

AEA Viewpoint



Take the lead.

CODE RED

This guest article has been provided by our Auburn School District nurses.

That's medical talk for a crisis situation, and we have a "Code Red" here in the Auburn School District. School nurses are a critically important part of our educational team. The role they play is not only an important one; it is frequently a vital one. The Washington State Nursing Commission and the Office of Public Instruction (OSPI) have developed a school district model for the delivery of health services that recommends a ratio of one school nurse per 750 students. **This year in the Auburn School District our ratio is one school nurse to every 2,141 students.**

In the two years since the beginning of the 2005-2006 school year we have added two new buildings and increase enrollment by 669 students. The number of Nurse FTE's in that time frame has remained unchanged at 6.8 with only 6.4 currently filled. Can you imagine the uproar if we would have added 669 students without increasing the number of teachers?

The severity of the problem goes beyond the imbalance in the number of students per nurse.

The demographics of our district have been changing and the scope of the nurse responsibilities have had to greatly expand to meet these needs. We have more medically fragile, medically complex, and nursing dependant students than ever before. These are students who need tube feedings, require catheterizations, oral suctioning, blood glucose monitoring, and other medical procedures.

We have 1,380 such students this year. That's 585 more than last year! This calculates to an average caseload per nurse of 172.5 of these high needs students.

In addition to direct care, with each increase in the number of medically fragile students there are additional requirements for our school nurses to provide training for support staff. Our nurses prepare an Emergency Action

Care Plan for every student with a known or potentially life-threatening illness or condition so that all staff members know how to respond to any such emergencies. Our nurses are the district's liaison to public health agencies with regard to the incidence of communicable diseases.

The socio-economic status of students impacts their ability to access quality health care. Often, the school nurse is their only accessible health care provider. Our school nurses scramble frequently to find resources for families who may not have medical coverage for glasses, hearing evaluations, immunizations, and referrals for evaluation of a potential medical problem.

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Cathy deJong is a 2nd grade teacher, currently on leave as the President of the Auburn Education Association

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Our nurses strive to keep the Auburn School District the safe and healthy place our students deserve, and they do everything conceivable to keep healthy, emotionally stable, well balanced, alert, and receptive students in the classroom. Right now our nurses are overwhelmed. Nurses are key partners with staff in working toward the common goal of providing students with the highest quality education possible, encouraging and empowering them to strive for excellence.

Code Red! We need more nurse staffing FTE's in the Auburn School District.

CURRENT RECOMMENDATION FOR
 NURSE STAFFING
 DEVELOPED BY
OSPI
 AND THE
WASHINGTON STATE NURSING
COMMISSION
1 : 750

(one nurse for every 750 students enrolled)

Auburn's School Nurse staffing :

1 : 2141

Imagine This Comparison:

One Teacher

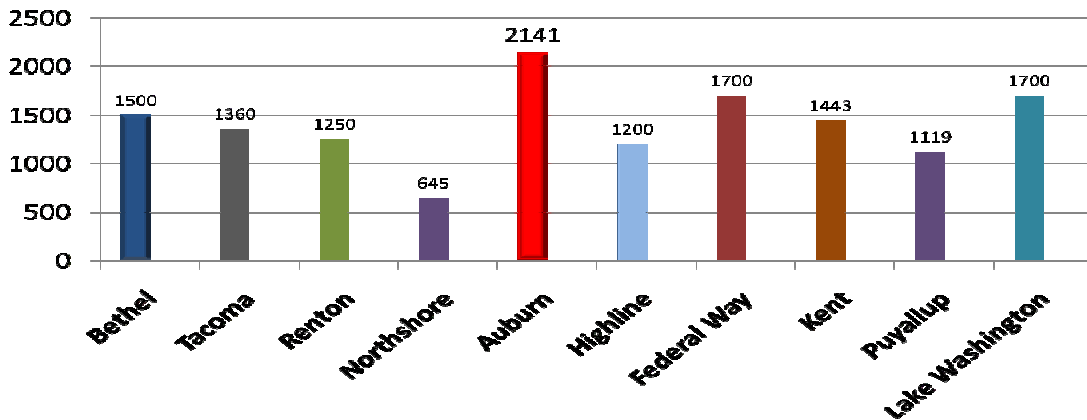
has

78 class periods with

28 students each period

Every day!

School Nurse Ratios of Compared Districts



Based on nurse FTE's to student enrollment September 2007

NEA's Read Across America

March 3, 2008

Looking to celebrate reading all year long? NEA's Read Across America's 2008 Resource Calendar and toolkit— with art by well known children's illustrators— shines its light on fun books and book events. You'll also find posters, tips on Read Across America Day events, and links to keep reading throughout the year. Limited print quantities are available for order. Simply go on line to <http://www.nea.org/readacross/raa-request.html> to fill out your order request form.



(Francy Sullivan— You're a winner!)

E-Newsletter

NEA also has an e-newsletter to provide the latest news in reading from Read Across America partner organizations. You'll find links to grant information, classroom and parent materials, and more. To join, NEA members should send a blank email to join-nea-raa-enewsletter@list.nea.org

AEA Executive Board

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AEA Office/253-804-6010

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Did You Find It?



We have secretly placed the name of an AEA member within the pages of the Viewpoint.

If this is your name, you have won a \$5.00 gift card to Starbucks!~

To redeem your prize, contact AEA office manager, Kimberly Greene at office@auburnea.org or by phone at 253-804-6010

Shared Sick Leave



Check out this space for requests from your colleagues for shared sick leave.



Andrea Hollister, Ad Building; Mary Morehead, AHS; Meredith Watterson-Hunt, AHS; Julie McKenzie, Alpac; Cathy Lorenz, Alpac; Nancy Beard, AMHS; Cathleen Vest, Cascade; Jill Waletzko, Chinook; Margaret Stevely, Gildo Rey; Ashlea Muxen, Ilalko; Breanna Madrid, Ilalko; Carmella Duca, Mt. Baker; Bonnie Kallman, Olympic; Kim Detwiler, Olympic,

If you have over 22 days of accumulated sick leave and would like to share extra days, please contact the office manager in your building for the shared sick leave form. You may donate up to 6 days each year.

THE AEA MARKETPLACE

Your source for goods and services from our membership community

FOR SALE

Solid wood dining room table w/4 chairs (including leaf that makes it square) matching cabinet & hutch. LIKE NEW. \$1499 new in 05, asking \$600.

Graco Quattro Tour LATCH Travel System-Kenbrook design, Includes SnugRide Infant car seat and stroller. Rain cover included. Excellent condition \$229 new in 05, asking \$100

Fisher Price Ocean Wonders Aquarium Cradle Swing, functions as a swing or cradle. In perfect condition, activity tray included. \$129 new in 05, asking \$70.

Kolcraft bedside canopy bassinet-white. Including three sheets. In excellent condition. Asking \$40.

Tiny Love Gymini 3-D activity gym (black, white & red). In excellent condition \$60 new in 05, asking \$20.

Tiny Love Deluxe Symphony-In-Motion-Zoo Mobile. Purchased in 06 used only one hour. \$50 new, asking \$25. Email for pictures!

Need more baby stuff? I've probably got it. Just send me an email and let me know what you would need.

LHogenson@auburn.wednet.edu or call me at 253-376-4580.

Burgundy high back desk task chair w/multiple adjustments. New at \$250, now \$100 in excellent condition, used 1 year

Taylor Made Monoco red/back golf bag, used 1 time, brand new condition, new at Golfdisc.com \$149, sell for \$100

Bushnell digital camera binocular, never used \$50.

Proceeds go to support fundraising for the Komen 3 day/60 mile breast cancer walk. Make an offer please.

Marie Cousy at AMHS 253-804-4539 or at home 253-939-6670.

Compaq FS7600e 17" Flat Screen Computer Monitor. Brand new, still in box, \$35 OBO. Flat screen, not flat panel.

Call Kim Detwiler at Olympic 253-931-4966 or kdetwiler@auburn.wednet.edu

WANTED

Lisa Gallinatti, Julie Moberg, and Frank Medina are running Gaming Tournaments in the library to raise money for Skills USA, the sophomore class, and an ARHS book club. We are in need of PS2 or PS3 gaming systems. If you have one to donate or sell at a reasonable price, please contact Lisa Gallinatti at 253-804-5154. Thank You!

HOUSE FOR SALE

2004, 2 story Sanfrancisco Style home in beautiful Panorama Heights in Bonney Lake that is for sale by owner. 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage w/view of Tacoma Lights from the master & of Mt. Rainier from the bonus room. Approx. 1580 sq. ft., all major appliances included. Listing price \$295,000. For more info contact Ashley at 206-962-1012.

SERVICES

Better than a sale

Host a Home Interiors Party and earn FREE home décor.

Contact me to set up your Party today!

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Website: www.homeinteriors.com/ericahinson

TARTAN PHOTOGRAPHIC

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Great Portraits, Great Prices

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15% Auburn School District Employee Discount

Buying or selling your home? Gary Clark with Keller Williams Realty is "your agent that listens" to meet the needs of AEA Members. Ask about a One Year Home Warranty free to AEA Members. 253-315-3667 or www.GaryClarkHome.com

What's important is you. www.JohnL.Scott.com

Fred Donaldson
253-709-1850
FredDonaldson@JohnL.Scott.com

Residential, Commercial, Vacant Land, Farms

ROOM TO RENT

Looking for a woman to be my roommate in a beautiful 4 bedroom home in Northeast Tacoma with a great view of the water and on a very private lot. \$475 a month. Call 253-927-6782 for more details.

- Ads are run in the AEA Marketplace on a first come, first served basis pending available space.
- Ads are accepted only in written form.
- Direct ads to Kimberly Greene via e-mail at office@auburnea.org
- Ads are subject to approval from the Executive Board and content may be edited for length.