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ASSEMBLY, No. 4378

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JULY 2, 2020

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SYNOPSIS

Establishes position of State School Nurse Consultant in DOE to facilitate best practices in school nursing by advancing comprehensive school health services.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Education Committee on July 23, 2020, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/30/2020)

AN ACT establishing the position of State School Nurse Consultant in the Department of Education and supplementing chapter 4 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. a. The Commissioner of Education shall appoint a State School Nurse Consultant. The State School Nurse Consultant shall be a [1]New Jersey[1] certified school nurse who holds a master's degree [1][in nursing and has management experience and leadership and education administration training or skills] and has demonstrated higher-level leadership with recent school nursing experience[1]. The State School Nurse Consultant shall work with school districts and school nurses to [1][promote quality school nursing services and] facilitate best practices by advancing comprehensive[1] school health [1][programs] services[1] that address the [1][broad][1] health [1][needs] and wellness[1] of [1]all[1] students. The State School Nurse Consultant, in performing the duties of the position, shall collaborate with the Department of Health [1][and the New Jersey State Board of Nursing] , other State agencies, and associated stakeholders[1].

b. It shall be the duty of the State School Nurse Consultant to:

(1) Serve as a liaison and resource expert in school nursing and [1]comprehensive[1] school health [1][program areas] services[1] for [1][local, regional] county[1], State, and national school health [1][care providers] organizations[1], and policy setting groups;

(2) Provide consultation and technical assistance to [1]support[1] school districts [1][, parents,] in facilitating parent[1] and community [1][members] engagement[1];

(3) Coordinate school health program activities with public health, social services, environmental, and educational agencies as well as other public and private entities;

(4) Monitor, interpret, synthesize, and disseminate relevant information associated with changes in health and medical care, school nursing practice, legislation, and legal issues that impact schools;

(5) Facilitate the development of policies, standards, and guidelines [1][and interpret updates and disseminate policies, standards, guidelines, and procedures][1] to enhance [1][coordinated] comprehensive[1] school health [1][programs] services[1];

(6) Foster and promote [1][staff] professional[1] development for school nurses, which may include planning [1][and providing orientation][1], coordinating[1],[1] or providing educational [1][offerings]

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.
Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:
[1]Assembly AED committee amendments adopted July 23, 2020.

guidance[1], and networking with universities and other providers of continuing education to meet identified needs;

(7) Promote quality assurance [1][in] of comprehensive[1] school health services by [1][initiating and coordinating a quality assurance program that includes needs assessment, data collection and analysis, and evidenced-based practice] advocating for the use of evidence-based school nursing practice and participating in the National Association of School Nurses data collection initiatives[1];

(8) Participate in State-level public interagency partnerships and private partnerships with Statewide stakeholders to foster [1][a coordinated] comprehensive[1] school health [1][program] services[1], representing school nurses in multi-disciplinary collaborations;

(9) Initiate, participate in, and utilize research studies related to [1][a coordinated] comprehensive[1] school health [1][program] services[1], the health needs of children and youth, school nursing practice, and related issues; and

(10) Serve as a liaison regarding school health issues with the Department of Health and the Legislature.

2. The State School Nurse Consultant shall report annually to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1). The report shall include a summary of the activities of the State School Nurse Consultant during the year, and any specific recommendations deemed appropriate and necessary concerning school [1][nurse] nursing[1] services and [1]comprehensive[1] school health service programs.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.