

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

All schools are required to provide comprehensive health education to K-12 students.

AUTHORIZATION/LEGAL REFERENCE:

Vermont Comprehensive Health Education law

[16 V.S.A. § 131](#) Definitions

[16 V.S.A. § 133](#) Supervisor; comprehensive health education

[16 V.S.A. § 134](#) -Religious exemption

[16 V.S.A. § 135](#) -Program development

[16 V.S.A. § 563a – Child abuse and reporting](#)

[16 V.S.A. § 909 – Tobacco, alcohol and drug prevention education curriculum](#)

[16 V.S.A. § 1165 - Act 51 Alcohol and drug abuse](#)

Vermont Sexual Violence Prevention Task Force (2016)

[Technical Assistance Resource Guide: For school communities K-12 incorporating sexual violence prevention into the health education curriculum \(Act One\). \(See Chap.1 § 131 \(11\)\).](#)

Vermont Agency of Education

[Rules Governing the Licensing of Educators and the Preparation of Educational Professionals–](#)

- Health Educator Endorsement: *5440-31 Health Education (Revised 3/20/13) (page 120)*
- School Nurse/Associate School Nurse Endorsement: *5440-65 School Nurse (Revised March 2017) (page 171); 5440-65A Associate School Nurse (Reviewed June 2017) (page 175)*

RECOMMENDED SCHOOL NURSE/ASSOCIATE SCHOOL NURSE ROLES:

The school nurse may, in collaboration with administrators, guidance personnel, nutritional services personnel, health educators and classroom teachers:

- Assist teachers with reference material, educational resources and curriculum planning.
- Provide teachers and students with nursing expertise when health related problems/questions arise.
- Assist agencies to coordinate community-based health education programs.
- Provide students with periodic in-class supplemental instructions and small group/one on one instruction.
 - However, teacher or VT certified health educator must remain to provide classroom management, student assessment and other teacher responsibilities.
- Provide faculty/school personnel with in-service education programs (e.g. drug and alcohol, nutrition, personal safety).
- Provide family/groups/community with education programs (e.g. drug and alcohol, adolescent development, personal safety programs).
- Represent the needs of health education on the district Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) team (NASN, 2017); this team in your school or Local Education Agency may go by many different names (see Manual WSCC Section 16).

RESOURCES:

[National Health Education Standards](#) (Vermont Adopted these standards in May 2015, replacing the *Vermont Health Education Guidelines for Curriculum and Assessment (2010)*)

American Cancer Society of Vermont - <http://www.cancer.org/>

American Heart Association - <http://www.americanheart.org>

American Lung Association of Vermont - <http://lungaction.org>

American Red Cross - <http://www.redcross.org/>

Center For Health & Learning - <http://www.healthandlearning.org/>

National Association of School Nurses. (2017). *Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child: Implications for 21st Century School Nurses* (Position Statement). Retrieved from <https://www.nasn.org/advocacy/professional-practice-documents/position-statements/ps-wscc>

National Sexuality Education Standards - <http://www.futureofsexed.org/fosestandards.html>

Planned Parenthood of New England - Education and Training Department - <http://www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-northern-new-england/local-education-training>

Vermont Agency of Education –

- Health Education: <https://education.vermont.gov/student-learning/content-areas/health-education>
Vermont law defines comprehensive health education as “systemic and extensive” educational program and requires this education for K-12 students. School health programs for K-12 students prove to be more effective in changing health behaviors than occasional programs on a single health topic. Vermont Education Quality Standards (EQS) stipulate each Supervisory Union/Supervisory District/Unified District (SU/SD/UD) have a written and delivered curriculum aligned with standards approved by the State Board of Education that enables students to engage annually in rigorous, relevant and comprehensive learning opportunities that allows them to demonstrate proficiency in seven content areas, including health.
- Sexual Health: <https://education.vermont.gov/student-support/healthy-and-safe-schools/sexual-health>.
The Agency of Education is responsible for helping to increase the awareness of sexual health related information and services that are available to promote student wellness and increase academic success. This includes a variety of health related issues including but not limited to: sexual health, LGBT education, HIV/AIDS and STD education, sexual violence prevention, and healthy relationships.
- Sexual Health & Education Program: <https://education.vermont.gov/student-support/healthy-and-safe-schools/sexual-health>

Vermont Department of Health – <http://healthvermont.gov/index.aspx>