

**FLORIDA
ASSOCIATION**



OF SCHOOL NURSES

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Winter 2015

FASNating News

FASN strives to improve the health and educational success of students and the school community by developing and providing leadership to advance school nursing practice.

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Just What You've Been Waiting For...!!!

Florida Association of School Nurses Annual Conference



School Nurses: Today's Health... Tomorrow's Future

*Celebrating 20 Years
of Advancing School Nursing Expertise*

Registration for the FASN 20th Annual Conference, February 5, 6, 2016 in Orlando, is OPEN!!!

Up to 13 CE credits can be earned by attending preconference, general, and poster presentations.

Based on previous attendees' suggestions, some sessions will address trauma care, sexuality, Flakka, HPV, safe medication practice, research, Diabetes from a father's perspective, and poster presentations. The preconference session will begin at 10:00 AM Friday, February 5, 2016.

The complete listing of conference offerings will be posted soon.

[Register NOW](#) to take advantage of [Early Bird](#) rates!!!

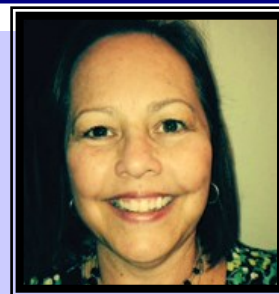
Online and mail-in options are available—see instructions on form. Make sure to carefully complete all parts of registration document.

“Serving School Nurses Statewide”

www.FASN.net



President's Message



Welcome to the Winter Edition of FASNating News!

As we are preparing and getting excited for the holiday season, your organization has been busy preparing for the 20th annual FASN Conference "School Nurses: Today's Health....Tomorrow's Future"; Celebrating 20 years of School Nursing Expertise. While FASN is the voice of School Nurses, we need you to be heard and hope an FASN membership is on your holiday wish list. What better way to spread some cheer than sharing the good news about how an FASN membership can enhance your professional networking. Every School Nurse has the power to influence our professional image as an individual and as an organization. As such, I hope a New Year's resolution includes a continued commitment or new commitment to FASN.

Our 20th annual conference "School Nurses: Today's Health....Tomorrow's Future"; Celebrating 20 years of School Nursing Expertise, will again be held at the Florida Mall in Orlando, February 5 and 6, 2016. The conference is an opportunity to meet and network with school nurses from across the state. It is an opportunity to enhance and grow in your professional knowledge on topics attendees identified as being important issues to expand our knowledge base. Topics such as trauma care, sexuality, Flakka, HPV, safe medication practice, research, Diabetes from a father's perspective, and poster presentations that will strengthen the skills needed for day to day school nurse practice. A special thank you to our Education Committee and Board of Directors for working so diligently to bring you an affordable and

quality filled conference with up to 13 CEU's offered for the 2 day conference. In addition, Scholarship opportunities are available by region. Registration is now open and may be accessed through our website: FASN.Nursingnetwork.net.

As I reflect on the end of 2015, and look forward to 2016, I hope all of you realize how important you are as a School Nurse impacting the lives and health of students, thereby impacting their educational success. I know 2016 has great things in store for each of you personally and professionally. It has been a pleasure to serve as your President these past two years. As I transition to the Past President position following our conference, I want to thank each of you for the impact you have had on me. It has been a pleasure to get to know you, develop relationships with you, share your

voice and work side by side for all School Nurses in Florida. Two short years ago having been installed as President, I shared with you these thoughts: We are only as strong as the voice you share. Let your voice be heard. Stand up, be involved and share the gift of you and your expertise. **We are FASN; the Heart and Hope of School Nurses!**

Many blessings this holiday season. See you at conference!



Shelley Bumm, BSN, RN, NCSN
President, FASN

An Opportunity to Save Lives

Lisa Richman, Executive Director Richard David Kann Melanoma Foundation

A “Call to Action”, declared the acting US Surgeon General and the CDC. “It’s Not Our Disease”, an article concerning Hispanic teens and tanning by the Skin Care Foundation, and “Warning: That Tan Could Be Hazardous”, on the front page of the New York Times not long ago! This past year marked a period of tremendous media awareness devoted to skin cancer and melanoma across the

a child’s life, they are exposed to more sun than they most likely will experience for the rest of their adult lives. This is the time when they are more susceptible to burn, which increases their risk of developing melanoma. These are also the years when they are in our care and the most malleable, therefore the knowledge that we provide will sustain them during adulthood.

One person dies from melanoma every fifty minutes, one in every fifty people will be at risk to develop melanoma, and Florida is the state with the second highest incidence of melanoma nationwide. Getting just one sunburn, before the age of eighteen, doubles one’s chances of developing this incurable disease as they advance in age.

Our Foundation has won thirteen American Academy of Dermatology Gold Triangle awards for its SunSmart America™ K-12 programs and resources. We encourage you to visit some of the attached links and share them with your school, staff, students and their families; it’s an opportunity to save lives. Let this year mark a renewed effort in school nursing and sun safety education, as we

Palm Beach Public School –
Melanoma Monday



recognize this chance to solve a difficult problem that plagues our young people. With education, melanoma is almost one hundred percent preventable!

School Nurse Resources

[SunSmart America K-12™ Training website](#)

[The School District of Palm Beach County Wellness Promotion Policy Report](#)

[Dropbox link for Florida School Nurses](#)

MELANOMA Prevention



nation, especially in children. Not surprising to us, the Richard David Kann Melanoma Foundation, as we have been the boots on the ground for twenty years, contributing sun safety education and resources to teachers, nurses, students and communities.

The Foundation is energized by the much-needed attention, for any time awareness is drawn to increasing morbidity rates, it brings about a new urgency and opportunity to achieve and advance our mission: To save lives through education about the prevention and early detection of skin cancer, especially melanoma, its deadliest form. To that end, the Foundation urges our school nurses, to help empower students and their families, to make critical sun safe choices for healthy lives.

During the first eighteen years of



Spa Cara, Palm Beach – “SPRAYS ~ NO UV RAYS” – SAM (Students Against

Conference Information

FASN 2016 Annual Conference Scholarship Application

In a continuing effort to serve you, our members, we are offering 10 registration fee scholarships for one member in each region to attend the 20th Annual FASN Conference on February 5th and 6th, 2016.

If you wish to apply, please complete the application and email it to: jonesjan@bellsouth.net to arrive no later than 8pm January 6th, 2016.

[FASN 2016 Conference Scholarship Application](#)



Registration for rooms at the Orlando Florida Hotel at the Florida Mall must be made separately. Rates are \$123 plus taxes/room/night and are also available prior/post conference based on availability.

Reservations can be made by phone or online.

To reserve by phone, call 1-800-588-4656, asking for *Florida Association of School Nurses group rate*

Access online hotel registration at [FASN - February 2016](#)

No resort, service, or parking fees will be charged.

FASN State Conference

Create a basket of Sunshine to make your county SHINE at our conference

Historically, FASN raises money to provide school nurses, who may be unable to attend the state conference otherwise, the opportunity to attend by obtaining a scholarship, which will pay their conference fee.

A fun way of fundraising for our fellow school nurses is the **Basket Raffle!** Not only does it provide funds for our nurses to attend, but it also allows nurses from other counties to see what your county is all about! As you know, Florida is the hub of tourism!

The tough part of putting a basket together is **STARTING!** Here are some ideas –

One way to start is to elect a “Basket Weaver” for your county to initiate the weaving of creativity for your basket.

Get your colleagues together and share ide-

as, have fun and create a theme to encourage conference participants to visit your county!

[To ignite the fire, click here for some theme basket ideas!](#)

I hope this helps get the fire burning and you all get out there and start having fun!! I know there’s a Basket Weaver in every county who can get you all started! Just Do It, and have FUN!

For further encouragement or questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me –

Anna Conaway, Broward County Schools,
Medical Fragile Nurse



FASN 20th Annual Conference February 5 and 6, 2016

“School Nurses: Today’s Health... Tomorrow’s Future!”
Celebrating 20 Years of Advancing School Nursing Expertise!

Registration is available **ONLINE** or by **MAIL**. To register online, please go to the FASN website at www.FASN.net and click on “FASN 20th Annual Conference 2016” under “Upcoming Events”. You will be asked to complete the information below on the website. Payment with a **credit card** can be made when registering **ONLINE ONLY**, using secure server.

If desired, the registration form can be downloaded and mailed to: FASN Registration, 12606 Chelmsford Ct, Orlando, FL 32837 **with CHECK OR MONEY ORDER** payable to FASN.

Registration includes:

Sessions, Reception, Vendor Access, Saturday Breakfast and Lunch, Breaks, Program Materials, CE's
 No less than **13 CE Credits** can be earned if participants complete **preconference** and **poster** sessions



Early Birds!!!

REGISTER EARLY!!! Registrations received by **midnight December 14, 2015** include preconference session at **NO CHARGE!!!**

Direct **Registration Process** or **FASN Conference** questions to Janie Sailors at SailorsRN@aol.com

Please fill-in ALL blanks to ensure proper registration.

Name _____	E-mail _____
Address _____	<input type="checkbox"/> School Nurse
City/State/Zip _____	<input type="checkbox"/> School Nurse Administrator
Phone _____ License Number _____	<input type="checkbox"/> School Nurse Educator
Employer _____ County _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified School Nurse (NCSN)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$99 (Member), inc. FREE preconference—by 12/14/15	<input type="checkbox"/> RN/BSN
<input type="checkbox"/> \$120 (Non-member), inc. FREE preconference—by 12/14/15	<input type="checkbox"/> LPN
	<input type="checkbox"/> First Time Attendee

Mark all above that apply to you:

- ☐ \$99 (Member) + \$10 Preconference Fee = \$109—Dec. 15, 2015-Feb. 1, 2016
☐ \$120 (Non-member) + \$15 Preconference = \$135—Dec. 15, 2015-Feb. 1, 2016
☐ \$135 onsite flat rate

Onsite rates will be charged after February 1, 2016

☐ **Scholarship Winner!!!!**

☐ **Yes, I will be attending the Friday, February 5, 2016 reception**

Special Dietary Needs _____

If you need Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodations, please contact us at 407-615-1587 at least 4 weeks prior to event date so that we can work with you to ensure full accessibility. We can guarantee services only to those who register and notify us at least four weeks prior to the event date. Services for late registrants may be impossible to provide on short notice.

There is **no** separate registration fee for attending only one day. Fee for registration is as above.

Cancellation Policy: Refund (less \$10.00 processing fee) will be made if cancellation notice received before February 1. Unfortunately, we cannot refund registration fee after February 1, 2016.

If mailing, send form **with check** to: FASN Registration, 12606 Chelmsford Ct, Orlando, FL 32837

Register online @ FASN 2016 Conference Registration

Celebrate Heart Month with a Cardiac Emergency Response Plan!



Across the United States, even the best emergency medical services (EMS) systems can't reach cardiac arrest victims for 3 to 5 minutes. Therefore, the actions taken by bystanders during the first few minutes of a cardiac emergency are critical. Prompt action can double or triple a victim's chance of survival.

At Bixby High School, school staff members Josh Smith and Roland

Vernon were prepared to act swiftly and confidently when their student Jonathan Fussell went into cardiac arrest. Their school had a cardiac emergency action plan, and that very plan saved Jonathan's life. A Cardiac Emergency Response Plan (CERP) is a written document that establishes specific steps to take action in a cardiac emergency in a school setting.

In 2015, the American Heart Association assembled a task force composed of members from more than 10 national health and safety organizations, including the Na-

tional Association of School Nurses, to create a cardiac emergency response plan template based on science and best practices. The template, and the associated implementation materials, are free for any school to use and implement and can be downloaded at www.heart.org/CERP.

(NASN Florida State Director, Kathleen Rose, is co-author of a new American Heart Policy document on the need for a Cardiac Emergency Response Plan in Schools, to be published in 2016)

School Nurses Talking to School Nurses

"Thank you all for the great feedback. I am so happy I joined NASN and have this resource to call on."
Becky Kilfoy, Pennsylvania

"I ABSOLUTELY LOVE THIS!!!
Thank you so very much for sharing!!"
Alice Pohl, North Carolina

"I want to personally thank all of you for your wonderful response to my questions"
Chris Bartholomew, Wyoming

"I love how school nurses are willing to share their good stuff with others for the good of the children." Laurilee Flaughter, California

These quotes appeared on SchoolNurseNet, in conversations between members.

SchoolNurseNet
Let's Connect

<http://schoolnursenet.nasn.org>



Are You Part of a Healthy School District? Kathleen Rose, RN MHA NCSN-E

As a member of the Executive Committee for Florida Action for Healthy Kids, I recently awarded three school districts a Healthy School District Award and a flag to display at their district office. Rather than being a school-by-school application, this is done at the district level. Currently, there are 35 school districts in Florida that have received either a Bronze, Silver or Gold award. According to the CDC, we are the only state in the country that offers this recognition.

It is a district self-assessment and each district is judged on its scores in the following areas: District Infrastructure, Health Services, Health Education, Physical Education, Nutrition Services, Counseling/Psychological/Social Services, Healthy School Environment (physical plant & social climate), Employee Wellness and Family & Community Involvement.

As school nurses, we know that our efforts to promote health and safety in our individual schools may or may not be encouraged unless it is also a district priority. This award has validated the work we do as school nurses, to keep our students and staff healthy and safe. The award is a collaboration of the Flori-

da Coordinated School Health Partnership, the Florida Action for Healthy Kids, the Florida Association of District School Superintendents and Florida Kid Care. It emphasizes the district's involvement in the nine areas mentioned.

Once the district infrastructure is established, each of the components is reviewed and judged more in depth. For example, Health Services is examined in the following areas: Policies that fulfill State and Nurse Practice Act laws; adequate health services staff, including RN to student ratios; training of health staff; confidentiality of health records; in-service training to teachers on health services; compliance with Florida laws on screenings, referrals and immunizations; coordinated care of disabled or chronically ill students between the school, the parents and the providers.

To see the application or to find out if your district is a Healthy School District award winner, go to www.healthydistrict.com. Districts keep their award for two years. Applications open January 15th and close April 15th. Let's join the voices of others in our state in advocating for healthy school districts throughout the whole state!



Healthy School District-DeSoto-Silver



Healthy School District-Collier-Silver



Healthy School District - Lee - Gold



School Nurses In the News!

Do You Know Someone Who Should Be Recognized?

OK, so you won't toot your own horn, but do you know someone you're proud of? Does your county have a School Nurse of the Year? Has a school nurse in your county been recognized by a partnering organization, such as the American Lung Association or the Red Cross?

Do you know a nurse that has made a special presentation that enhances school nurse skills or recognizes the importance of school nursing in helping students stay healthy? Has the media: TV, radio or newspaper made a point of covering school nursing or the health of students or contacted you to get the school nurse's perspective? Has an organization such as the PTA or Lions Club supported school nursing by sponsoring an FASN membership or registration to our state conference? Please let FASN know! We may not have a brass band to honor them, but we can recognize them in our newsletter and present them with a certificate. We can honor them as they have honored us. If you have someone you wish to recognize, please send the information to: seashell53@att.net



Improving Oral Health for Children in Florida

Karen Hodge, RDH, MHSc

**Florida Dental Hygiene Association Representative
Coordinated School Health Partnership**

Dental caries is an infectious, transmissible disease that affects 25% of children ages 2-5 and 50% of children ages 12-15. The Surgeon General reported in "Healthy People 2010" that dental caries is the most common preventable childhood disease in the United States, five times more common than asthma. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), by the second grade more than half of all children will have or have had dental caries and by high school graduation the percentage goes up to 80%. Socioeconomic levels aid in creating a disparity in dental disease with uninsured children more than twice as likely to have dental cavities and more likely to be left untreated. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in 2009, stated that the greatest racial and ethnic disparity for untreated tooth decay among children aged 2-4 years and aged 6-8 years is seen in Mexican American and black, non-Hispanic children. In "Oral Health in America" the Surgeon General reported that low income children have twice as many cavities as their more affluent peers and are more likely to not get the cavities treated.

The American Academy of Pediatrics states that the consequences of dental cavities in children includes "missed school days, impaired language development, inability to concentrate in school, reduced self-esteem, possible facial cellulitis, and possible systemic illness for special needs children." DHHS states that dental disease and illnesses are responsible for children missing approximately 50 million hours of school yearly, with low income children missing 12 times more school days than higher income children. According to Florida's Roadmap for Oral Health, Florida has received poor ratings on multiple oral health indicators for children including an "F" for meeting policy benchmarks to ensure dental health and access for disadvantaged children. The most recent study from the PEW Center on the States found that 75.5% of Florida's Medicaid enrolled children did not receive dental care in 2011. Florida's 75.5% places it as the lowest ranking state in the country, falling a full eight points behind the next lowest ranking state at 67%.

Healthy People 2020 states that "community water

fluoridation and school-based dental sealant programs are 2 leading evidence-based interventions to prevent tooth decay." Water fluoridation is the adjustment of fluoride in the water for optimum health benefits. Fluoride is a natural mineral that protects teeth by making them more resistant to the bacteria that causes cavities. Community water fluoridation (CWF) is the most cost effective way to deliver the benefits of fluoride to a community. CWF has been safely implemented in the United States for over 70 years with no adverse health side effects associated with consuming fluoridated water at recommended levels. The fluoride that is added to public water systems is absorbed and metabolized by the human body. Studies show that it prevents tooth decay by 18 to 40 percent over a lifetime. Further studies have shown that for every \$1 spent on CWF there is a savings of \$38, regardless of age, sex, SES, ethnicity, or education. CWF is socially equitable in the protection it provides to all families. It protects everyone against the infectious and communicable disease of cavities, especially those who bear a disproportionate burden of the cavities in the population and who are least likely to have access to routine dental care.

School based dental sealant programs are a way to offer preventive dental services to children in school using mobile or portable dental equipment. The dental hygienist will come to the school and administer services during school hours with minimal time out of the classroom for the child. Dental sealants are a thin plastic coating that is applied to the chewing surface of permanent molars. The procedure is non-invasive, pain free and easy. School based sealant programs are usually offered to Title I schools with higher free and reduced lunch percentages. Many programs bill Medicaid for services provided and use a grant to cover children with private or no dental insurance.

(Cont. on Page 11)





School Nurse of the Year

Are you the next School Nurse of the Year?

Within all of us as School Nurses, there is a greatness that sets us apart from our colleagues, makes us shine if you will. It's who we are and why we do what we do daily for our students, staff and school campuses. For each of

communities. It can be all of these and more! Florida is looking for the 2016 School Nurse of the Year! The purpose of the School Nurse of the year is to recognize the contributions of School Nurses by focusing on one School Nurse who has demonstrated excellence in School Nursing Practice and Leadership in School Health. The standards are high and are based on criteria adapted by the National Association of School Nurses. A full explanation of the selection criteria and application directions may be accessed @ [School Nurse of the Year](#). While lengthy and at times wordy, please do not let this deter you from applying. You are also able to nominate a colleague or other school nurse in the state who you feel is a candidate. We are constantly evolving our School Nurse practice and from growth come greatness. We know that Florida has some awesome school nurses that have been doing an outstanding job. This is what we are looking for in our next School Nurse of the year! It might just be you!

us there is that uniqueness and strength that drives us to excel. It might be our ability to assess and triage and implement that outcome, to self-evaluate and grow professionally, to educate our students, families and staff, to collaborate and communicate within our

Florida's Nationally Board Certified School Nurses

Adams, Leslie
Arnold, Elizabeth
Barry, Charlotte
Bernard, Elaine
Billiet, Mary
Bracken, Jennifer
Braun, Stephanie
Brower, Patricia
Browning, Kathy
Bumm, Shelley
Canales, Kimberly
Capps, Karen
Caulfield, Patricia
Christensen, Maiya
Cicci-Coen, Susan
Cooper, Nancy
Davis, Deeya
Davis, Mary
Defeo, Gail
Dolgin, Christine
Ellis, Cathy
Farnell, Mary Stewart
Ferrell, Sherrie
Figueredo, Raiza
Fitzwater, Rhonda
Ford, Michele
Foust, Nancy

Francois-Johnson, Rodlyne
Fulwider, Deborah
Gallogly, Sandra
Gantt, Patti
Garcia, Mayra
Giarratano, Kathleen
Godley, Ginger
Gollery Kain, Jeanette
Gordon, Shirley
Greer, Tanya
Hammond, Roberta
Hardy, Mary
Haslup, Patricia
Higgins, Kathleen
Holloran, Scherry
Jarrett, Aleta
Jarvis, Jo Ann
Jefferson, Patricia
Johnson, Donna
Johnston, Belinda
Jones, Janet
Kavitch, Flora
Kehoe, Penny
Keller, Virginia
Kelly, Linda
Kent, Linda Lee
Kern, Lisa

Lacasse, Nancy
Lavigne, Susan
Leek, Kimberlee
Linder, Janean
Lindsey, Juanita
Markulec, Susan
McGatlin, Eileen
McLain, Charlotte
Medina, Michelle
Mennitt, Dianne
Michaels, Susan
Mitchell, Laureen
Morrison, Alice
Nagy, Ann
Noble, Nancy
Oelkers, Suzanne
Perry, Clair
Polimeni, Jeanne
Polk, Margaret
Poyner, Russell
Price, Deborah
Raphael, Mymose
Richards, Nancy
Rodgers, Monica
Rodriguez, Alicia
Roufa, Barbara
Rozanski, Janice

Ryser, Barbara
Sailors, Lejane
Saslo, Judith
Schmeer, Donna
Sheckels, Jane Ann
Shepherd, Sharon
Shoulders, Barbara
Smith, Deborah
Smith, Janet
Snyder, Karen
Sparks, Dorothy
Steiner, Wilma
Sunnergren, Philippa
Sutton, Alison
Tahmooressi, Jill
Taylor, Susan
Thomas, Josette
Toomer, Pamela
Toops, Constance
Waldron, Mary Jane
Walker, Kelly
Weingard, Carolyn
Wilson, Elizabeth
Wooley, Margaret

And the Public Service Award Goes to The Lions Clubs of the Florida-Bahamas District FASN Awards Committee

For several years now, many school nurses throughout the state have developed a wonderful

relationship with their local Lions Club. This year, these Lions Clubs will be recognized at our state conference. The Awards Committee will present the award to the Florida/Bahamas District Governor, David Skillen. In addition, we would like school nurses whose membership has been sponsored by a Lions Club to stand and be recognized. Those nurses will have a certificate to present to their sponsoring Lions Club.

It all started with a conversation between FASN member, Marilyn Wissing, a former FASN

School Nurse of the Year, and her volunteer, a Lions Club member who was assisting her with vision screening. Marilyn told the Lions member about the free VSP vision vouchers that are available to FASN members. A nurse can request 25 free vouchers at a time. These vouchers pay for the exam and glasses, if needed. Previously, school nurses went to their local Li-

ons Club for help paying for the exam and glasses.

The Lions member realized that for the cost the Lions Club was paying for the exam, they could sponsor a school nurse's membership in FASN. In return, they saved the cost of 24 additional exams and glasses when the school nurse used the vouchers instead of coming to the Lions Club again and again. Meanwhile, the school nurses could complete their referrals more quickly because they didn't have to wait for

the parent and the Lions Club to complete the approval process. The nurses had a list of doctors the parents could choose from, including several who spoke Spanish. And if a nurse ran out of vouchers, as long as she was an active member, she could get another set of 25 vouchers again and again, all free of charge!

If a Lions Club sponsors you, [email Kathleen Rose](#). We want District Governor Skillen to realize just how strong our partnership is! Make plans to attend the state conference to show your support as well!

Pine Island Lions Club



Dear FASN Board and Members,

I have always been proud and happy to be associated with each of you. I have felt a mutual respect as professionals working together for the good of our organization. I value the personal relationships we developed and nurture outside of FASN. This was surely tested with the recent unexpected loss of my Mom. I so appreciate your love and support in the way of many texts, calls and emails. The floral acknowledgement at the funeral home was beautiful! Everyone commented on the gorgeous royal blue roses. It meant so much to me. My Mom was very proud of my involvement in FASN, knew when our conference calls were being held and bragged a little (ok a lot) to her friends that would listen that I was President. She would have been pleased with your kind gesture. My family would like to thank you for the kindness shown to us during a difficult time.

Sincerely,

Shelley Bumm on behalf of the family of Lois Lamb-



(Cont. from Page 8)

In 2001, a systematic review conducted by the Task Force on Community Preventive Services, a group of independent professional experts, found that school based dental sealant programs are effective in reducing dental caries in children by 65%. Dr. William R. Maas, past director of the CDC's oral health program, issued the following statement from the task force's review "this report combines the best available studies of community water fluoridation and school sealant programs to inform a broad public health audience that show that these interventions are among the most effective means we have for preventing tooth decay. These strategies are particularly useful for reaching entire communities, but especially groups at high risk for decay, and they are

essential to achieving the national objectives put forth by Healthy People 2020." Communities should use these findings to support their local planning processes; if local goals and resources permit, use of these interventions should be initiated or increased." Also in 2001, the National Institutes of Health held a Consensus Development Conference which involved evidence-based reviews by experts which concluded that "pit and fissure sealants have been demonstrated to be effective in the primary prevention of caries." In 2008 the Cochrane Collaboration concluded that "sealing is a recommended procedure to prevent caries of the occlusal surfaces of permanent molars." The American Dental Association also concluded in 2008 that "placement of resin-based sealants on the permanent molars

of children and adolescents is effective for caries reduction." There is much evidence to suggest that sealants and school based sealant programs, in conjunction with community water fluoridation, are an important and effective public health approach to reduce dental caries in children especially those that are at highest risk for dental cavities. As school nurses we need your help with advocacy and education to get these important public health measures started or continuing!

Anyone interested in learning more about school based dental sealant programs and community water fluoridation can join our state oral health coalition, Oral Health Florida at <http://oralhealthflorida.org/>. Membership is free and everyone is welcome!



School Nurses: A Vital Link to Keep Vaccine Between Our Students & Disease

Samantha Staley, IBCLC, Andrea Peaten, and Susan Hardwicke, RN

Each year we work very diligently to make sure our students have the required immunization to attend school. Yet we must not lose sight of the vaccines that are not mandatory but potentially lifesaving. We need to protect the future

of the next generation.

HPV related cancer and meningococcal disease are vaccine preventable. Youth are not aware of the importance of the HPV and meningococcal vaccines and parents are still of the mindset that these diseases have to do with sex or kissing and therefore not necessary for their pre-pubescent children. And yet they are! The mindset needs to change and the message needs to be driven home that these "optional" vaccines are critical in preventing cancer and saving their child's life or limbs. Who will be instrumental in driving this critical effort to educate, change perceptions, and ultimately save lives? Florida's school nurses.

Meningitis

Although rare, meningococcal disease claims the lives of our young every year, while others suffer from hearing loss, brain damage and loss of limbs. For meningococcal disease, there is an estimated 4,100 cases and 500 deaths in the U.S. annually which could be prevented by the meningitis vaccine (MC4) given at age 11, and nearly 29 of those cases and five deaths could be prevented annually with the recently added MenB vaccination program. ACIP recommends that in addition to the meningitis (MC4) booster received at age 16, adolescents and young adults aged 16–23 years should also be vaccinated with a serogroup B meningococcal (MenB) vaccine to provide short-term protection against most strains of serogroup B meningococcal disease.

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)

HPV is the hot topic on everyone's radar right now. Currently there are 79 million Americans infected with the HPV virus and 27,000 new HPV related cancer cases are diagnosed each year. Cervical cancer rates associated with HPV in the state of Florida are among the highest in the country.

Knowing these facts, why are the immunization rates for HPV so low? Only 29% of females and 18% of males have received the HPV vaccine in the state of Florida. It is our duty to increase the immunization rate of these routinely recommended vaccines. There is no better time to educate ourselves, our youth and their parents than now.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice (ACIP) recommends routine HPV vaccination between 11 and 12 years of age; the vaccine can be started as early as age 9. This vaccine is recommended for females ages 13-26 and males 13-21 year of age who have not previously received the vaccine or who have not completed the 3 dose series. Males 22-26 can receive vaccine if they have sex with men or are immune compromised and have not previously received the vaccine.

The School Nurse's Role

As a School Nurse your role is essential; you are immunization Champions. Both the parent and the young person see school nurses as a trusted source for most health related issues. Florida's school nurses are in a unique position to educate beyond what is required, to what is essential to the health and safety of our youth. By educating our students and their parents to have their child vaccinated against meningitis and HPV at the same time as the Tdap, with the additional MenB at age 16... you are the link to preventing cancer and saving lives.

Florida LINC (a statewide network of immunization coalitions and organizations) is launching an HPV Campaign in January 2016 and will be hosting an HPV Summit February 11-12, 2016 in St. Petersburg, Florida. As a valuable player in the prevention of disease, school nurses are invited to attend this informative summit and be a part of this growing campaign.



Immunization Flyer

[Available Here](#)



A Fond Farewell . . . Hello to the New !

Kathleen Rose, RN MHA NCSN-E Florida NASN Director

For the last four years, I have had the privilege of representing Florida on the national level as I served on

the Board of Directors of the National Association of School Nurses. It is a responsibility I don't take lightly and an honor that I will remember the rest of my life. Together with the Directors from 48 states, DC and the Overseas School Nurse Association (OSHNA), we have worked on a national strategic plan, facilitated research, advocated for legislative priorities, developed policies and Position Statements, worked on membership initiatives and developed Clinical Guidelines. One way or another, I have been involved in all of these and so will your new Director.

Personally, I worked on the Strategic Plan, made trips to Capitol Hill every January and local visits to my legislators, as well as emails to discuss our legislative priorities. Currently, I represent NASN with the American Heart Association, co-authoring a policy on Cardiac Emergency Protocols in Schools. I have authored or co-authored several Position Statements, including "School Located Vaccines", "School-sponsored Field Trips", "The Role of the UAP in Schools" and I have diligently reviewed the position statements

others have written. I am serving on the Scoliosis Research Committee and served on the committee that developed the Asthma Clinical Guidelines. In addition, I have mentored two new Directors and co-mentored two others. I have developed some wonderful friendships and learned so much!

Now I have the honor to pass my seat on the Board to the new Director, Lisa Kern. She will be installed at the January Board meeting in Washington, D.C. She will be making the visits to our legislators and/or the legislative assistants on Capitol Hill. She will be voting on the Position Statements (PS) currently being written. Right now she is receiving the PS to read and review, just as I am. The emails I receive from NASN, she receives as well. In addition to the mentoring which I am giving her, she now has a Board Buddy that will be there when she takes office and will continue to mentor her for a year. Lisa is the Supervisor of Health Services for Pasco County. She will bring her administrative perspective to the Board, just as I brought my perspective as a field school nurse. I am proud to say that Florida will be well represented on the Board. She will carry the torch – with grace, elegance and gusto!

~Kathy



Thank You!

Florida Action Coalition

Brought to you by:  **FCN**
Florida Center
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Do you identify yourself as an emerging nurse leader?

If you answered yes, you still have time to take advantage of this amazing opportunity. [Apply now](#), to become part of the inaugural **Board Service Initiative**. Participants selected will gain the skills needed and desired to be recognized as a leader in your community.

Our 2016 [Board Service Initiative](#) aims to develop 30 nurse leaders to obtain appointments to boards and committees that make and influence health policy. Through this work we hope to have more nurses at the “table” where policy is developed and advanced. Nurses in Florida will truly “lead” the Future of Nursing. As we look back at a successful year in learning about Florida’s nurse leaders we look forward to advancing nursing leadership.

For further information regarding these efforts or to apply for the January 2016 Cohort email us at NurseCtr@ucf.edu or retrieve it from the website flcenterfornursing.org.

**EXTENDED
APPLICATION
DATE**

**BOARD
SERVICE
INITIATIVE**

**NOW
ACCEPTING
APPLICATION**

**DUE BY
12/11/15**



**FASN
Wishes you and
your family
a Safe and Happy
Holiday Season!!!**





End Notes



Join the FASN Website!

If you haven't joined the FASN Website already, please take a few moments and join as a follower. By joining you will receive announcements, event invites, group communications and access to the member's only areas.

The steps are easy:

- Go to the FASN website: FASN.net
- Click the "sign up" icon at the upper right hand corner of the screen
- Enter the *required ID information
- Create a password
- Click create your account

You are now ready to start receiving e-mail updates and stay connected with FASN!



And Watch Us Grow!

Refer a friend for FASN membership. It's an easy way to earn \$10 in e-commerce credit. You can use your Refer a Friend credit to help decrease your own membership fee!

Free Online Resources for School Nurses



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Vision Vouchers



Have you applied for VSP vision vouchers to help needy families? It's a member benefit! Go to www.nasn.org and click under the Member Center tab or click the link above to apply. They're free!