



NHSNA Presidents Letter ~ January 2019



Dear New Hampshire School Nurses

As we enter the New Year of 2019, we return back to school almost halfway through our academic year. I hope your time off was relaxing, and that you made time to take care of yourself in a way that enhances your personal health. I like to spend a lot of time with family, trekking and skiing, and being mindful and appreciative of the great outdoors we have in New Hampshire. With some self-care, we can return to our health offices feeling rejuvenated, and with a fresh perspective to manage existing health issues and student concerns.

January is the beginning of the new legislative season in New Hampshire. As we are all missing a School Nurse Coordinator at the Department of Education, NHSNA has collaborated with a legislator to propose a bill to mandate a permanent position.

This person would serve as a valuable resource to answer challenging practice and legal questions, to assist with continuing education, and provide connections between school nurses and other partnering organizations. We are fortunate to have the support of Polly Campion (d) Hanover, NH, as well as some co-sponsors, who have put together a Legislative Service Request (LSR) for the permanent position of School Nurse Coordinator in the Department of Education. In early January, the LSR will be assigned a bill number and presented to the House of Representatives. NHSNA will continue to advocate for the position and will keep you informed as it moves through the legislature.

Please contact your legislators to advocate for the permanent position of a School Nurse Coordinator within the Department of Education. NHSNA will be maintaining a webpage with all new legislation at <https://nhschoolnurses.org/Legislative-Updates/>

If you do not know who your legislator is, you can look them up on this page as well.

If we all join together to communicate the need for this essential position, we are more likely to get the support needed from our representatives for the bill to pass.

Sincerely,

Kathy Barth BSN, RN, NCSN

President NHSNA