

School Health Services

FACT SHEET

By the Numbers *

80.5%: Return to class rate for Office Visits

77,990: Total number of scheduled nursing procedures performed to allow students to attend school

42,891: Total number of office visits. (8 out of 10 times student returned to class)

**Numbers reflect school year 2013-2014.*

About School Health

Healthy children are successful learners. The goal of a school nurse is simple – keeps students healthy so they stay in school and are ready to learn. The school nurse has a multi-faceted role within the school setting, one that supports the physical, mental, emotional, and social health of students and their success in the learning process.

The Metro Public Health Department (MPHD) School Health Nursing program provides care and consultation to students within Metro Nashville Public School (MNPS) system. Program staff work to support positive health outcomes for children and youth in all school settings.

MNPS is comprised of 136 schools; currently MPHD school nurses provide skilled nursing in 84 schools on a daily basis. That number is fluid as students move in, out and between schools. Typically each school nurse is assigned between 2-4 schools.

About School Health Services

- Provide skilled nursing services, as determined by their health care provider, to students who need such care in order to come to school.
- Develop Individual Health Plans for children with identified health conditions
- Manage chronic conditions
- Handle life-threatening allergy and asthma events
- Identify illness instances and trends; report as appropriate
- Encourage healthy eating, acting living
- Respond to students' physical and emotional concerns
- Work with Social Workers, Guidance Counselors and Psychologists
- Refer students' and families to care providers and insurance programs
- Screen for conditions which impair learning, such as poor vision or hearing
- Ensure immunization compliance
- Prepare for school wide and community emergencies
- Administer medication and first aid
- Complete Home assessments

About Current Staffing

- 56 Nurses in 93 schools on a daily basis
- 7 Nurses assigned to Harris Hillman
- 6 Nurses in specialty assignments
- 43 Nurses in remainder of schools

