



**ADVANCING HEALTH
AND EDUCATION
JULY 24, 2025**

Welcome!

PRESENTED BY:

next | level

The School Nurse Summit

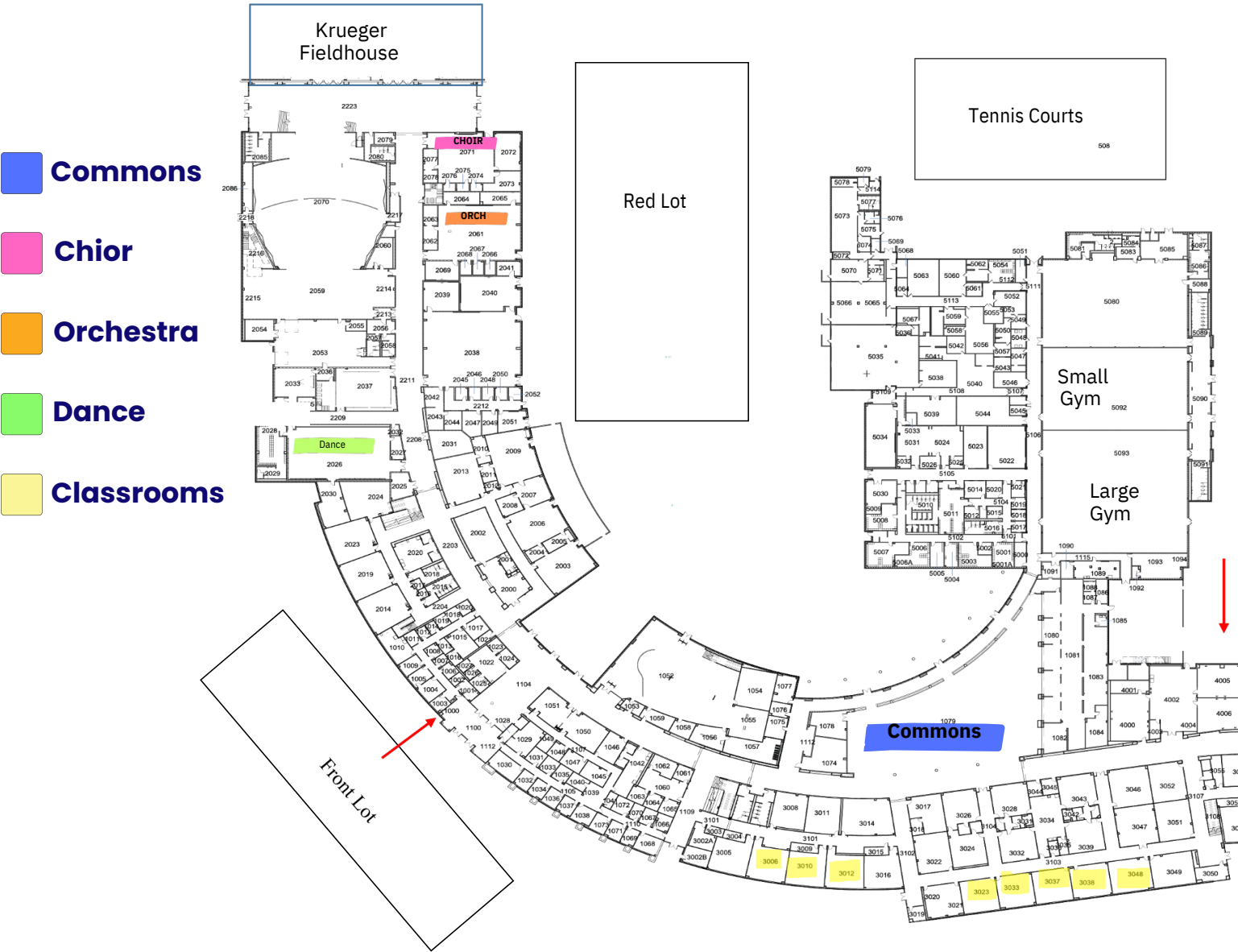
Schedule of Events

Registration/Check-In/ Vendor Fair	8:30am - 9:30am	Commons
Welcome	9:30am - 9:45am	Commons
Session 1	9:50am - 10:30am	Room #
Law, Rule, Policy - What's in a Name?	9:50am - 10:30am	Dance
PISD: Emergency Response: The Role of the School Nurse	9:50am - 10:30am	Orchestra
Stop the Bleed *Must attend both sessions*	9:50am - 11:20am	Choir
The Omnipod 5 Automated Insulin Delivery System	9:50am - 10:30am	Classroom 3010
Pre-Hospitalization Splinting	9:50am - 10:30am	Classroom 3012
Scoliosis Assessment & Treatment	9:50am - 10:30am	Classroom 3016
Ostomy Awareness	9:50am - 10:30am	Classroom 3016
Supporting the mental health needs of your students and the partnership between the school nurse and counselor (High school)	9:50am - 10:30am	Classroom 3037
ADHD and Autism - Distinctions and ways to collaborate	9:50am - 10:30am	Classroom 3038
HC PCT 8 Drug Trends and the Dangers Lurking in your Teens Bedroom	9:50am - 10:30am	Classroom 3048
Session 2	10:40am - 11:20am	Room #
The Dizzy Teenager - POTS or Not?	10:40am - 11:20am	Dance
PISD: Emergency Response: The Role of the School Nurse	10:40am - 11:20am	Orchestra
The Omnipod 5 Automated Insulin Delivery System	10:40am - 11:20am	Classroom 3010
Pre-Hospitalization Splinting	10:40am - 11:20am	Classroom 3012
Scoliosis Assessment & Treatment	10:40am - 11:20am	Classroom 3016
Understanding and Support Students with Behavior Challenges in the Clinic	10:40am - 11:20am	Classroom 3033
Supporting the Mental Health of Our Students: A Collaborative Approach Between School Nurses and School Counselors (Elementary)	10:40am - 11:20am	Classroom 3037
ADHD and Autism - Distinctions and ways to collaborate	10:40am - 11:20am	Classroom 3038
HC PCT 8 Drug Trends and the Dangers Lurking in your Teens Bedroom	10:40am - 11:20am	Classroom 3048

Lunch / Keynote Speaker / Vendor Fair Sponsored by: 	11:30am – 12:30pm	Commons
Session 3	12:40pm – 1:20pm	Room #
Saved by the Backpack: A School's Response to an Unexpected Crisis	12:40pm – 1:20pm	Commons
Advanced Diabetes Management in the School Setting	12:40pm – 1:20pm	Dance
Jurisprudence and Ethics for School Nurses *Must attend all 3 sessions to receive CEUs*	12:40pm – 3:00pm	Orchestra
Basic Life Support *Must attend all sessions, 40 person limit*	12:40pm – 3:00pm	Choir
Bone and Joint Injuries in our Pediatric Patients	12:40pm – 1:20pm	Classroom 3016
Understanding and Supporting Students with Behavior Challenges in the Clinic	12:40pm – 1:20pm	Classroom 3033
Infectious Disease Prevention and Reporting in Schools	12:40pm – 1:20pm	Classroom 3037
Reporting and Control of Communicable and Emerging Diseases in Schools	12:40pm – 1:20pm	Classroom 3038
From Impact to Recovery: A School Nurse's Guide to Concussion Care	12:40pm – 1:20pm	Classroom 3048
Healthy Eyes, Bright Futures: Mastering Vision Screenings in Schools	12:40pm – 1:20pm	Classroom 3049
Session 4	1:30pm – 2:10pm	Room #
Eating Disorders: Recognition and How to Best Help Students	1:30pm – 2:10pm	Commons
ER/Urgent Care/Primary Physician Utilization in Pediatric Emergencies	1:30pm – 2:10pm	Classroom 3010
Trach Care, Emergency Preparedness for Trachs	1:30pm – 2:10pm	Classroom 3012
GT Care for Pediatric Patients	1:30pm – 2:10pm	Classroom 3016
Infectious Disease Prevention and Reporting in Schools	1:30pm – 2:10pm	Classroom 3037
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From Impact to Recovery: A School Nurse's Guide to Concussion Care	1:30pm – 2:10pm	Classroom 3048
Healthy Eyes, Bright Futures: Mastering Vision Screenings in Schools	1:30pm – 2:10pm	Classroom 3049

Session 5	2:20pm - 3:00pm	Room #
Essentials for Fentanyl Overdose Response	2:20pm - 3:00pm	Commons
Nursing Management of Sickle Cell Anemia in the School Setting	2:20pm - 3:00pm	Dance
ER/Urgent Care/Primary Physician Utilization in Pediatric Emergencies	2:20pm - 3:00pm	Classroom 3010
Trach Care, Emergency Preparedness for Trachs	2:20pm - 3:00pm	Classroom 3012
GT Care for Pediatric Patients	2:20pm - 3:00pm	Classroom 3016

Map of Clear Lake High School



The School Nurse Summit: Session Topics

Session Availability

Houston Methodist: From Impact to Recovery: A School Nurse's Guide to Concussion Care	1	2	3	4	5
Next Level Urgent Care: Bone and Joint Injuries in our Pediatric Patients	1	2	3	4	5
Twenty20 Vision Center: Healthy Eyes, Bright Futures: Mastering Vision Screenings in Schools	1	2	3	4	5
Shriners : Scoliosis Assessment & Treatment	1	2	3	4	5
Shriners : Pre-Hospitalization Splinting	1	2	3	4	5
Coloplast: Ostomy Awareness	1	2	3	4	5
UTMB: GT Care for Pediatric Patients	1	2	3	4	5
UTMB: Trach Care, Emergency Preparedness for Trachs	1	2	3	4	5
TCH: Advanced Diabetes Management in the School Setting	1	2	3	4	5
GCHD: Infectious Disease Prevention and Reporting in Schools	1	2	3	4	5
Saved by the Backpack: A School's Response to an Unexpected Crisis	1	2	3	4	5
TCH: The Dizzy Teenager – POTS or Not?	1	2	3	4	5
HCTX: Reporting and Control of Communicable and Emerging Diseases in Schools	1	2	3	4	5
PISD: Emergency Response: The Role of the School Nurse	1	2	3	4	5
Insulet: The Omnipod 5 Automated Insulin Delivery System	1	2	3	4	5
CCISD: Understanding and Supporting Students with Behavior Challenges in the Clinic	1	2	3	4	5
TSNO: Jurisprudence and Ethics for School Nurses *Must attend all 3 sessions*	1	2	3	4	5
Eating Disorders: Recognition and How to Best Help Students	1	2	3	4	5
ALLY Medical ER: Stop the Bleed *Must attend both sessions*	1	2	3	4	5
ALLY Medical ER: ER/Urgent Care/Primary Physician Utilization in Pediatric Emergencies	1	2	3	4	5
TCH: Nursing Management of Sickle Cell Anemia in the School Setting	1	2	3	4	5
TSNO: Law, Rule, Policy – What's in a Name?	1	2	3	4	5
UTMB: Essentials for Fentanyl Overdose Response	1	2	3	4	5
CCISD: ADHD and Autism – Distinctions and ways to collaborate	1	2	3	4	5
Harris County Pct 8: Current Drug Trends & The Dangers Lurking in a Teenage Bedroom	1	2	3	4	5
Supporting the Mental Health Needs of Your Students and the Partnership Between the School Nurse and Counselor (High School)	1	2	3	4	5
Ally ER: Basic Life Support *Must attend all sessions, 40 person limit*	1	2	3	4	5
Supporting the Mental Health of Our Students: A Collaborative Approach Between School Nurses and School Counselors (Elementary)	1	2	3	4	5

Speaker & Session Bios

KEYNOTE: Lunch & Learn

Welcome to Region 4: An Overview of Regional Service Centers and the 2025/2026 school year kick-off! – Brandy Bowlen
Regional Coordinator for School Health for the Region 4 Education Service Center

Speaker Bio:

Brandy Bowlen is the Regional Coordinator for School Health for the Region 4 Education Service Center, formerly a school nurse at Epps Island Elementary in Klein ISD. This is her 21st year as a Registered Nurse serving in roles including Pediatrics and Adult Acute Care, as well as 12 years of experience in school nursing. Brandy is a Nationally Board-Certified School Nurse with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Texas at Arlington. She has received numerous awards as a school nurse, including the prestigious Houston Chronicle Salute to Nurses Top 10 Nurses, and is passionate about school and community health, and the link between healthy communities and the education of students. She serves as the Secretary for the Texas School Nurse Organization as well as serving on the Steering Committee for Texas Action for Healthy Kids.

From Impact to Recovery: A School Nurse's Guide to Concussion Care – Dr. Kenneth Podell
Neuropsychologist and Director, Houston Methodist Concussion Center

Session Description:

This comprehensive session equips school nurses with knowledge to identify, manage, and support students with concussions. Topics include the multisystem nature of concussion, symptom recognition, accommodations, return-to-learn/sport protocols, and legal considerations. Nurses will explore best practices and learn how to collaborate with school staff, parents, trainers, and healthcare providers.

Speaker Bio:

Dr. Kenneth Podell is board certified in Neuropsychology by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. He completed his medical training at NYU School of Medicine and a fellowship in neuropsychology at the Medical College of Pennsylvania. Dr. Podell specializes in treating brain injuries, particularly sports concussions and dementia, and serves as a concussion consultant for professional teams and school districts throughout Texas.

Bone and Joint Injuries in Our Pediatric Patients – Scott D. Brown, MS, PA-C, MBA
Regional Vice President, Next Level Medical

Session Description:

This session provides a thorough overview of common pediatric bone and joint injuries, including causes, evaluation methods, treatments, and case studies. The presentation includes X-rays, real-life examples, and a Q&A segment.

Speaker Bio:

With more than 25 years of experience, Scott Brown has worked in EMS, Emergency Medicine, Family Practice, and Urgent Care. He holds a Master's in Physician Assistant Studies from Seton Hill University and an Executive MBA from Texas A&M. Brown has served in leadership roles for Memorial Hermann and TeamHealth, and he is passionate about patient care and servant leadership.

Healthy Eyes, Bright Futures: Mastering Vision Screenings in Schools– Dr. Reagan Ratcliff, OD
Owner, Twenty20 Vision Center

Session Description:

This interactive session covers common vision issues in children, screening tips, identifying students needing further care, and overcoming practical challenges. Includes Q&A tailored to school-specific concerns.

Speaker Bio:

A Friendswood native and Texas A&M alum, Dr. Ratcliff earned his Doctor of Optometry from the University of Houston. He received honors in Family Practice and is actively involved in his community with his wife and four children. Outside the clinic, he enjoys golf, basketball, fishing, and church involvement.

Supporting the Mental Health of Our Students: A Collaborative Approach Between School Nurses and School Counselors (Elementary) –
Lauren Brock, MS, LPC & Cara Julian, RN, BSN
Licensed Professional Counselor & Registered Nurse

Session Description:

This presentation focuses on the rising mental health needs of school-aged children, particularly elementary students, and emphasizes the collaborative role of school nurses and counselors. Attendees will receive practical tools, current data, and strategies for fostering strong partnerships to support student well-being.

Speakers' Bios:

Lauren Brock is a Licensed Professional Counselor and school counselor with ten years of experience, following a seven-year career as an elementary school teacher. She also sees children and families in private practice. Lauren enjoys life outside of work with her husband and their three children. Cara Julian is a Registered Nurse with over 17 years of experience, including ten years in labor and delivery and seven years in school nursing. She currently works as a pediatric telehealth triage nurse and blends her passion for maternal-child and student health. Cara is the mother of four children and enjoys spending time with her family.

Pre-Hospitalization Splinting – Ashlyn Schneider, MSN, RN, ONC, NPD-BC
Nursing Professional Development Specialist, Shriners Children’s Texas

Session Description:

This session will cover injuries that benefit from splinting and best practices for splint application while awaiting medical transport. Attendees will learn techniques for application, assessment of the affected extremity, and awareness of potential complications.

Speaker Bio:

Ashlyn Schneider began her nursing career in 2011 after earning her ADN and later completed her BSN and MSN in Education. She is currently pursuing her DNP with a focus on nursing education. Ashlyn is an orthopedic certified nurse and serves as the Inpatient Nurse Educator at Shriners Children’s Texas. She also teaches as a clinical instructor at the UTMB School of Nursing and holds certification in Nursing Professional Development. She lives with her husband and teenage son and enjoys reading and spending time with her family.

GT Care for Pediatric Patients – Laurie Chabouni, RN
Assistant Nurse Manager / Clinical Educator UTMB

Session Description:

This session provides a review of gastrostomy tube (GT) care in pediatric patients, including troubleshooting common issues and supporting student needs in the school setting.

Speaker Bio:

Laurie Chabouni is a registered nurse with 19 years of experience in pediatric care. She worked as a floor nurse for 10 years before transitioning into her current roles as Assistant Nurse Manager and Clinical Educator. Her expertise includes managing complex care needs in hospitalized children and supporting staff development in clinical practice.

Scoliosis Assessment & Treatment – Dr. William Phillips
Pediatric Orthopedic Surgeon, Shriners Children’s Texas

Session Description:

An overview of scoliosis with a focus on early detection and the vital role school nurses play in screening. The session also explores treatment options and long-term care strategies.

Speaker Bio:

Dr. Phillips has over 30 years of experience in Pediatric Orthopedics and has served at Shriners Children’s since 1988. He’s active in National Orthopedic Societies and has taught for the American Academy of Pediatrics. He and his wife, a renowned plastic surgeon, have four children and four grandchildren.

Trach Care, Emergency Preparedness for Trachs – UTMB Educators
University of Texas Medical Branch

Session Description:

This presentation will focus on tracheostomy care in children, including emergency preparedness and protocols to ensure student safety in the school environment.

Speaker Bio:

Presented by a team of UTMB educators, this session is led by clinical experts in pediatric airway management and emergency response. The team brings a wealth of experience in preparing healthcare providers to care for children with tracheostomies in both inpatient and outpatient settings.

Infectious Disease Prevention and Reporting in Schools – Sharon Stonum
Epidemiology Manager Galveston County Health District

Session Description:

This session will address the importance of identifying and reporting notifiable conditions in schools, emphasizing public health responsibilities and communication protocols.

Speaker Bio:

Sharon Stonum holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a Minor in Chemistry from Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi and a Master of Public Health from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha. She currently serves as an Epidemiology Manager, focused on improving infectious disease prevention and reporting in school settings.

Advanced Diabetes Management in the School Setting – Lauren Culbreth, PA-C
Instructor / Physician Assistant, Texas Children's Hospital

Session Description:

This session will explore advanced diabetes management strategies tailored to school settings, including managing ketosis, differentiating insulin types, and utilizing insulin pumps effectively.

Speaker Bio:

Lauren Culbreth is a Physician Assistant specializing in Pediatric Endocrinology with a focus on diabetes management. With a background in exercise physiology, she emphasizes a holistic, family-centered approach to care. Lauren works closely with children and adolescents to support their physical activity goals while managing diabetes. She is committed to empowering students to thrive in both health and education settings.

Saved by the Backpack: A School's Response to an Unexpected Crisis – Keonsha Bernard, MEd, LPC & Kenyan Bernard
School Professional and Licensed Counselor; College Student

Session Description:

Seeing the signs and seizing the moment are pivotal during an emergency—especially when symptoms are complicated by a comorbidity. This session explores how multiple parties responded to save a student during a sudden crisis. Attendees will gain insight into lived experiences that can help them identify and respond to unique, high-stakes emergencies.

Speakers' Bios:

Keonsha Bernard is a school professional with over 20 years in public education and a practicing Licensed Professional Counselor. She is a passionate advocate for Sickle Cell Disease, actively involved with nonprofit organizations as an executive board member, advisory board member, and caregiver advocate. The session is co-hosted by her son, Kenyan Bernard, now a college student and the individual whose life was saved in the incident shared in this session.

The Dizzy Teenager – POTS or Not? – Michele Krenek
Nurse Practitioner, Arrhythmia and Pacing Services, Texas Children's Hospital

Session Description:

This session reviews the autonomic nervous system and explores the difference between orthostatic intolerance and Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS). Attendees will learn basic lifestyle modifications to support “dizzy” students and review the nurse’s role in assessing symptoms.

Speaker Bio:

Michele Krenek is a Nurse Practitioner with the Arrhythmia and Pacing Services at Texas Children's Hospital. She began her nursing career 27 years ago at TCH after earning her degree from Stephen F. Austin State University. After working in inpatient cardiology and later as an EP Coordinator, she earned her master's from Texas A&M–Corpus Christi. She has since served as the Outpatient Electrophysiology APP for 14 years and currently sees patients with arrhythmias, congenital heart disease, and inherited cardiac conditions as part of the Cardiogenetics team.

Reporting and Control of Communicable and Emerging Diseases in Schools – Shumaila Ali
Epidemiologist, Harris County Public Health

Session Description:

Led by public health officials, this session focuses on the identification, reporting, prevention, and control of communicable diseases in school environments. Attendees will leave with practical tools to promote healthier campuses and prevent the spread of disease.

Speaker Bio:

Shumaila Ali is a seasoned Epidemiologist specializing in school and community health. She works to enhance awareness of disease prevention and control strategies and advocates for evidence-based public health practices.

Ostomy Awareness – Ashley Bolivar
Associate Territory Manager Coloplast

Session Description:

This session will provide basic tips and tricks to assist students with an ostomy and offer resources for both families and school nurses.

Speaker Bio:

Ashley Bolivar is an Ostomy Specialist who educates clinicians across Texas on ostomy care and application. She supports healthcare professionals with best practices for managing students with ostomies in school and clinical settings.

Emergency Response: The Role of the School Nurse – April Weisedel
Chief Nursing Officer, Pasadena ISD

Session Description:

School emergencies—whether natural or man-made—require confident and prepared responses. This session focuses on the role of the school nurse through all phases of an emergency, ensuring readiness when an incident occurs.

Speaker Bio:

April Weisedel is a Registered Nurse with over 30 years of experience in emergency room nursing, school nursing, camp health, and school district leadership. She is a member of NASN, TSNO, and TSNA and serves as faculty for the American Heart Association and NASN's School Emergency Triage Training (SETT) program.

The Omnipod 5 Automated Insulin Delivery System – Kaitlyn Farmer, RN, CDCES
Pediatric Account Manager, Insulet – Houston, TX

Session Description:

An overview of the Omnipod 5 system and its role in school diabetes management, including how it works and its benefits for pediatric users.

Speaker Bio:

Kaitlyn Farmer is the Houston Pediatric Account Manager for Insulet, the makers of Omnipod. She holds a bachelor's degree in health from Texas A&M and an RN from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. She has worked as a pediatric nurse and Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist. As someone living with Type 1 diabetes since age four and an Omnipod user herself, she brings both clinical expertise and personal experience to her work.

Supporting the Mental Health Needs of Your Students and the Partnership Between the School Nurse and Counselor (High School)– Christina Talley
Coordinator of Student Support, Clear Creek ISD

Session Description:

This session, designed specifically for school nurses, covers strategies for supporting students with behavior challenges during escalation and recovery. Topics include brain science, communication strategies, and practical tools for engagement with families.

Speaker Bio:

Christina Talley has served as a teacher and assistant principal before transitioning to her current role as CCISD's Coordinator of Student Behavior Support. She coaches campuses on behavior systems, leads professional development, and collaborates with staff to reinforce positive behavior across the district.

Essentials for Fentanyl Overdose Response – Denise Wilkes, MD, PhD
Anesthesiologist and Pain Medicine Physician

Session Description:

Counterfeit pills and illicit drugs increasingly contain Fentanyl, a powerful opioid that poses a serious risk to students. In this interactive session, UTMB physicians will provide essential guidance on overdose recognition and response. Attendees will participate in small group activities designed to address real-world school scenarios and answer specific questions.

Speaker Bio:

Dr. Denise Wilkes is a Professor in the Department of Anesthesiology at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB). She has over 15 years of experience as a General Anesthesiologist and 18 years as a Pain Medicine Physician. Dr. Wilkes is currently leading a clinical trial focused on opioid withdrawal symptoms and nonpharmacologic approaches to treatment.

Jurisprudence and Ethics for School Nurses *Must attend all 3 sessions to receive CEUs* – Karen S. Schwind
Former Health Services Director; Past President, Texas School Nurse Organization

Session Description:

This session covers licensure requirements in Texas, the Standards of Nursing Practice, Unprofessional Conduct Rules, the investigatory and disciplinary process, and ethical decision-making in school nursing scenarios.

Speaker Bio:

Karen Schwind is a graduate of the Toledo Hospital School of Nursing and Bowling Green State University. She began as an elementary school nurse in New Braunfels in 1996 and served as Health Services Director for New Braunfels ISD until her retirement in 2023. She is a Nationally Certified School Nurse, a Johnson & Johnson School Health Leadership Fellow, and currently serves on the National Board for Certification of School Nurses. Karen remains active in NASN, TNA, and TSNO and continues to support nurses through training and education.

Nursing Management of Sickle Cell Anemia in the School Setting – Timesha Edwards
Physician Assistant, Texas Children's Hospital

Session Description:

This presentation equips school nurses with practical tools and knowledge to support students living with Sickle Cell Disease. It covers common symptoms, potential complications, and emergency signs to watch for during the school day. Attendees will learn strategies for care coordination, individualized health plans, and advocacy for academic accommodations. The goal is to empower nurses to create a safe, responsive environment for students with Sickle Cell Disease.

Speaker Bio:

Timesha Edwards is a certified Physician Assistant with a background bridging school-based health and specialized medical care. She began her career in a school-based clinic, working closely with nurses to support student health. Now practicing in hematology, she cares for patients with sickle cell disease, thalassemia, and other blood disorders. Her work focuses on comprehensive care, patient education, and empowering families to manage chronic conditions. Timesha is passionate about partnering with school nurses to better support students living with chronic blood disorders.

Law, Rule, Policy – What's in a Name? – Becca Harkleroad, MPH, RN, NCSN
Executive Director, Texas School Nurses Organization

Session Description:

School nurses often find themselves navigating unfamiliar education-related terminology. This session clarifies the differences between law, rule, and policy to help avoid confusion and ensure accurate communication. It also explores the regulatory agencies that govern nursing practice standards and how they impact school nursing.

Speaker Bio:

Becca Harkleroad became a school nurse with intention and earned her Nationally Certified School Nurse credential in 2019. Her passion for legislative advocacy led her to obtain a Master of Public Health and ultimately become the Executive Director of the Texas School Nurses Organization. Becca represents school nurses on the Texas Public Health Coalition and the Texas Nurses Association's Nursing Legislative Agenda Coalition. She is frequently seen at the Texas Capitol working to advance school nursing as a specialty. Becca is driven by the belief that school nurses are the bridge between student health and academic success. In her free time, she enjoys reading, hiking, and relaxing at the lake with her husband and two spirited Labrador Retrievers.

Eating Disorders: Recognition and How to Best Help Students – Jessica Moore, MD, FAAP, CEDS
Pediatrician; Certified Eating Disorder Specialist

Session Description:

Participants will learn to identify the various types of eating disorders, understand their causes, and recognize early warning signs in students. The session will also address medical complications, their impact on academic performance, and appropriate management and treatment. Attendees will leave with practical strategies to support affected students and their families.

Speaker Bio:

Dr. Jessica Moore is a board-certified Pediatrician and Certified Eating Disorder Specialist with over 12 years of experience treating children and adolescents with eating disorders. She has worked across the continuum of care, from inpatient medical stabilization to outpatient multidisciplinary programs. Dr. Moore has a deep understanding of the medical complexities of eating disorders and is committed to helping families navigate treatment. She currently practices in Friendswood, Texas.

ER/Urgent Care/Primary Physician Utilization in Pediatric Emergencies – Dr. Quan Nguyen
Medical Director, ALLY Medical ER

Session Description:

This session guides school nurses on how to make informed recommendations about when students should be seen in the ER, urgent care, or by a primary care provider. It also covers when EMS activation is appropriate and reviews common pediatric emergencies.

Speaker Bio:

Dr. Quan Nguyen is a board-certified Emergency Medicine Physician and Medical Director at ALLY Medical ER. He completed his residency at UT Health in Houston and has been practicing since 2009. His expertise includes pediatric emergency care and community health education.

Stop the Bleed *Must attend both sessions* – Susan Denson
Brand Ambassador, ALLY Medical Bastrop

Session Description:

This hands-on session includes a review of the Stop the Bleed curriculum and a demonstration of life-saving bleeding control techniques, equipping school nurses with skills to respond effectively in bleeding emergencies.

Speaker Bio:

Susan Denson is the Community Outreach Coordinator for ALLY Medical Bastrop with 24 years of emergency trauma experience as an ER technician. She is a certified instructor for the American Heart Association, Stop the Bleed, and First Aid programs. Susan also serves as President of the Education Committee for the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce and is passionate about community preparedness and education.

ADHD and Autism – Distinctions and Ways to Collaborate – Erika Flynn, LP, LSSP, NCSP
Licensed Psychologist; Licensed Specialist in School Psychology, Clear Creek ISD

Session Description:

This session will explore the differences between ADHD and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) both as clinical diagnoses and as educational disabilities. Participants will learn strategies for collaborating with school staff to engage students diagnosed with ADHD and/or ASD. There will also be time for questions and discussion on best practices for supporting these students in the school setting.

Speaker Bio:

Dr. Erika Flynn earned her Doctorate in School Psychology from the University of Houston. She completed advanced practicum training at Texas Children's Hospital, the University of Texas Health Science Center, and Houston Independent School District. Her pre-doctoral and post-doctoral training were completed in Deer Park ISD. Dr. Flynn is a Licensed Psychologist and a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology, currently serving as a School Psychologist with Clear Creek ISD.

Supporting the Mental Health Needs of Your Students and the Partnership Between the School Nurse and Counselor – Carissa Hernandez, M.Ed., LPC
Student Support Counselor; Private Practice Clinician

Session Description:

This session addresses current mental health trends among students and offers strategies school nurses can use when supporting students in crisis. Emphasis will be placed on the critical relationship between school nurses and counselors, including how to develop protocols and foster collaboration when responding to mental health issues on campus.

Speaker Bio:

Carissa Hernandez is a Licensed Professional Counselor with more than 12 years of experience as a school counselor and 5 years in private practice. She is deeply committed to helping individuals discover healthier ways to cope with life's challenges and believes in the capacity for emotional healing and growth. Carissa creates a safe, supportive space for students and clients to explore their emotions and achieve their personal and emotional goals.

Current Drug Trends & The Dangers Lurking in a Teenage Bedroom – Sgt. Anthony Ferraro and Chad Armstrong
Harris County Pct 8, Territory Outreach Manager The Right Step Houston

Session Description:

This eye-opening session explores the latest drug trends affecting youth today and reveals how everyday items found in a teenager's bedroom can signal substance use or risky behavior. Attendees will learn what to look for, how to recognize red flags, and strategies for early intervention.

Speakers' Bios:

Sergeant Anthony Ferraro serves with Harris County Precinct 8 and plays a key role in evidence handling, processing, and storage. He ensures the integrity of thousands of criminal cases annually, many involving physical and video evidence. He is married with two children and is known for his love of donuts. Chad Armstrong is dedicated to improving mental health and substance abuse care. He is passionate about building strong community partnerships that create lasting, positive change for individuals and families.

Basic Life Support *Must attend all sessions, 40 person limit* – Susan Denson
Community Outreach Coordinator for ALLY Medical Bastrop

Session Description:

The Basic Life Support course trains participants to promptly recognize several life-threatening emergencies, give high-quality chest compressions, deliver appropriate ventilations and provide early use of an AED.

Speaker Bio:

Susan Denson is the Community Outreach Coordinator for ALLY Medical Bastrop with 24 years of emergency trauma experience as an ER technician. She is a certified instructor for the American Heart Association, Stop the Bleed, and First Aid programs. Susan also serves as President of the Education Committee for the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce and is passionate about community preparedness and education.



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