

Report on Nurse Delegation in the Public School Setting

Summary of Request:

The purpose of this agenda item is informational only to update the Board on a resource development presentation for registered nurse delegation in the public school setting.

Historical Perspective:

During the open forum at the October 2017 quarterly Board meeting, Ms. Laurie Combe, MN, RN, NCSBN, President of the National Association of School Nurses, presented a request on behalf of the Texas school nurse leaders for the Board to offer additional guidance and clarity for nurses practicing in school settings. In response to this request, Board staff collaborated with Ms. Anita Wheeler, MSN, RN, School Health Coordinator/School Nurse Consultant for the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) School Health Program, Ms. Laurie Combe, Ms. Francis Luna MSN, RN, and Ms. Martha Anderson, RN to develop a resource for registered nurse delegation decision making in the school setting. This resource, *Algorithms for Determining the RN's Role in Delegating Tasks to Unlicensed Persons and Supervising Tasks Delegated or Assigned by Others*, offers guidance on four common scenarios that school nurses encounter involving delegation.

Following the Oct 2018 launch, the Board's Delegation Resource Packet webpage has been visited over 77,000 times with over 47,000 unique views. Additionally, the algorithms were downloaded from the DSHS website over 900 times by 854 individuals during 2020. This resource is the most commonly downloaded document on the DSHS School Health website. This is significant data because it reflects that the tool is being accessed and more importantly that nurses may actually be using it to guide practice.

Current Perspective:

Board staff along with Ms. Combe, Ms. Luna, and Ms. Wheeler recently presented an overview of this collaboration and quality improvement virtually at the National Association of School Nurses 2021 annual conference entitled *Transforming Student Health: School Nurses Leading the Way*. The presentation, *Student-Centered System Change: Activating the Framework*, illustrated how to affect system level change that aligns with evidence-based practice and improves student health outcomes. Audience feedback during the virtual event was very positive and at least one other state requested the algorithms for their use.

Board Recommendation:

This report is informational only and no Board action is required.