

## **PHILOSOPHY OF NURSING PRACTICE WITHIN THE BEDFORD SCHOOLS**

The Bedford School Nurses believe that the health of the child has a direct effect on his/her ability to fully access his/her educational opportunity in the Bedford School District.

Towards this end, we:

- **Believe that each child in our schools has the right of access to nursing care, whenever needed.**
- **View the child holistically and acknowledge that physiological, psychological, socio-cultural, developmental and educational needs must be met. In so viewing the child, it is accepted that the family is of utmost importance in assisting the nurse in planning, implementing and evaluating the child's healthcare plan. The nurses will seek the family's input and cooperation in devising the plan most suited to the individual child. Parents or guardians will be informed of health services available to them. In addition, they will be advised of state-mandated programs carried out in public schools and their parental responsibility in these programs.**
- **Believe the nurse is a caring professional and will respect the confidentiality of the student/client while functioning as a student advocate within the school, family and community setting.**
- **Believe that the nurses are health educators by virtue of their experience/education and as defined by the New Hampshire Nurse Practice Act. Health teaching by school nurses can be accomplished in various settings such as individual encounters with students in the health office, contact with their families and within the school community.**
- **Submit that professional growth is an on-going process. In order for professional nurses to maintain a current and effective knowledge base they will participate in a system of continuing education.**

Your school nurses are supported by the National Association of School Nurses, the New Hampshire School Nurses Association and the Department of Education Office of School Health Services. They develop programs to help nurses provide the best care to your children.