# School Nurse Survey Results, July 2006

| 1. What are the biggest obstacles in keeping children up-to-date in your school? | N | % |
|---|---|---|
| Parents don't bring complete (or any) immunization records to registration | 231 | 90.9% |
| School administrators don't allow you to suspend children who are not compliant | 82 | 32.3% |
| Immunizations in foreign languages | 48 | 18.9% |
| The 14 day 'in-process' procedure | 61 | 24.0% |
| Staff's lack of knowledge about the immunization schedule | 61 | 24.0% |
| Not enough health staff at the school | 81 | 31.9% |
| Other | 42 | 16.5% |

**Comments - the responses cited most often were:**

1. Parents who don't respond or can not be contacted
2. Not enough time or staff
3. More parents signing exemptions
4. Parents not getting immunizations for children because of cost or not being able to get to free clinics
5. No enforcement of school immunization law
6. Doctors not following schedule

**2. Is the school administrator supportive in enforcing compliance of the Immunization laws?**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 177 | 69.7% |
| No | 77 | 30.3% |

**Comments - the responses cited most often were:**

1. Education time
2. Not a priority
3. Suspended students less likely to return
4. Concerns about losing funding
5. CSAPs

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### 3. What parent issues impede the immunization compliance?

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Parents don't understand the need for immunizations in schools** | 131 | 51.6% |
| **Parents are overwhelmed and have difficulty managing immunizations** | 129 | 50.8% |
| **Parents are afraid their children will be harmed by immunizations** | 97 | 38.2% |
| **Parents speak a foreign language** | 103 | 40.6% |
| **Access to care** | 121 | 47.6% |
| **Inability to afford vaccines** | 107 | 42.1% |
| **Other** | 50 | 19.7% |

**Comments - the responses cited most often were:**

1. **Not a priority**
2. **Mobility**
3. **Do not follow through**
4. **Expect others to keep updated**
5. **Time management**
6. **Lack of knowledge about immunizations**

### 4. Does the in-process system work for you?

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Yes** | 101 | 39.8% |
| **No** | 153 | 60.2% |

**A. How do you make the in-process system work for you? Comments - the responses cited most often were:**

1. **Use phone calls and letter reminders**
2. **Requires continual follow up with families**
3. **Usually takes more than the 14 day time frame to get students UTD**
4. **Only works if principals support suspension**
5. **Need to have system to track records of in process students**
6. **Have parents create a plan, then discuss the repercussion of suspension if plan not followed**

**B. What makes the in-process system difficult at your school? Comments - the responses cited most often were:**

1. **Not enough time or staff to do follow-up.**
2. **Parents don’t comply**
3. **14 day rule is not enforced by administration/superintendents/principals**

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4. **Parents can't get immunizations within 14 day time frame**
5. **Plan is too confusing for parents**

## 5. What ongoing education would be helpful to you and the school health staff who review children's immunization information?

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Review of Colorado's School Immunization Law** | 89 | 35.0% |
| **Education about the required immunizations for Colorado Schools** | 114 | 44.9% |
| **Education about the diseases that vaccines prevent** | 78 | 30.7% |
| **Vaccine safety issues** | 75 | 29.5% |
| **Parent education regarding vaccines** | 166 | 65.4% |
| **Other** | 52 | 20.5% |

**Comments - the responses cited most often were:**

1. **Educate Administration and School Board and have consequences for schools that don't comply**
2. **Educate staff – secretaries, registration aids and health aids**
3. **Send out updates on new vaccines and law changes to school nurses each year**
4. **Educate parents on importance of vaccination**
5. **Educate doctors on immunization law.**

## 6. What educational venue would be most helpful to you?

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **PowerPoint presentation** | 88 | 34.6% |
| **A school immunization manual** | 131 | 51.6% |
| **Educational site visits** | 97 | 38.2% |
| **Other** | 44 | 17.3% |

**Comments - the responses cited most often were:**

1. **Educate parents and the public**
2. **No need or not sure**
3. **Educate school administrators and superintendents**
4. **On-line resources or on a CD**
5. **Educate school staff and health paras**

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## 7. What other types of support would be helpful to you?

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Education of administrators** | 133 | 52.4% |
| **More involvement from your local public health department or nursing** | 94 | 37.0% |
| **More involvement from the state health department** | 63 | 24.8% |
| **Other** | 78 | 30.7% |

**Comments - the responses cited most often were:**

1. **Allow school nurses to administer vaccinations**
2. **Educate parents**
3. **Increase money so nurses have more time to handle immunization issues**
4. **Enforce immunization laws and have consequences for non-compliant schools**
5. **Hold more clinics – at schools, district offices and have more at beginning of school**
6. **Increase staff to help handle immunization issues**

## 8. Do you have a school health advisory council?

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Yes** | 61 | 24.0% |
| **No** | 193 | 76.0% |

**Comments - the responses cited most often were:**

1. **Yes**
2. **No**
3. **Don't know or possibly**
4. **Too busy**

# School Nurse Survey Results, July 2006

**9. What are some of the challenges you experience in regards to obtaining records from physician's offices and clinics?**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **The physician's lack of understanding of the HIPPA rule allowing the sharing of records** | 142 | 55.9% |
| **Difficulty getting through to offices and clinics** | 107 | 42.1% |
| **Physician offices and clinics don't understand the immunization schedule** | 90 | 35.4% |
| **Other** | 78 | 30.7% |

**Comments - the responses cited most often were:**

1. **Getting records from physician's offices**
2. **Parents and parent record keeping**
3. **Physicians not following schedule**
4. **Incorrect information – transcribing mistakes, incomplete or wrong dates**

**10. Do you enter student immunization records into a computer program?**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Yes** | 222 | 87.4% |
| **No** | 30 | 11.8% |

**11. Other comments:**

1. **Require immunization documents before a student can register**
2. **Not enough time for follow-up**
3. **Allow nurses to vaccinate at schools**
4. **Schools can't enforce the state immunization law**
5. **Need more materials in foreign languages**

**Type of schools**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Elementary** | 199 |
| **Middle** | 131 |
| **Junior** | 53 |
| **Senior** | 125 |
| **Other** | 67 |

# School Nurse Survey Results, July 2006

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Adams** | 25 | **Jackson** | 1 | **Sedgwick** | 1 |
| **Alamosa** | 2 | **Jefferson** | 32 | **Teller** | 2 |
| **Arapahoe** | 48 | **Kiowa** | 1 | **Washington** | 1 |
| **Archuleta** | 1 | **Kit Carson** | 2 | **Weld** | 21 |
| **Baca** | 0 | **Lake** | 1 | **Yuma** | 3 |
| **Bent** | 0 | **Larimer** | 8 | | |
| **Boulder** | 6 | **Las Animas** | 0 | | |
| **Broomfield** | 1 | **Lincoln** | 0 | | |
| **Chaffee** | 3 | **Logan** | 2 | | |
| **Cheyenne** | 0 | **Mesa** | 2 | | |
| **Clear Creek** | 1 | **Mineral** | 1 | | |
| **Conejos** | 1 | **Moffat** | 1 | | |
| **Costilla** | 0 | **Montezuma** | 3 | | |
| **Crowley** | 1 | **Montrose** | 3 | | |
| **Custer** | 1 | **Morgan** | 4 | | |
| **Delta** | 0 | **Otero** | 5 | | |
| **Denver** | 32 | **Ouray** | 0 | | |
| **Dolores** | 0 | **Park** | 3 | | |
| **Douglas** | 7 | **Phillips** | 1 | | |
| **Eagle** | 1 | **Pitkin** | 1 | | |
| **Elbert** | 6 | **Prowers** | 4 | | |
| **El Paso** | 25 | **Pueblo** | 6 | | |
| **Garfield** | 2 | **Rio Blanco** | 1 | | |
| **Gilpin** | 0 | **Rio Grande** | 3 | | |
| **Grand** | 0 | **Routt** | 1 | | |
| **Gunnison** | 1 | **Saguache** | 1 | | |
| **Hinsdale** | 1 | **San Juan** | 1 | | |
| **Huerfano** | | **San Miguel** | 1 | | |