

During the year of 2020, we were unfortunately hit with a pandemic that changed everybody's life. School nurses were one of the biggest populations to be challenged by this pandemic. In the article, "School Nursing During a Pandemic," it is explained how school nurses were impacted. It is explained that the pandemic left school nurses wondering how they were going to perform a job that was already challenging for them. It is stated that "There have been school nurses that have resigned, there have been school nurses that are taking early retirement, there are school nurses who will not be coming back next year." One nurse named Wendy Rau, MSN, BA, RN says she knew she had to do something when school was going to be reopened. She was able to collaborate with the city's computer services team and together they modified a document sharing platform to reduce administrative burden of contact tracing. The system would notify Rau and other school administrators when there were students testing positive for COVID-19. This led to letters being sent to families explaining isolation precautions, symptoms to watch out for, and how to access remote learning. This helped a lot because it kept school spreading of COVID-19 to a minimum and made staff and other students feel safer. Another nurse named Lisa Patch, MSN, RN, NCSN found a way to do mobile testing when she was inspired by a Winnebago, which served once as a mobile clinic. Funding from organizations is what made it possible for Patch to carry out her idea. Patch was able to do testing, distribute food and school supplies, and participate in COVID-19 vaccination clinics. School nurses also had to overcome the aftermath of the pandemic. They were faced with children who came back to school with emotional or mental health that had worsened during the pandemic. A lot of kids experienced parent deaths due to this virus. It is stated that "...almost one-third of visits to school nurses were attributed to mental health." The mental health of the school nurses was also a concern because people were starting to question the nurses' abilities.

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