

NASN Elections 2021

Candidate Data and Statement of View

Secretary/Treasurer

Valerie Beshears, MSN, RN, NCSN

Current NASN Affiliate: Arkansas School Nurses Association (ASNA)

Major Clinical, Teaching, or Practice Area: Educator

Education: Walden University, Master of Science in Nursing-Leadership and Management, 2007; University of Arkansas-Fayetteville, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 1995; Westark Community College, Associate of Applied Science-Nursing, 1990

Awards, Achievements, and Honors: *Nursing Diagnosis Handbook: An evidence-based guide to planning care*, 12th Ed. Book Reviewer, 2020; National Association of School Nurses (NASN) Secretary/Treasurer, 2019; National Society of Leadership and Success, 2019; NASN Board of Directors, 2016; National Board for Certification of School Nurses (NBCSN) National Content Expert Panel Item Reviewer-School Nurse Certification Exam, 2014; Johnson & Johnson School Health Leadership Fellow, 2013; NASN Epinephrine Resource School Nurse, 2013; Phi Nu Chapter Member of Sigma Theta Tau International, 2012; NBCSN Nationally Certified School Nurse, 2011; Eleanor Mann School of Nursing Charter Member of University of Arkansas Nursing Honor Society, 1994

Employment: University of Arkansas-Fort Smith, Instructor, 2017-Present: Clinical instruction; classroom instruction; lab instruction; advising; curriculum, teaching and learning committee; peer review; test review; textbook review; Deans search committee; Executive Director search committee.

Other Significant Positions Held: Adjunct Instructor, College of the Ouachitas, 2015-2017; Lead School Nurse, Fort Smith Public Schools, 2008-2017; School Nurse, Fort Smith Public Schools, 1993-2008

Present NASN Offices/Appointments: NASN Secretary/Treasurer, 2019; NASN Professional Practice Documents Advisory Committee, 2019; NASN Finance Committee, 2019; NASN Investments Advisory Committee, 2019

Past NASN Offices/Appointments: NASN Board of Directors, 2016-2019; NASN Research Strategic Committee, 2016-2019; NASN Endowment Fundraising Committee, 2016-2019; NASN Financial Ethics Committee, 2016-2017; NASN Advocacy Strategic Committee, 2015-2016

Present NASN Affiliate Offices/Appointments: NA

Past NASN Affiliate Offices/Appointments: ASNA Past-President, 2014-2016; ASNA President, 2010-2014

Present Offices/Appointments in Other Associations: NA

Past Offices/Appointments in Other Associations: NA

Publications Significant to School Nursing:

Beshears, V. L. (2019). Students who are pregnant and parenting. In J. Selekman, R. A. Shannon, & C. F. Yonkaitis (3rd Ed.), *School Nursing: A Comprehensive Text*. (pp 864-885). Philadelphia: F.A. Davis Company.

National Association of School Nurses. (2017). *Emergency use of stock albuterol in the school setting* (Position Brief). Silver Springs, MD: Beshears, V., Mauter, E., Johansen, A., Minchella, L., & Miller, T.

Presentations Significant to School Nursing:

Beshears, V. (2016). Facebook, Twitter, and the 21st Century Framework for School Nurses. Presented at: Arkansas School Nurses Association Summer Conference, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Beshears, V. (2016). Mental health assessment must be a priority for foster youth. Presented at: Offices of Senator Boozman, Senator Pryor and Representative Womack, Washington, DC.

Beshears, V., Phyllis, E., & Haynie, K. (2014). Diabetes case management at school: A different approach – Poster Presentation. Presented at: National Association of School Nurses Summer Conference San Antonio, TX.

Beshears, V., Phyllis, E., & Haynie, K. (2013). Building a Bridge between ACH and the School Nurses. Presented at: Arkansas Children’s Hospital, Little Rock, AR.

Beshears, V., Phyllis, E., Haynie, K., Rice, D., Jones, C., & Wilborn, C. (2013). Diabetes management at school. Presented at: Johnson & Johnson School Health Leadership Fellow, New Brunswick, NJ.

Research Significant to School Nursing: NA

Statement of View:

Our biggest challenge as an organization over the next ten years will be addressed through our strategic plan. This plan has three active goals. First, we must **Engage** our membership in the practice of 21st Century nursing. Second, we must actively **Pursue** partnerships with other national organizations. Third, we must **Secure** data collection and participate in research for the development of innovative solutions that will result in positive student outcomes.

These may seem to be lofty goals, but they are attainable. We must find ways to engage all school nurses about how to keep children safe and healthy. We need alternative ways of providing information for all nurses. Some may be used to short, concise, sound bites that are utilized in today's social media, whereas others may still want traditional written communication. Regardless of the delivery method, we must begin to engage all with an accurate school nurse narrative. One that is inclusive of all and leads to equitable programming for all.

The National Association of School Nurses is not the only association that seeks the best for children. Collaborating with other organizations could provide innovation, better use of available funds, and support for each other while working toward the same goals. School nurses want to see programs that promote health, education, and social equity for all of our students. We can get there through careful partnership with others that seek the same goals.

Data collection and research into the stories the data tells are vital as we move into the future. School nurse across the nation are joining in the effort to collect and utilize school health data. The appropriate use of this data and research leads to innovation and to our ultimate goal which is that **ALL children will be safe, happy and healthy!**

This Secretary/Treasurer candidate completed the Nominating Committee process.