



March 16, 2020

Dear Vermont School Nurses,

With all the questions flying around about COVID-19, we invite those of you who are VSSNA/NASN members to sign into our website and post to our Vermont discussion board any questions or concerns around your experiences due to COVID-19.

- For those school nurses who are not members, this discussion board is one of the many benefits of VSSNA/NASN membership. Please consider joining so that you can share your experiences on the discussion board and we might better advocate for ALL Vermont school nurses.

**We have set up an email address where ANY school nurse, member or not, can ask a question. Please email questions to [covid-19@vssna.org](mailto:covid-19@vssna.org) and the question with response will be recorded on this document: [VSSNA COVID-19 Q&A](#). We are also working on a COVID-19 Information section on [www.vssna.org](http://www.vssna.org).**

We wanted to update ALL school nurses on some of the actions the VSSNA Executive Board took this weekend to support school nurses amid the COVID-19 decision making at the district and state level.

1. We sent letters to the Governor, Dr. Levine, and Dr. French, encouraging that their “directives include the school nurse at the local level of planning, preparedness and decision making with the health of the school and school community. School nurses are experienced, knowledgeable healthcare professionals whose involvement will ensure that the school districts in Vermont will appropriately align with the VDOH and CDC guidelines.” In these letters we also requested that they “consider supporting a mandate bringing part time school nurses in the state to full time status during this time. This will provide additional healthcare expertise at the root of our communities.” These letters will be posted on our website for all to read.
2. We sent a letter to Jeff Francis, Executive Director of Vermont Superintendent Association, requesting him to encourage all superintendents to call upon the health professionals in their school districts, the school nurses, to be a partner in the district decision making around COVID-19.
3. Our Spring Conference has been postponed until the fall. The conference content will remain the same. We are currently working with Castleton University to secure a new conference date on a weekday this fall.

Sincerely,

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President VSSNA

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