Kolva, Patti

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From:

SUSAN ZUNDEL <szundel@iasd.cc>

Sent: To: Monday, April 25, 2016 10:58 AM

Findley, Cynthia

Subject:

Immunizations proposed changes

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Good morning,

I have been a Certified School Nurse for over 24 years and each year my role is more difficult and demands more of my time (more time after my assigned work day). I already come into the school during the summer working numerous hours in order to have a somewhat safe first day of school. At the beginning of the school year I have to be prepared for the more medically fragile students and they include but are not limited to the insulin dependent diabetics, severe allergies (prone to anaphylaxis), and seizure disorder students (especially those who not controlled). I have to meet with the parents of these children and develop Individualized Health Plans as well as collaborate with the assigned staff/faculty. I often have to provide the staff/faculty (plus bus drivers, coaches, cafeteria workers, etc) with Emergency Plan of Care documents and instruct them on any first aid care that may be needed in an emergency situation.

The proposed 5 day provisional period would be impossible to accomplish due to the amount of work at the beginning of the year for all school nurses. As the school nurse, I have to be prepared for all 1059 of my students (especially the 7 IDDM, 27 students who have severe food/insect allergies and require the EPI-Pen, uncontrolled seizure disorder students, etc.). The role of the Certified School Nurse with the ever increasing health needs of school-aged children (especially 1 in 13 with severe allergies) and the current ratio of 1:1500 has made the current load overwhelming.

Please consider having the provisional period for 90 days. Even then it will be difficult because we often have foreign students who are in the process of getting insurance and some times that takes several months. Please advocate that school nurses need an extended work year due to this increased work demand that continues to increase each year.

Susan L. Zundel, CSN, MSN Certified School Nurse Indiana Senior High / Horace Mann Elementary

Phone: 724-762-1541 Email: szundel@iasd.cc