

(5/15/24 District Administrator's Corner Article)

Since 1972, National School Nurse Day has been set aside to recognize the dedication and professionalism of our school nurses. National School Nurse Day was established to foster a better understanding of the role of school nurses in the educational setting. This year, National Nurses Week was celebrated May 6-12. The job is incredibly complex and provides more than just band-aids for recess scrapes. Here is a list of some of the tasks our nurses complete:

- Administer medications to students as directed by family/physician (close to 7,000 this year alone)
- Provide emergency care for staff and students
- Train staff and students on health practices or emergency procedures
- Assist with health and sex education
- Advocate for public health
- Teach lessons on dental care to students
- Provide lessons and screenings for eye care
- Address home and community factors that impact mental health of students
- Act as a liaison to local clinics for families when needed
- Provide personal care products to students as needed
- Communicate with parents as needed
- Administer 504/IEP directives as needed
- Prepare all emergency and care equipment for every field trip
- Assist in disaster and emergency planning
- Create and draft policy with leadership to protect and provide processes in dealing with accidental, illness, or medical occurrences
- Maintain databases on communicable diseases and immunization requirements and updates
- Supply classrooms with preventative equipment
- Facilitate and process school health laws as required by the State of Wisconsin
- Listen to those who need to be heard

School nurses are leaders. They are an integral part of each building. This year they have registered over 5,000 health visits to their office. The River Valley School District is a better place because of you - Brittiney Belche, Jennifer Smith and Heather Olson - our hat is off to you!

Mr. Loren G. Glasbrenner
District Administrator