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Issue The key message that I communicated to our local school board and other public figures was that registered nurses must be kept in our schools. I told them that I needed all the help they could offer to save the school nurses in Denton ISD because employing full-time registered nurses most importantly saves lives, but also saves the schools money by increasing daily attendance rates.

Project Description My message was “By eliminating the one person with proper training and knowledge of healthcare, the school districts are jeopardizing the welfare of me and my fellow students.” This was done through public speaking, PowerPoint presentations, personal interviews, and video of speeches. I also provided each Denton ISD school board member a binder containing applicable laws, policies, research, and emails that provide evidence and explain the importance of having a full time registered nurse in every school. After I addressed the Denton ISD, my message was spread when the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) linked videos of my speeches to their website. Since 2011 several school nurses in Texas have requested copies of these binders, including a Health Services Director in Dallas-Ft. Worth in 2013. After her presentation, the school district decided to a keep a full-time registered nurse in every campus.

Project Outcome After my presentation to the Denton ISD school board, my district decided to keep a full-time registered nurse in every single school.

Request Despite these local successes, there is still resistance evident in public education administrations. Understanding that money is almost always at the root of a public education issue, Texas senators and representatives can lend their support to making funding available so that all students have access to the best care from registered nurses. Healthy kids learn and educated kids stay healthy.

Project Link <https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B7mYBscH--NvRHRmMWRrUTk0Ync/preview>