

# SCHOOL NURSES ORGANIZATION OF ARIZONA

PARTNERS IN HEALTH AND EDUCATION



Mission: The School Nurses Organization of Arizona (SNOA) is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, which advocates for and supports the health and educational success of Arizona’s children by promoting the advancement of professional school nursing. Our goal is interactive leadership and the provision of educational opportunities.

## In this Issue

## Important Upcoming Events

*Save the Date*

### 2024 Arizona Department of Health Services Annual Immunization Conference

**When:** April 23-24, 2024

**Where:** Mesa Convention Center

[Sign up here](#)

### School Nurses of Arizona Conference

**When:** June 10th & June 11th, 2024

**Time:** 7:00am-4:00pm

**Where:** Desert Willow Conference Center  
4340 E. Cotton Center Blvd Phoenix, AZ 85040

[Sign up here](#)

### National Association of School Nurses 2024 Conference

**Stronger Together**

**When:** Chicago, Illinois

**In-Person:** June 28 – July 1, 2024:

**Virtual:** July 8 – 10, 2024:

**Where:** Chicago, Illinois

[Sign up Here](#)

Important Upcoming events

Message of our President

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# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Hello SNOA Members and Friends!

I would like to welcome our new interim secretary! Alana Parker, MSN-Ed, RN, NCSN has taken on the SNOA board position and is doing a great job! Alana is a school nurse with Mesa Public Schools. This newsletter might look a bit different than the most recent ones but that is because Alana is now here and ready to take it over. Thank you, Alana, for all your hard work and dedication so far!

Last week, registration opened for our 35th Annual SNOA Summer Conference and it's sure to be a great event! We have a Mind and Body focus, so you will hear from expert presenters on medical/clinical topics day #1 and on day #2, you will hear from presenters on things related to mental health and wellness. This will include topics that can help you at work but also with self-care, because as nurses who serve others all day, we cannot forget to serve ourselves. For the complete agenda, please use the QR code below.

Thank you,  
Lisa Alexander, BSN, RN, NCSN  
SNOA Board President



# Current School Nurse Openings



## **Apply here**

Positions for School nurse and support staff available.



## **Apply Here**

2023-24 School Nurse/Health assistant positions available.



## **Apply here**

2024-2025 Contract Registered Nurse

## Summer Registered Nurse Opportunities

Looking for a Summer job and a Way to Beat the Heat?

Camp Not-A-Wheeze opened up its volunteer applications, available [HERE](#). They serve as a refuge for children with chronic lung and allergic conditions and are looking for medical volunteers to assist with medication administration and camper assessments. **Apply Here**



Camp Sunshine, located in Maine, provides retreats combining respite, recreation, and support, while enabling hope and promoting joy, for children with life-threatening illnesses and their families through the various stages of a child's illness.

The program is free of charge to families and includes on-site medical support. Bereavement sessions are also offered for families who have experienced the death of a child from a supported illness.

**Volunteer Here**



Also in Main is Camp Skylemar. Camp Skylemar offers top-notch instruction and enjoyment in sports, aquatics, outdoors, and other activities for 200 boys, ages 7-15. The RN position pays a competitive salary of \$1,000 per week, including housing, a travel stipend, meals, time off, staff clothing, WIFI, and a laundry service. The season runs from June 20 through August 11.



**Apply here**

# 2024 LEGISLATIVE BILLS WATCH LIST

“The ANA believes that advocacy is a pillar of nursing. Nurses instinctively advocate for their patients, in their workplaces, and in their communities; but legislative and political advocacy is no less important to advancing the profession and patient care.” -Arizona Nurses Association.

## HB2174 – School personnel; emergency glucagon administration

- Allows school district governing boards and charter schools to request an annual standing order for glucagon from authorized medical professionals.
- With a standing order, schools may stock glucagon at school sites for emergency administration by appropriately licensed medical personnel.
- School district will be permitted to accept monetary donations, grants, or use third party programs to obtain glucagon or apply for grants to purchase glucagon or may participate in third party programs to obtain glucagon.
- . Requires those using stock glucagon to have a Diabetes Medical Management Plan to provide the school with a written statement signed by a licensed health professional that the person administering the plan has received proper training in use of glucagon device.
- Requires that the training requirements be renewed at regular intervals prescribed by the school district governing board or charger school governing body. Permits appropriately licensed medical personnel to train professional and voluntary diabetes care assistants and provides immunity from civil liability for the consequences of good faith adoption and implementation of diabetes management policies or procedures.
- Permits glucagon to be purchased, stocked and administered as needed by authorized and certified personnel and exempts the administration of glucagon from standard medical processes such as physical or mental health status examination.

## HB2484 – Schools; health care services; posting

### The order to list your licenses and certifications:

1. Nursing degrees (DNP, MSN)
2. Nursing licenses (RN, LPN)
3. State designations (APRN, NP)
4. National certifications (FNP-BC, RN-BC)
5. Awards and honors (DAISY award, FAAN)
6. Other certifications (EMT)

- Requires a school who provides health care to students to post on its website a statement that a Registered Nurse is assigned to that school.
- Require schools that do not have a Registered Nurse but provide health care services to students to post on its website the “health care credentials” (defined,) if any, of everyone who provides health care services to students in the course of their official duties.
- Requires a school that provides health care to students to post in the school’s health office the credentials of anyone that provides health care to students and a statement that individuals who lack credentials provide health care to students.

[Click for Other Bill and Updates on Legislation here](#)

*Nurses are the #1 patient advocate of the health team; we leave nursing school with advocacy skills engrained in our nursing process and do not think twice about speaking up for our patients. We receive much less knowledge and skills about advocating for the nursing profession. This is an experience gained on the job and within our professional activities.*

*After Sarah Portle and Lisa Alexander volunteered to testify about HB 2484 recently, we ask them to tell us about it. Six questions were asked, with 1-3 posted in the March issue of the Arizona Nurses' Notes and below are questions 4-6 shared below with Sarah (S) and Lisa's (L) responses. The first three questions asked about why they volunteered to testify, what were their concerns about doing so, and how was the experience. Now we get to learn if they would do it again and talk you into going with them!*



### ***Would you testify again? Why or why not?***

S: Yes, I would testify again without hesitation. This experience demonstrated to me the significance of our voices as school nurses in shaping legislation that affects our profession and the students we serve.

L: Yes, because it was quite easy in the end, I felt very supported along the way. It is nice speaking on behalf of a bill that I support.

### ***Would you recommend other school nurses to testify or communicate about school nursing with their legislators? Why or why not?***

S: Absolutely, I would recommend other school nurses to testify or communicate with their legislators about school nursing issues. Our profession plays a crucial role in the healthcare and well-being of students, and it's essential for policymakers to hear directly from us. By sharing our experiences and perspectives, we can advocate for positive change and improvements in the education and healthcare systems.

L: It was apparent to me that anyone who testified had the ears of everyone in the room. It is a way to be heard. I do feel other forms of communication with legislators would be effective as well. It is their obligation to hear the voices of the constituents.

### ***What other comments about the experience would you like to share?***

S: Another aspect I'd like to highlight about testifying is the sense of camaraderie I felt during this process. While preparing for and delivering my testimony, I felt supported by my colleagues who were also advocating for our profession. Overall, the experience was not only personally rewarding but also reinforced the significance of collaboration and advocacy within the school nursing community.

L: It definitely felt outside the box for me. I was not comfortable but for that reason alone, I would do it again because that is how I grow.

# RESOURCES

## Healthy Kids AZ App

- Created for Arizona's school nurses and childcare staff who take care of our pediatric population on a daily basis.
- Up to date information on infectious disease and injury prevention flipcharts, AZ specific vaccine information, infection control guidance, and much more.



## 2-1-1 Arizona

- Supplemental Food and Nutrition Programs
- Shelter and Housing Options
- Utilities Assistance
- Emergency Information and Disaster Relief
- Employment and Education Opportunities
- Services for Veterans
- Healthcare, vaccination and health epidemic information
- Addiction Prevention and Rehabilitation Programs
- Re-entry help for ex-offenders
- Support groups for individuals with mental illnesses or special needs
- A safe, confidential path out of physical and/or emotional domestic violence



## Arizona Department of Education

This page is designed to provide School Nursing and Health Staff with specialized resources and detailed information on the guidelines surrounding School Health Services in Arizona.



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**

## NASN Podcasts

NASN School Nurse chat podcasts provide updates on important topics and are easy to listen to on the go. Podcasts preview indepth articles that can improve nursing practice.



What resources would you like to see added to this page? Email Us today!

# SCHOOL NURSE HIGHLIGHTS



*Jennifer L. Miller, BSN, RN, NCSN*

Jennifer Miller is School Nurse Supervisor with Yavapai County Education Service Agency. She delivers nursing services to schools utilizing the shared services model. Jennifer began working in schools in 2001, first as a volunteer, and graduated nursing school in 2007 and went right into school nursing for about 15 years now. Jennifer currently serves on The Arizona Partnership for Immunization (TAPI) Cohort, is an active member with the Arizona School Nurse Access Program (ASAP) Program through Arizona Department of Education (ADE). She is also a nationally certified school nurse in 2021 and completed school nurse leadership training January of 2024 with Northeastern University and serves on the leadership team with the YCESA.

When asked what she loves about being a school nurse, she loves to see students light up when they learn something new about themselves. Working in a positive environment where you truly feel you make a difference. Jennifer believes that school nursing is truly about dedication. Nurses keep up with current training opportunities to learn more about how we can support student success. School nurses are positioned to make a positive impact for every student that enrolls. She also believes that school nurses are preventionists and diligently work to connect students and families to available resources in the communities they serve.

Jennifer's advice for new school nurses is to recognize that being a school nurse takes planning. Collaborating with your team at school and being a vital part of student success is no accident. School nurses manage student populations, work with parents and teachers, attend school board meetings, IEP meetings, and may even coach a sport. All this adds to opportunities for student success and contributes to student mental health.

## **Her most memorable school nurse moment?**

"That is an easy question. Once I was screening an elementary student hearing and the student was not particularly cooperative. When I asked how they would like to respond when hearing the "beeps", the student replied, "Can I say, you can't touch this!?" (And added a classic MC Hammer dance move) I smiled and said, "Of course!". I still laugh when I think of that student, they bring such joy! By the way, the student passed the screening with flying colors."

Thank you, Jennifer for inspiring others through your service in various ways to improve school nursing!

**Have you witnessed an exceptional school nurse in your practice you would like to recognize? Reach out to [amparker3@mpsaz.org](mailto:amparker3@mpsaz.org) so that we can highlight the work of school nursing and its importance in educational practice.**

# Stay Up to date on News & Professional Development!

## **School Nurse Huddles with the Arizona Department of Education**

Chat with school nurses and health office staff from across the state to share ideas, address challenges, gather updates, and receive support.

**When:** The third Wednesday of every month

**Time:** 2:00-3:00pm MST

**[Register here](#)**

## **Free Professional Development Opportunities**

If you are not yet a National Association of School Nurses (NASN) member, consider joining! The perks are endless. There are message boards to speak to colleagues on a national level, a learning center, access to vision vouchers for families in need, discounted prices on books, included membership into SNOA, and so much more!

**[Sign up Now](#)**

### **Allergy & Anaphylaxis: Clinical Practice Guidelines and Toolkit for School Nurses**

1.0 Nursing Continuing Professional Development (NCPD) contact hour.

**[Learn Here](#)**

### **Is Substance Abuse Undermining Adolescent Health? School Nurse Role on the School-Based Mental Health Team**

1.0 Nursing Continuing Professional Development (NCPD) contact hours.

**[Check it out here](#)**





**The National Association of School Nurses (NASN) is starting a new project promoting evidence-based care for students with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D): Providing Coordinated Care and Capturing Outcomes for Students with T1D: School Nurse-led Pilot Project. NASN has chosen AZ, ME, MT, and OH for implementation. The first step is to complete a needs assessment to gather baseline information on your current practice and feedback on your needs related to providing T1D care to students. Please take 5 minutes and complete the following needs assessment survey no later than March 22, 2024 (link below).**

**[Press Here to Take Survey](#)**

Calling All School Nurses in AZ, ME, MT, and OH

Do you currently care for students with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D)? Are you looking for evidence-based resources and educational opportunities to stay current with best practices care and technology advances? The National Association of School Nurses (NASN) is looking for School Nurses to participate in our project promoting evidence-based care for students with T1D: *Providing Coordinated Care and Capturing Outcomes for Students with T1D: School Nurse-led Pilot Project*.

**Participation criteria:**

- RN school nurse
- At least 3 students w/ T1D in identified school (ideally over 5)
  - Current method of documentation for T1D care (ideally EHR, but not required)

**Expectations for Participating School Nurses:**

- Participation/completion of NASN's new T1D national curriculum
- Participation/completion of new T1D state-specific curriculum
- Assessment of current school policies and procedures related to T1D care
- Collect school demographics
- Implement the School-Nurse Led T1D Active Surveillance Process
- Monthly data collection/submission regarding T1D care
- Participate in yearly project evaluation

**Benefits of Participation:**

- Access to NASN's new T1D evidence-based school nurse curriculum
- 1:1 project-based technical assistance to support your care of students w/T1D
- \$2000 honorarium at the end of each school year of project

**For More Information and Questions:**

Please complete the following [School Nurse Interest Form](#)  
Please **also** complete the [School Needs Assessment form](#)  
or contact Dr. Kimberly Stanislo (project PI) [kstanislo@nasn.org](mailto:kstanislo@nasn.org)

*This study has been reviewed by an institutional review board (IRB), which is a committee that has reviewed this research study to help ensure that your rights and welfare as a research participant are protected and that the research study is carried out in an ethical manner.*

# SNOA/NASN Board **OPENINGS**

**Elections this Spring to start June 2024  
after the Summer conference**

- Treasurer
- Vice President

**Election this Spring to start December 2024:**

NASN Board of Directors



Only Active members of the SNOA/NASN Organization who are working in the field of school nursing shall be eligible for nomination to the Board. For a description of duties for each position listed above, please email me at [lialexander@pusd11.net](mailto:lialexander@pusd11.net)

## **CONTACT US**

- **Lisa Alexander, President - [lialexander@pusd11.net](mailto:lialexander@pusd11.net)**
- **Rachel Muth , President-Elect - [rmuth@pvschools.net](mailto:rmuth@pvschools.net)**
- **McKenzie Bevirt, Interim Vice President [mbevirt@fusd1.org](mailto:mbevirt@fusd1.org)**
- **Sandra Brown, Treasurer - [skbrown@mpsaz.org](mailto:skbrown@mpsaz.org)**
- **Alana Parker, Interim Secretary-[amparker3@mpsaz.org](mailto:amparker3@mpsaz.org)**
- **Sarah Portle, NASN Board Rep - [sarah@azffn.org](mailto:sarah@azffn.org)**

