



Norfolk Public Schools

The cornerstone of a proudly diverse community

May 7, 2025

Dear Norfolk Public Schools' Nurses:

Today, we proudly celebrate *School Nurse Day* and recognize the essential role you play in the health, safety, and well-being of our students, staff, and school communities. Across every hallway, every classroom, and every school event, you are there—providing skilled medical care, calming fears, and offering reassurance to students, families, and staff. You are often the first person a sick child turns to, the trusted adult who notices when something is wrong, and the caring heart who reminds our students that they are seen, heard, and valued.

School nursing is more than a profession. It is a calling of compassion, commitment, and clinical excellence. Each day, you serve on the front lines of student care, providing comfort to a child with a fever, critical support for students managing chronic illnesses, health education for families, and emergency response when it is needed most. Your impact reaches far beyond the clinic walls; you help create a safe and healthy environment where learning can flourish.

I am reminded of the countless times a nurse's quiet acts of kindness have made all the difference: a bandaged knee, a call home to a worried parent, a calm voice during an emergency. These are the moments our students will carry with them for a lifetime.

Especially now, when the physical and emotional needs of students are greater than ever, your knowledge, leadership, and empathy shine brightly. You ensure that students are healthy, ready to learn, and supported in every way possible. Your contributions make a direct and lasting difference in academic achievement, attendance, and overall well-being.

On behalf of your NPS Family, I extend my deepest gratitude for your unwavering dedication. Thank you for being a vital part of our mission to educate and care for the whole child. You are champions for our students, and we honor and celebrate you.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Dr. Sharon I. Byrdsong

Superintendent of Schools

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