

Task Force on School Nurses Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 13, 2007
9:00 am – 2:30 pm
ODE – Room 251A

Task Force Members Present: Virginia Brollier (Ginny), Nina Ferakis, Karen Fischer-Gray, Margay Garrity, Jan Hootman, Marilyn Hudson, Rep. Tina Kotek.

Task Force Members Not Present: Catherine Alexander, Dr. James Lace.

Oregon Dept. of Education (ODE) Staff: Leslie Currin, Nancy Latini, Brad Victor, Steve Woodcock, Bobbi King.

Guests: Nellie McAdams.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Brad Victor, as the Facilitator, opened the meeting at 9:15 a.m. The task force members and ODE staff introduced themselves. Rep. Kotek said that her assistant, Nellie McAdams will be attending some of the task force meetings in her place.

2. Adoption of Agenda

The December 13, 2007 agenda was approved.

3. Expectations

There will be some Group Norms. Rep. Kotek will give us some background on what is behind HB 2848. One of the tasks for the task force today will be to elect a chairperson. When you received the letter from Supt. Castillo and you accepted the position, what were your thoughts and expectations on what this task force would be accomplishing?

- Find ways to get more nurses in the schools.
- Give visibility to number of nurses & understand the importance of more.
- Identify best practices and appropriate models.
- Find out what is happening in districts – small ones? Ones with SBHC?
- Get accurate picture of what schools may look like in the state.
 - ↑ understanding of educator as to what school nurses do –
Nurses do – 1. ??? services
 - 2. How does that contribute to student success?
- Disparity in services – and what is an equity model?

4. Group Norms:

Brad explained the emergency evacuation and personal needs information. He also stated for the Task Force members to be respectful of each other's opinions.

5. Review HB 2773:

Rep. Tina Kotek reported that she asked to be on the Task Force for School Nurses, but she wants the task force to be empowered to come up with how they'd like this to go. She has been looking at the issue for several years. There is a continuum of high special needs students in Oregon and the nurses have had to focus on them. In some states, school nurses are a mandated service. South Carolina got some funding and made sure that every elementary school had a school nurse. Where does Oregon want to go regarding this? Rep. Kotek said that she believes that there should be school nurses in every school. There have been a couple of hearings in the legislature and it is the first time that they have been made aware of what's going on with the school nurses. She is willing to go talk to funders and her office will help all that they can with it. She would like for the task force to determine what they would like the model to look like. There needs to be a report regarding HB 2773 to the legislature by September 2008. Rep. Kotek stated that the task force may want to consider getting some testimony out to the administrators and the public.

Essential Questions

The Task Force shall:

- (a) Study and assess the availability of nursing services in Oregon schools and the feasibility of expanding existing services; and
- (b) Recommend a plan to establish school nurses as a mandated service in all schools in Oregon.

The Task Force members met in 2 smaller groups.

- What is required (presently)?
- What is provided?
- How are schools responding to requirements? Who and availability?
- What will this look like?
 - ✓ What models are "out there"?
 - ✓ What is working (models)?
 - ✓ Model (Best Practices/standard)
- What are the funding (resources) being used? (Partners)?
- How will school nursing "fit" into state "mandated" programs/funding?
- How are we going to sell school nursing to Oregon public?
- Will ODE be helping in coming up with the data? ODE may/may not have some of the data that the task force will need. The intent of the legislature was to assist in any way that we can. There are a limited number of people at ODE that can help. Rep. Kotek believes that the data is attainable by her asking some people to go out and gather information.

6. Comparative Data Analysis

Handouts:

1. Oregon School Nurse FTE Status as of 11/15/2007
 2. Map of Counties & Statistics
- The task force split into 2 smaller groups and each studied half of the Oregon School Nurse FTE Status as of 11/15/2007.

- Leslie reported that the person who collected the data called each school district and asked what they have for nursing FTE.
- Some of the school nurses in the rural areas are from Oregon Health Sciences University. They come from the ESD in Multnomah County. Some of the school nurses in other counties come from the hospitals. The resources in the rural areas are not as good for nurses to ask questions as the ones who are in the ESD's.
- The present Oregon law requires that schools have a healthy and safe environment for students. The entirety of some of the school nursing is for special needs and 504 students.
- Leslie stated that there are two things that she would like to see happen:
 - ✓ That the task force *define* what a school nurse is;
 - ✓ That the task force ask Rep. Kotek for \$5,000.00 in funds.
- Rep. Kotek stated that getting the closest data possible to the legislature is important. It is also important to make the information simple to read. Graphs and charts that are in color are the best to present to them. Similar to a research study?
- FTE dedicated to providing 1.0 FTE

7. Review Best Practices of School Nursing

- Out of 1,000 students when there are 20 special needs students, the school nurse is using 90% of her time on the special needs students.
- Can this data be pulled out from a random number of school districts?

<u>LPN</u>	<u>RN</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
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- Who is providing the following?
 - ✓ Insulin injections
 - ✓ Diabetes management
 - ✓ Seizure management
 - ✓ Gastric tube feeding
 - ✓ Nutrition education
 - ✓ Asthma
 - ✓ Allergy management
 - ✓ Chronic care case management
 - ✓ ???? individual prevention
 - ✓ Communicable disease response/prevention
 - ✓ Medical assessment
- ODE requires each school district to have a hearing and vision screening plan. None of these are mandated to be done by nurses. They could be defined to be done by the school nurse.
- There's nothing that requires that a school nurse give insulin. The requirement is that the school needs to provide a safe & healthy environment.
- # TSPC Certified "School Nurses".
- Need to define "school nurse"
- # Trained in medication dispensing.
- Health trends ≤ Diabetes

≤ obesity
≤ allergies

- Insurance coverage. ↓
- How are services funded? ---- categories
- Nurse to student ratio.
 - ✓ School nurse vs. attendance
- “Stories” ----- Disparities
- Tasks provided.
- One thing that needs to be cleared up with data is how many professional registered nurses are in the school districts. Also, who is doing what? (school nurse, school secretary, etc)? Are the health professionals physically located in the school?
- What is required? How are schools responding to this?
- What are the “school nurse” tasks?
- Who conducts the health assessment for the student’s needs and who carries out the service(s)?

8. Next Steps

Make a draft survey. Whatever some of the other states are doing will be of value to put into the survey questions. Rep. Kotek stated that since she was the drafter of the Bill, she would be open to there being two chair people for the Task Force.

1. **Model Plan subcommittee** – Marilyn Hudson, Margay Garrity, Dr. Lace, Jan Hootman, Leslie Currin
2. **Survey Draft subcommittee** – Nina Fakaris, Catherine Alexander, Karen Fischer-Gray, Ginny Broiller, Brad Victor.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

