

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Principals, School Board Members, School Nurses
FROM: Dr. Harry Chen, Commissioner of Health *Harry Chen*
Rebecca Holcombe, Secretary of Education *RH*
SUBJECT: School Nurse Leader: School Health Services Delivery Model
DATE: May 2015

The School Nurse Leader: School Health Services Delivery Model (the Model) is recommended by the Vermont State Board of Education: Education Quality Standards ([2013, pg. 14](#)) as a means of strengthening access of students to healthcare and of improving student learning effectiveness. This Model seeks to improve the quality of student health and academic outcomes by addressing the services, structures, and processes that support the provision of high quality student health services. Thus, it will establish a continuous accountability system in school districts, to develop, test, measure, and improve identified outcomes.

We have been asked if supervisory unions or school districts may deviate from the ratio of school nurses to students of 1 nurse to 500 students without a waiver.

The answer to this question is Yes, when using the Model referenced in the EQS, and the process outlined below:

1. The Model can be found on the Health Department website:
http://healthvermont.gov/local/school/documents/school_health_services_delivery_model.pdf
2. Supervisory unions and school districts will need to apply to the Vermont Department of Health by contacting the Vermont Department of Health, 108 Cherry St. PO Box 70, Room 302, Burlington, VT 05401, ATTN: Sharonlee Trefry,
sharonlee.trefry@state.vt.us.
3. Technical support is available through a Public Health School Liaison in your local Health Department office and from the Vermont State School Nurse Consultant,

Sharonlee Trefry, MSN, RN, NSCN to assist with the application and ongoing implementation process as needed. You may reach a School Liaison by checking this link: http://healthvermont.gov/local/district/district_office.aspx. A focus of the application process includes identifying student and health outcomes desired by the supervisory union or school district that ideally align with school effectiveness plans.

4. A report of your activities and plans for the following school year will be due each July.

Supervisory unions and school districts are encouraged to use their [School Effectiveness](#) plans and the [Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child framework](#) for designing and optimizing school health services to increasingly promote student wellbeing while maximizing resource efficiency. Using the School Nurse Leader: School Health Services Delivery Model provides schools with an additional means of accounting for their work in support of student achievement.