percent of people with disabilities in the U.S. were participating in the labor force – working or seeking work. Of those, 12.9 percent were unemployed, meaning only 16.8 percent of the population with disabilities was employed. (By contrast, 69.3 percent of people without disabilities were in the labor force, and 65 percent of the population without disabilities was employed.) ([Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2014](#))



GASN SUMMER CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE

Georgia Association of School Nurses

School Nurses Bridging the Gap:
Whole Child, Whole School and Whole Community

The Classic Center, Athens, GA
June 19-20, 2018



BENEFITS OF JOINING GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES

HOW TO JOIN?

[With our new website you can now join online.](#) Just fill out the form and submit your payment to get instant access to member only content. (We use PayPal, but you don't have to have an account – very secure)

WHY JOIN?

When you join online you can immediately access the Members Only area, giving you access to Bylaws, Committees, Officers & Officers History, Complete Membership List (you can email directly to) and Newsletter. Here's how your membership helps:

SCHOOL NURSE ADVOCACY

- 1.GASN supports child health needs with state policy-makers & organizations.
- 2.GASN collaborates with state agencies, organizations, and policy-makers regarding school nurse issues.
- 3.GASN promotes National School Nurse Day to raise awareness of the school nurse role.
- 4.GASN affiliates with NASN to access and support NASN's Publications, Position Statements and Issue Briefs about the school nurse role.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

- 1.GASN executive officers facilitate promoting school nurse issues in state legislature.
- 2.GASN has been instrumental in advocating for school nurse funding in Georgia and for language in the A+ Education Act supporting school nurse staffing for all Georgia Schools.
- 3.GASN campaigns to include funding and legislation for a nurse for every Georgia School Campus.

EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

GASN provides a vehicle for school nurses to interact with others who understand their needs and can provide solutions to school health problems. GASN collaborates with Children's Hospital of

Atlanta who provides quarterly school nurse updates related to current children's health issues.

DISCUSSION GROUPS

GASN has a list serve to communicate School Nursing news and questions to all members.

SCHOOL NURSE RECOGNITION

GASN receives nominations for Georgia School Nurse of the Year, Georgia LPN of the Year, and Georgia School Nurse Administrator of the Year.

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- 3.GASN campaigns to include funding and legislation for a nurse for every Georgia School Campus.

Do You Know Someone Who Would Like to Become a School Nurse?

Students interested in entering a field in which there are plenty of job openings can choose to enroll in one of **17 programs of study for which FREE TUITION is available!**

The HOPE Career Grant can be the boost a student needs to **get started on a rewarding career in a well-paying job, and without accumulating a lot of student debt.** It also helps Georgia employers by creating a pipeline of skilled workers they can hire well into the future. To learn more, or find out which campuses offer these programs, click on one of the programs below.

To be eligible for the HOPE Career Grant, students must first qualify for and be receiving the [HOPE Grant](#). The two grants together will cover all tuition in these 17 programs of study. Students will still be responsible for student fees and any equipment necessary, although in some cases, financial aid is available for those as well.

- ◆ [Automotive Technology](#)
- ◆ [Aviation Technology](#)
- ◆ [Certified Engineer Assistant](#)
- ◆ [Commercial Truck Driving](#)
- ◆ [Computer Programming](#)
- ◆ [Computer Technology](#)
- ◆ [Construction Technology](#)
- ◆ [Diesel Equipment Technology](#)
- ◆ [Early Childhood Care and Education](#)
- ◆ [Electrical Lineman Technology](#)
- ◆ [Health Science](#)
- ◆ [Industrial Maintenance](#)
- ◆ [Logistics/Transportation Technology](#)
- ◆ [Movie Production Set Design](#)
- ◆ [Practical Nursing](#)
- ◆ [Precision Manufacturing](#)
- ◆ [Welding and Joining Technology](#)



PRACTICAL NURSING

The Practical Nursing diploma program is designed to prepare students to write the NCLEX-PN for licensure as practical nurses. The program prepares graduates to give competent nursing care. This is done through a selected number of academic and occupational courses providing a variety of techniques and materials necessary to assist the student in acquiring the needed knowledge and skills to give competent care. A variety of clinical experiences is planned so that theory and practice are integrated under the guidance of the clinical instructor. Program graduates receive a practical nursing diploma and have the qualifications of an entry-level practical nurse. Students most commonly will have to submit a satisfactory criminal background check as well as a drug screen in order to be placed in a clinical health care facility to complete the clinical portions of their educational training.

[FIND WHERE THIS PROGRAM IS OFFERED](#)

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](#)



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:

Gail Smith, B.S.N., R.N.
Regional School Nurse Coordinator
Phone: 404-785-7202
Cell: 404-395-8067
Email: schoolhealth@choa.org
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](#)