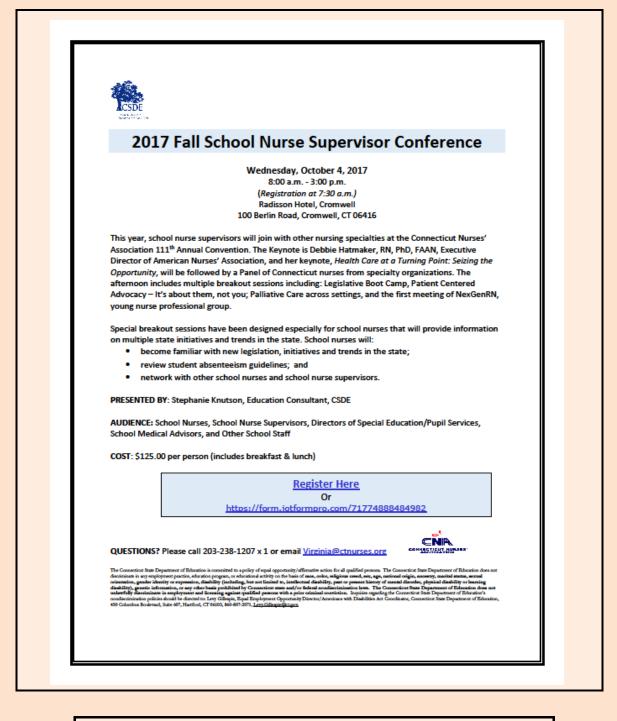


THE SCHOOL NURSE BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER 2017

Stephanie Knutson, MSN, RN School Health Administration School Nursing and Program Manager, HIV/STD Grant



2017 New School Nurse Workshop

Save the Date: November 6 and 7, 2017...Registration information is forthcoming!

School Wellness Policies

This message serves to remind Local Education Agencies (LEAs) of their responsibilities with respect to Local School Wellness Polices (LSWPs).

The wellness policy requirements were strengthened by the <u>Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA)</u>. All LSWPs should have addressed the additional requirements by June 30, 2017. Refer to the fact sheet: <u>Local School Wellness Policy</u> <u>Implementation Under the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010</u>: <u>Summary of the Final Rule</u>, to see if your LSWP is in compliance with the required elements and steps.

There are new LSWP resources that may be of interest to your district wellness teams. The Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity has organized a new listserv devoted to LSWPs. This listserv serves as an announcement service for wellness policy research, policy, best practices, resources and more! Subscribe by contacting Margaret Read at <u>marga-ret.read@uconn.edu</u>.

Another resource is the <u>Local School Wellness Policy Outreach Toolkit</u>. Save time by using the ready-to-go communication tools in the Outreach Toolkit. It is important to remember that there are required steps associated with LSWPs. These steps address implementation, transparency, availability and public input. The Outreach Tool is a great resource for addressing the required steps.

For more information about LSWPs, go to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) <u>School Wellness Policy</u> <u>webpage</u> or contact Donna Heins, Education Consultant, at <u>donna.heins@ct.gov</u>.

CT Tools for Schools Program

This memo is to encourage school districts to re-start or revitalize their Tools for Schools (TfS) program or to begin steps to implement the program. TfS is:

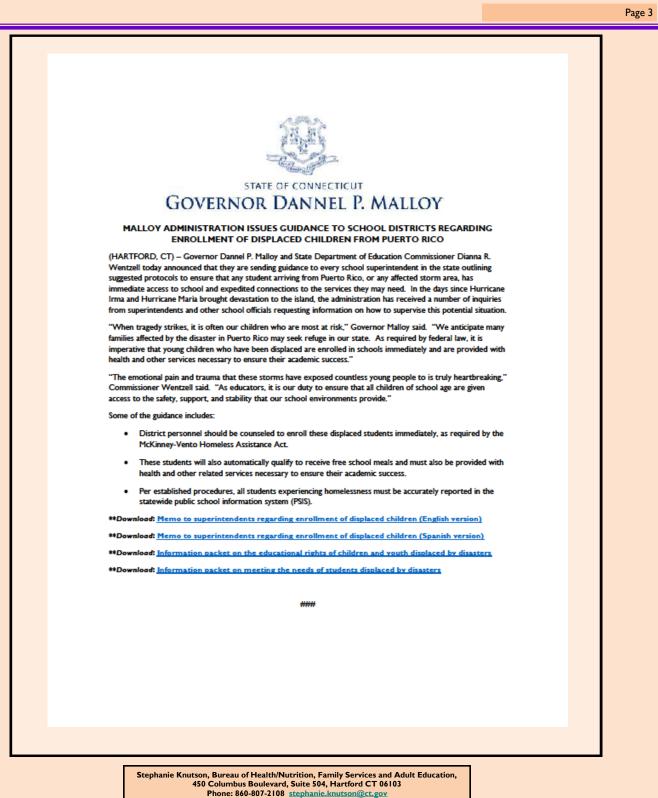
- recognized as the key program for schools to comply with Connecticut law requiring all schools to have an indoor air program;
- an effective program in addressing asthma triggers in schools, thereby reducing absenteeism and improving academic performance; and
- an effective strategy to educate and work with staff to utilize **no or low-cost** solutions to in-door air quality problems.

How to Keep TfS Going:

- **Re-convene** your TfS building teams by organizing a district-wide "kick-off" meeting sometime soon if you have not done so already. This could be a breakfast meeting of the team members from all the schools, along with the facilities director to review procedures, compare notes, find out what improvements were made over the summer, and to move forward with last year's prioritized recommendations. Here is a link to a <u>TfS Best Practices</u> <u>Guide</u> to assist your district.
- Schedule a Refresher Course: we strongly suggest that school district building teams have refresher training every 3 5 years.
 - We offer "refresher" workshops:
 - a 2 hour session for districts needing a "tune-up;" or
 - a 3 hour session for long dormant programs.

Many new materials (including the newest TfS CD) are provided at the workshops. <u>Please contact us to</u> schedule a refresher workshop soon!

If you have questions or comments, please contact Kenny Foscue, Connecticut Department of Public Health, at Kenny.foscue@ct.gov 860-509-7753.



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