

**Definition of School Nursing:** School nursing, a specialized practice of public health nursing, protects and promotes student health, facilitates normal development, and advances academic success. School nurses, grounded in ethical and evidence-based practice, are the leaders that bridge health care and education, provide care coordination, advocate for quality student-centered care, and collaborate to design systems that allow individuals and communities to develop their full potentials. *Approved by the NASN Board of Directors June 2016.*



The Lancaster Independent School District (ISD) Health Services provide health services to staff and students during their day at school.

Lancaster ISD Health Services believe that a healthy child in a safe yet mentally challenging environment is the best learner, and that healthy employees are the foundation for excellence in the class room.

Our Mission is: To support student success, helping each student we touch to reach their maximum health potential by fully implementing the nursing process in the school setting through:

- Timely and accurate nursing assessment
- Appropriate intervention
- Evaluation and referral for our students, their families, and our colleagues
- Contributing tirelessly to a safe and healthy school environment for all.

The services provided are varied and are tailored to suit individual needs as they arise; there are however general services provided; which have been established as:

- Health Promotion and Education
- Injury & Illness prevention and treatment at school
- Health Maintenance and Monitoring
- Chronic Disease Management
- Vision and Hearing Screenings
- Spinal Screenings (Scoliosis Screening)
- Acanthosis Nigricans (AN) Screening and Referral
- Medication Administration and Documentation
- General Assessments

- State Immunization Compliance
- Growth & Development monitoring by measuring height and weight.
- Automated External Defibrillator (AED) (there is at least one unit on each campus)
- Medical & Dental Referrals
- School based Tele-Health services in partnership with Children’s Hospital where students can be seen by a physician over video if they become ill at school. This service is offered free of cost to our school community.
- Nurses Health Services Club (NHSC) which is an afterschool club aimed at introducing students to nursing and the world of medicine. This club is for students from grade three to twelve. Please contact your campus nurse for more information about The Nurses Health Services Club.



The **Texas School Health Program** envisions a Texas where all children are healthy, ready to learn, and prepared to make healthy lifelong choices. Our mission is to meet the health services and health program needs of Texas children through schools. Current research indicates that by addressing young people’s health, schools can improve student performance. There is mounting evidence that when schools take action to address health needs of students, they can also meet performance goals and alleviate financial constraints.

(<http://www.dshs.texas.gov/schoolhealth/>)

The **Texas School Health Program** provides school health leadership, support, and guidance to Texas school districts on comprehensive school health and safety issues regarding the Whole Child, Whole School and Whole Community by:

- Maintaining the linkage between the Texas Department of State Health Services and school districts as it relates to health promotion and chronic disease;
- Engaging in collaborative efforts with internal and external partners and stakeholders
- Ensuring infrastructure to provide support to schools;
- Serving as the central source for resources and tools in support of school health evidence-based programs, practices and policies; and
- Disseminating timely school health-related information and data.

(<http://www.dshs.texas.gov/schoolhealth/>)

School nursing and nurses are a vital part of establishing and maintaining a healthy campus; we value the trust you place in us to care for your children and we endeavor every day to make a positive difference in the lives of every person we serve.

## References

Let's Talk About the Definition of School Nursing. National association of School Nurses.  
Texas School Health Program. Retrieved from <http://www.dshs.texas.gov/schoolhealth/>

Karleen Watson RN BSN  
Lead Nurse  
Lancaster ISD  
Telephone: 972 218 1827  
Fax: 972 218 5797  
[karleenwatson@lancasterisd.org](mailto:karleenwatson@lancasterisd.org)