

Katy ISD Health Services

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Number of Employees:

39 RNs & 18 LVNs- 6 of the RNs are functioning in a supervisory position with new nurses.

31 Nurse Aides – Assist school nurses at campuses with very large enrollments and/or a high number of students with special needs.

1 Itinerant Nurse Aide – Follow a regular travel schedule to campuses not supported by a full time or part time nurse aide.

Number of Students Served 2010-2011: 252,559

Number of Staff Served 2010-2011: 7,194

Description of Program Services:

The school health program addresses the delivery of health services, health counseling, health education, and the promotion of a healthful environment. School nurses serve as the child's advocate in the community by working collaboratively with parents, private physicians, community agencies, and other health resources.

The staff for school health services actively participates in the correlation of health and the total educational program through various curricular and special programs. Good health is essential for optimum growth and development; therefore, it is the responsibility of the school to detect and to achieve remediation or rehabilitation of those health problems that impede learning.

Health Services:

- Evaluating student illness and the determination of which students are able to return to class, which should go home, and which students should be referred for a medical evaluation.
- Administering emergency care to students and staff.
- Assisting in crisis situations that include but are not limited to child abuse, suicide threats/attempts, substance abuse and pregnancy.
- Providing an effective communicable disease control program including immunization compliance.
- Administering parent, physician and dentist-prescribed medications and specialized health care procedures and treatments when required during school hours.
- Identifying health problems that may interfere with learning. Vision, hearing, scoliosis and Type 2 Diabetes Risk Assessment must be performed in specified grade levels annually.

Health Counseling:

- Student counseling regarding potential or identified health problems.
- Parent/nurse and or teacher/nurse conferences to define health needs, the educational implications, and necessary adjustments in the school setting.
- Utilization of other campus and district resources such as counselors, diagnosticians, and psychologists to address student health issues.

Health Education

- One-on-one when student reports to the clinic with a health issue
- Classroom presentations
- Staff meeting and in-service presentations on mandatory topics such as child abuse and bloodborne pathogens, as well as other health/wellness topics of interest
- PTO/PTA presentations
- Training of school personnel to administer medication to students with Diabetes, Allergies and Asthma, & Seizure Disorders

Environmental Health:

- Campus nurses serve as the Indoor Air Quality Campus Coordinators
- Safety Committee chairperson or member
- Leader of Emergency Response Team and member of campus Crisis Team
- AED (automated external defibrillator) units located on every campus and at all major district facilities
- Daily monitoring of ozone levels in the area
- Participate with the county health departments to monitor flu- like symptoms in school

Program Strengths:

- Registered Nurse at the administrative level to oversee the Health Services Department and support staff of an Instructional Specialist
- Licensed nurse on every campus
- Supervisor RNs to train and mentor new LVNs
- Specific policies and procedures in place to ensure consistency across the District regarding clinic management, health care delivery, immunization compliance, administration of medication, communicable disease control, delivery of specialized health care procedures, reporting of child abuse, and bloodborne pathogen control.
- Provision of additional funds through Medicaid Administrative Claims allowing for the purchase of additional equipment, reference materials, workshops, etc. that directly influences the health care of students

Program Challenges:

Katy ISD is growing rapidly and the District has continued to support the professional staffing of school clinics. Student and family health needs are becoming more complex and will continue to require nursing intervention and case management that involves collaboration with internal and external resources. School nursing is a specialized practice of professional nursing that advances the well-being, academic success, and lifelong achievement of students. To that end, school nurses facilitate positive student responses to normal development; promote health and safety; intervene with actual and potential health problems; provide case management services; and actively collaborate with others to build student and family capacity for adaptation, self-management, self-advocacy, and learning. School nurses are an integral part of the educational system and provide a medical service to all Katy ISD students and staff.