



Public Health
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TO: Polk County School Administrators
FROM: Gretchen Sampson RN MPH, Director/Health Officer
DATE: August 6, 2013
RE: 2013-14 School Nursing Working Agreements

Enclosed please find the school nursing agreement for the 2013-14 school year. I have also included a copy of the most current School Nursing Program policy for your review. Please review and share this document with personnel in your district who have responsibilities in the school health program. The major change from last year's agreement is that ALL nursing time spent on school health services for your district EXCLUDING school immunization clinics will be billed at the rate of \$42.00 per hour. See the working agreement for further details.

Reminders:

- **Public Health Nurse 2013-14 School Assignments:**

Luck, Frederic, Frederic SDA – Therese Armour, PHN
Unity, Amery, Clayton – Gail Peterson, PHN
Clear Lake – Sally Johnson, PHN
St. Croix Falls – Gena Bugno, PHN
Osceola – Faith Olson, PHN

- **Fall School Influenza Vaccination Clinics** – We will be providing flu clinics in your school districts in the October/November time period depending on when our vaccine arrives. The Public Health Nurse assigned to your school will keep you updated.
- **Childhood Immunizations** – Please remember that there are new federal restrictions for local health departments regarding who we can provide free immunizations to. We are now only allowed to immunize children with Medicaid, no insurance or those whose insurance does not cover immunizations. **This restriction does not apply to the influenza vaccine.** Just an FYI to let you know that if you are referring families to the Health Department for childhood immunizations, those restrictions are in place.
- **School Absenteeism Surveillance Program** – we will again be conducting the school absenteeism surveillance program in all school districts this year. This program alerts us potential disease outbreaks via weekly absentee reporting to the Health Department. Tara Kuske, Surveillance Program Assistant, will contact each participating school to review the reporting process and solicit changes in school contact information.
- As part of our ongoing preparedness planning, we will be sending each school district a survey monkey asking you to update us with your administrative personnel. This will help us in communicating with the correct school personnel in the event of a public health emergency.

"Promoting, Protecting and Preserving Health Through Partnerships with People and Communities"