



National
Association of
School Nurses

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES' NEW TEAM MEMBERS TO ADDRESS STRATEGIC RESEARCH FOCUS

SILVER SPRING, MD (September 16, 2021) – The National Association of School Nurses (NASN) is pleased to announce two new team members with specific responsibility for advancing NASN's strategic goal to secure foundational school health evidence.

Mary E. Thompson, PhD, RN, CPNP-PC, has joined NASN as Director of Research. In her new role, Dr. Thompson will lead NASN's *National School Health Data Set: Every Student Counts! (ESC!)* data collection initiative, oversee the development of clinical guidelines, provide input into program and evaluation design, develop collaborative relationships with universities and others to promote school nursing research and data collection, in addition to other functions. She will be instrumental in guiding the implementation of evidence into practice in NASN's programs and resources.

Dr. Thompson is a pediatric nurse practitioner who has over 30 years of experience in the pediatric clinical setting and academia. She was a member of the task force that evaluated childhood obesity evidence-based clinical practice guidelines for the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners and Associates. Her research in pediatric epilepsy focused on development of a mobile health system to support self-management in transition-age youth with epilepsy.

Dr. Thompson will be joined by Andrea Tanner, PhD, RN, NCSN, who will serve as Research Strategist for NASN. In this role, Dr. Tanner will provide strategic guidance on the NASN research trajectory, program design and development and evaluation strategy; *ESC!* data point definition; and serve as a consultant to staff in areas of research and evaluation, in addition to other functions.

Dr. Tanner has 18 years' experience in school nursing, including serving as Coordinator of Health Services for New Albany-Floyd County schools overseeing health services program in 17 schools. She is a Robert Wood Johnson Future of Nursing Scholar, a past president of the Indiana Association of School Nurses, and former Indiana School Nurse Administrator of the Year. Her research has focused on school-based mental health interventions and adolescents' experience attending school and self-managing psychogenic non-epileptic seizures (PNES).



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“We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Mary Thompson and Dr. Andrea Tanner to NASN,” said Donna Mazyck, NASN’s Executive Director. “They have a wealth of experiences that will advance NASN’s mission through progress in advocacy, the research trajectory, and program alignment with the *Framework for 21st Century School Nursing Practice™* and the Future of Nursing 2020-2030.”

NASN

The National Association of School Nurses is a non-profit specialty nursing organization, organized in 1968 and incorporated in 1977, representing school nurses exclusively. NASN has close to 18,000 members and 50 affiliates, including the District of Columbia and overseas. The mission of NASN is to optimize student health and learning by advancing the practice of school nursing. To learn more about NASN, please visit us on the Web at www.nasn.org or call 866-627-6767.