School Health Services in the 21st Century

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106 Years of American School Nursing

- Lillian Wald – Nursing Pioneer
  - Started school nursing in 1902
  - Established the field of Public Health Nursing
  - Established the field of Social Work
Miss Rogers & the Experiment

- Henry Street Settlement in NYC
- Lina Rogers – First School Nurse
A Blueprint for Reform

- USA National Education Priorities
  - College and career ready students
  - Great teachers and readers in every school
  - Equity and opportunity for all students
  - Raise the bar and reward excellence
  - Promote innovation & continuous improvement

Proposed National Health Objectives: Healthy People 2020

- School Health services mentioned in 11 of the proposed objectives
School Nurses Provide Core Public Health Functions

- Immunization compliance
- Infectious disease control and surveillance
- Disaster and emergency preparedness
- Environmental hazard monitoring
- Screening
- Documentation
School Nurses Provide Direct Health Care

- Case Management
- IEP Services
- 504 Services
- Illness and Injury Care
- Emergency Care
School Nurses Provide Care Coordination

- Special needs for students who are:
  - Immigrants & refugees
  - Homeless
  - Technology-dependent
  - Seriously ill and have DNR orders
  - Returning to school from juvenile services
  - Learning in alternative programs
School Nurses Provide Health Services for the Education Community

- Health teaching & counseling
- Population-based services
School-Based Clinics and School Nursing Services

- Shared mission
- Valuable services
- Success
  - Clear role delineations
  - Non-competitive funding streams
  - Resolution of FERPA and HIPAA
Every Child Needs a School Nurse

- Federal Mandates: IDEA, 504-related services
- Teachers are in school to teach, not provide health care
- Education reform requires a focus on meeting the needs of the whole child to facilitate school success
Health & Education

- Children must be the primary focus.
- Health & Education are both critical.
- “You can’t educate a child who isn’t healthy, and you can’t keep a child healthy who isn’t educated.” – Former Surgeon General, Dr. M. Joycelyn Elders
Federal Focus

- School Nurse staffing levels
- Childhood obesity
  - School nutrition
  - Physical activity
- Oral health
- Learning supports (i.e. student services staff)
Maryland School Health Services

- Staff
- Ratios
- Percentage of students with chronic health problems
- Local programs