



# THE SCHOOL NURSE BULLETIN

August 2014

*Stephanie G. Knutson, MSN, RN School Health Administrator*



## ***Welcome back school nurses to the 2014-15 school year!***

The Connecticut State Department of Education's *Health Promotion Services/School Nurse Program* provides consultation to school nurses, school nurse leaders, school administrators and the community regarding the health and safety of students.

The *Health Promotion Services/School Nurse Web site* is located at <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/schoolnurse>. As you begin preparing for the new school year, please take the opportunity to familiarize yourselves with the available resources located on this Web site as they contain valuable information that informs your work.

Welcome back Connecticut's school nurses and thanks in advance for keeping Connecticut's students in the classroom!

*Stephanie Knutson*

## **Medication Administration Legislation Enacted in the 2014 Regular Session of the Connecticut General Assembly**

### **PA 14-176: An Act Concerning the Storage and Administration of Epinephrine at Public Schools (Effective July 1, 2014)**

This Public Act requires the State Board of Education to **\*adopt regulations** concerning the conditions and procedures for the storage of, and administration of epinephrine by school personnel to, students for the purpose of emergency first aid to students who experience allergic reactions and do not have prior written authorization for administration of epinephrine.

It further requires schools to designate and train qualified school employees to administer emergency epinephrine in cartridge injectors (epipens) to students having a first time allergic reaction and who do not have prior parental authorization or a written order of a qualified medical professional for the administration of epinephrine. Qualified school employees are defined as principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainers, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by the district, coach of intramural or interscholastic athletics, and school paraprofessional. There shall be at least one such qualified school employee on school grounds during their regular school hours in the absence of a school nurse.

The school nurse or principal must select the qualified school employees to administer epinephrine in the absence of a school nurse, and may only do so if they have undergone training. Such training must be developed by the State Departments of Education and Public Health, in conjunction with the School Nurse Advisory Council, by December 31, 2014.

A parent or guardian may submit, in writing, to the school nurse and school medical advisor, if any, that epinephrine shall not be administered to such student.

A comprehensive summary (Circular Letter: C-2, Series 2014-15) of the public acts passed during regular session that appear to be of applicability and interest to school districts is located on the Connecticut State Department of Education's Web site at <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/circ/circ14-15/c2.pdf>.

**\*Important note: This Public Act does not take effect until regulations have been adopted. Technical assistance will be provided at the Fall School Nurse Supervisor's Conference on October 10, 2014.**

## Professional Development Opportunities



 **The Connecticut State Department of Education and EASTCONN**  
present the following opportunity for school nurses,  
school nurse supervisors and administrators



### Fall 2014 School Nurse Supervisor Conference

Friday, October 10, 2014 • 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Crowne Plaza Hartford-Cromwell, 100 Berlin Road  
Cromwell, CT 06416

Facilitator.....Stephanie Knutson, MSN, RN, School Health  
Consultant, Connecticut State Department  
of Education  
Fee.....\$125 (includes breakfast and lunch)  
Course # .....1425300226  
Register by .....9/28/14  
Register at .....<http://www.eastconn.org/index.php/registration/csde-reg>

*Certificates of Completion will be awarded.*

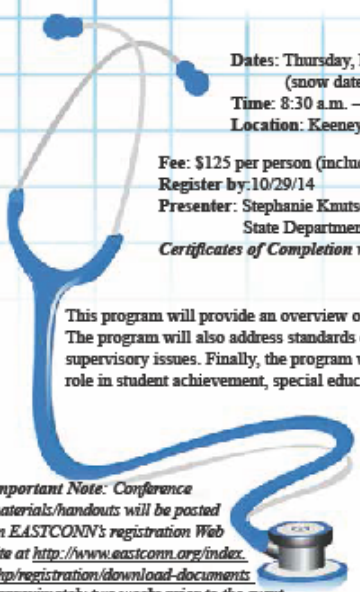
This activity will provide school nurse supervisors with information on multiple state initiatives and trends in the state. Additionally, school nurse supervisors will have the opportunity to network with colleagues.

**As a result of attending this conference, participants will:**

- become familiar with new legislation, initiatives and trends in the state;
- network with other nursing supervisors; and
- become familiar with health insurance opportunities for students.

If you have questions regarding registration, or have difficulty using the online form, e-mail [conferenceoffice@eastconn.org](mailto:conferenceoffice@eastconn.org), or call 860-455-1533.

The State of Connecticut Department of Education is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. The Department of Education does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability (including, but not limited to, intellectual disability, past or present history of mental disorder, physical disability or learning disability), genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or federal nondiscrimination laws. The Department of Education does not unlawfully discriminate in employment and licensing against qualified persons with a prior criminal conviction. Inquiries regarding the Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to: Levy Gillespie, Equal Employment Opportunity Director/American with Disabilities Act Coordinator, State of Connecticut Department of Education, 23 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06437 860-807-2101 or [Levy.Gillespie@ct.gov](mailto:Levy.Gillespie@ct.gov)



**CONNECTICUT**  
STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Connecticut State Department of Education and EASTCONN present the following opportunity for school nurses

## New School Nurse Workshop Parts 1 & 2

**Dates:** Thursday, November 13, 2014 & Thursday, December 4, 2014  
(snow dates: 11/14/14 and 12/5/14)  
**Time:** 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
**Location:** Keeney Memorial Cultural Center, 200 Main Street, Wethersfield CT 06109

**Fee:** \$125 per person (includes breakfast and lunch)  
**Register by:** 10/29/14      **Course #:** 1425300230  
**Presenter:** Stephanie Knutson, MSN, RN, School Health Consultant,  
State Department of Education  
*Certificates of Completion will be awarded.*


This program will provide an overview of state laws and regulations regarding school health. The program will also address standards of practice for school nurses, competencies, and supervisory issues. Finally, the program will present an overview of the school nurse's role in student achievement, special education and Section 504.

**Important Note:** Conference materials/handouts will be posted on EASTCONN's registration Web site at <http://www.eastconn.org/index.php/registration/download-documents> approximately two weeks prior to the event. Please download, print and bring these materials with you to the conference as hard copies will not be available.

As a result of attending these sessions, participants will:

- understand state laws and regulations regarding school health;
- learn state mandates for immunizations, health assessments and screenings;
- learn about the school nurse's role in academic achievement;
- learn about documentation in school health services; and
- become knowledgeable about special education and Section 504 issues related to school health.

**Register Online:**  
<http://www.eastconn.org/index.php/registration/csde-reg>



If you have questions regarding registration, or have difficulty using the online form, e-mail [conferenceoffice@eastconn.org](mailto:conferenceoffice@eastconn.org), or call 860-455-1533. Weather-related closings or delay information can be found online the day of the event at [www.eastconn.org](http://www.eastconn.org), click on "Cancellations" or call 860-455-0420.

**EASTCONN**  
Where Learning Comes to Life

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**STEPHANIE G. KNUTSON, MSN, RN**  
**SCHOOL HEALTH ADMINISTRATOR**

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## Nondiscrimination Statement

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