

**COOPERATIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH NON-SCHOOL AGENCY
NURSING PERSONNEL**

POLICY STATEMENT

- A. Providing for the health and safety of all students attending schools in the School District of New London may include allowing non-school agency nursing personnel to work within school district buildings. When this occurs, it is essential that both school district and non-school agency staff work cooperatively to properly provide for each student's health needs.
- B. The rules here established are to assist staff from multiple agencies to work together to enable students with special health care conditions or serious health needs to attend school and participate in all possible school activities.

POLICY PROCEDURE

- A. Staff from non-school medical community agencies who work within the School District of New London are asked to comply with the following procedural guidelines. These guidelines are meant to help make the cooperative efforts of the School District of New London staff, non-school agency personnel, and parents as effective as possible in helping students to make satisfactory educational progress.
 - 1. The purpose of having non-school nursing professional and paraprofessional staff working in the schools is to meet the medical, rather than the educational, needs of the students for whom they are responsible. Nursing services are "related services" in the same manner as are such services as physical therapy, occupational therapy, and transportation. Under state and federal guidelines, related services are to be provided when they are necessary in order for children to benefit from their educational programs and are to be directed toward the achievement of instructional goals and objectives.
 - 2. Nursing professional and paraprofessional staff assigned to work with individual children are to be responsible only for those specific students to whom they are assigned. Interaction with other students is to have the advance approval of district staff, parents, and/or adult students.
 - 3. Nursing professional and paraprofessional staff employed by non-school agencies are not to supervise or otherwise direct school district staff. Each employing agency (i.e., school district and/or non-school agency) has the final responsibility for the actions of its employees. District nursing staff will assist the efforts of non-school community agency staff in ways which elicit a cooperative working relationship with all concerned parties for the benefit of students receiving nursing services.
 - 4. Confidentiality regarding the educational programs and related health services being provided all students is to be maintained. This standard will apply to both district and community agency staff, although an open exchange of pertinent information (as authorized by the student/parent) should exist between district and non-school agency nursing staff.

COOPERATIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH NON-SCHOOL AGENCY NURSING PERSONNEL

5. Joint meetings involving school district staff and agency nursing personnel should be held at the beginning of each school year (and as often thereafter as warranted) for the purpose of reviewing this policy, along with the specific health care needs and procedures to be followed for individual students for whom the non-school agency personnel are providing health care. A School District of New London school nurse will initiate a meeting to include all interested parties as listed in the attached Exhibit 1.
 6. Concerns regarding desired health care practices should be directed to the School District of New London supervisory staff for appropriate discussion and possible resolution. The full involvement of all parties, including non-school agency personnel, will be encouraged to insure a full discussion of all viewpoints. Resolving differences of opinion should start at the building level with adherence to district policy, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, and Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services guidelines, and the Wisconsin Nurse Practice Act.
- B. Questions/concerns regarding these guidelines should be directed to the school district's Director of Pupil Services.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

CROSS-REFERENCE: Exhibit 1, Documentation of Guidelines Review regarding Cooperative Working Relationships between Non-School Agency Nursing Personnel