



FASNating News

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES

Volume 23, Issue 1

Fall 2018

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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Remember Where We Have Been

Shelley Bumm, BSN, RN, NCSN

In a blink of an eye, a cough or a sneeze, the 2017-18 school year was over! And what a year it was. As last year began, the effects of Hurricane Harvey and Irma certainly made their presence felt in our Sunshine State, causing disruptions in school schedules and the unsettling effects that go along with a major storm, rain, flooding, destruction, displacement and delay. We welcomed students from Puerto Rico in unprecedented numbers who fled Maria. We banded together in solidarity with the loss of lives in the shooting in Parkland. Did we recover? Did we show support and compassion? Did we show resilience? Did we put our mark as School Nurses on another school year? Of course we did – and more! As School Nurses we are resourceful, smart, kind and so much more. We can turn any adverse situation into a ray of sunshine, smooth stressful situations with laughter, hugs and maybe a few tears. We can love the child who is hurting and be firm when it is most needed. We can assess and triage and find the ways to



get medical or dental care or glasses. I am grateful for the support of NASN/ FASN as my Professional organization and am thankful there is always an answer or resource available to help along the way. We do it all, and do it willingly and with a smile on our face. We really are the perfect specimen of nurses everywhere. So pat yourselves on the back, give a colleague a high five, shake a hand of a teacher and say thanks for another year of a job well done! After our time to rest, relax and regenerate it's time for the new year!

You Make a Difference
Thank You for all you do!



President's Message

Janet Jones, MSN, RN, NCSN, AHN-BC
FASN President



It seems as though it was only yesterday that we were packing up for the summer break and here we are back to school again. I sincerely hope everyone took some time to relax and enjoy the things that please you most. We had some traumatic events occurring in our state last year, which have affected all of us. Some of our students are still fearful and react to certain stimuli, and there may be teachers who need help to understand this unexpected behavior. As school nurses we can both support and educate students, parents and staff about response to trauma. We have many resources available to us at NASN.org and I urge you to take a few minutes and check them out.

At the end of June around twenty of us from Florida attended the 2018 50th NASN conference in Baltimore. June is gun violence awareness month, and, as we are so acutely aware, gun violence has impacted our Florida communities several times in 2018. To support and remember our students, FASN members wore orange vests bearing the words 'FASN Strong', to the annual business meeting. There were some amazing presentations at the conference and we had the opportunity to network with NASN members from other states and gain fresh ideas. Wally Colon, our Vendor Chair, worked very hard seeking out exhibitors and sponsors for our FASN 2019 conference. I believe she visited every one of the 85 booths so I do hope that you are planning to join us in Orlando on February 8th and 9th, 2019.

I was delighted to meet up with our previous Presi-

dent-Elect, Anna Conaway. If you remember, Anna re-located to Maryland last year due to her husband's employment. She asked me to pass on her regards to everyone and to let you know that she misses you all. It was great to catch up, and also to learn how being a school nurse in Maryland compares to working in Florida.

Lisa Kern (Florida NASN Director), Wally Colon, and I attended a pre-conference Leadership Academy which offered useful information to enable us to enhance our state organization.

I personally have spent quite a lot of time over the summer manning 'Back to School' immunization clinics. We are one of the few organizations able to provide vaccinations free of charge to those children who have no health insurance, due to the 'Vaccines for Children' program. Following the introduction of the Affordable Care Act, we saw the number of children attending our clinics fall to an all-time low. However, last year, and again this year, we are seeing an unprecedented number of

parents bringing children for vaccination. This suggests that the number of insured children is either falling again, or that providers are less accessible. As we move ahead in this new school year, I would ask that you remember that we are not only advocates for our students, but for ourselves, as professional school nurses. Our student to school nurse ratio in Florida, is one of the worst in the country. We should use every opportunity we can to make our voices heard, because the health of this young generation and their future is shepherded by us.



Janet



Promote FASN—Like Us on Social Media



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Leaders Are Needed!

Kathy J. Browning, BSN, RN, NCSN

"Leaders are needed!" YES, school nurses from every county in this state are needed as FASN members, county liaisons, regional representatives, committee members/chairs, and officers (Board of Directors)! We are happy to welcome a few new county liaisons and regional representatives who were recruited/volunteered while at the annual conference!

Perhaps you, too, are considering getting more involved. County Liaisons simply report to the Regional Representative what is "happening" in the local county on a monthly basis. We would love to have 67 county liaisons for our 8 regions! Regional Representatives gather reports from the county liaisons on a monthly basis; these reports are submitted to the President-Elect for a report to the Board of Directors (BOD). Regional representatives and county liaisons also share information from the BOD with school nurses in the local areas.

Nominations for FASN officers are accepted in the fall of the year, and elections generally occur in November/December. Refer to the FASN Bylaws for a description of each of the officer positions: President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Affiliate Director, Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer. All terms are two years, with the exception of Affiliate Director which is four. The Bylaws also describe the work of FASN Committees. Consider serving, and be brave! Be ready to submit your name!

The work required by an active organization throughout the year is significant and provides many opportunities for collaborative leadership. Each member has a unique perspective on school nursing from his/her community, and our strength as an organization will gain momentum if we have more involvement from everyone! Feel free to contact me directly if you have specific questions.



If you are interested in representing your county or region, are interested in sitting on a committee or have questions, [please complete this survey.](#)



You Asked---We Listened!!! FASN 23rd Annual Conference

Many of you have asked for single day registration for our popular annual conference. We feel we are now able to offer that as an option! Soooooooooooooo, keep watch for more registration details soon for the **FASN Annual Conference, February 8-9, 2019** at the **Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando**. [Registration scholarship applications are available now at FASN.net.](#) **DON'T MISS IT!!!** This year's theme is *"School Nurses Cultivating Healthy Bodies and Healthy Minds!"*

Stay Tuned! More Details Coming Soon...

A graphic for the FASN 2019 conference. It features a circular logo on the left with the text "FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES" and "FASN" in the center, set against a map of Florida. To the right of the logo is a silhouette of a city skyline with two birds flying above it. The text "Save the Date!" is written in a large, handwritten-style font. Below the skyline, the text "FASN 2019 | FASN.net" and "February 8-9, 2019 | Florida Hotel in Orlando" is displayed. The bottom of the graphic has a blue background with the text "School Nurses: Cultivating Healthy Bodies and Healthy Minds" in yellow.

Save the Date!

FASN 2019 | FASN.net February 8-9, 2019 | Florida Hotel in Orlando

School Nurses: Cultivating Healthy Bodies and Healthy Minds

NASN Conference Highlights

Wildaliz Colon, RN



Becoming a school nurse for me was an easy decision. It was late July and I was at my daughter's Preschool Open House and it was there that I saw them for the first time. School Nurses. Corinne Nelson and Karen Snyder were sitting there collecting physical forms and immunization records. Much to my surprise these school nurses had a whole lot of credentials behind their names, R.N, BSN, NCSN... yet I thought to myself, "This has to be the easiest job in the world!" I had been an ICU nurse for 2 years and was quickly becoming burned-out. I felt tired and fatigued, lacking the joy that nursing gave me the first day I precepted in the ICU. Regardless of having the ability of creating my own schedule and wonderful pay, I knew that I needed a change and school nursing was the answer. I mean, how hard could it be? Kids do not get sick. Kids do not have any medical conditions. Kids have no issues whatsoever. School nurses just give out ice packs and Band-Aids. What a typical ignorant thought that was! Being a School Nurse is so much more than ice packs and Band-Aids. A School nurse is an instrumental part of a healthy school environment. Fast forward 4 years and I can now say that becoming a School Nurse was the BEST decision I have ever made.

This past summer I had the privilege to attend the 50th Annual Conference of the National Association of School Nurses (NASN): NASN2018 Power of the Past, Force of the Future, representing Generation Y or the infamous millennials. The focus at the conference was while reflecting on our past, we will learn skills and information that will prepare us

for the next 50 years. Insert millennial school nurse here! Millennials face a lot of criticism. Millennials have many stereotypes that give others a bad representation without even knowing us such as being lazy and entitled, self-absorbed and obsessed with technology (I agree with this one). Yet I do not agree with some of these. The millennials I know are extremely talented and driven. Forbes Magazine encourages managers to look past age and generic stereotypes and focus on potential and skill sets.

Even though this was my first national conference I believe this one went down in the books as the most remarkable. It was very well organized and very successful. Every single speaker during the general sessions was empowering and uplifting. Several of the break-out sessions that I was able to attend were very informative and insightful on their particular subjects. One of the things that was mentioned over and over was data, data and more data. Dr. Robert Balfanz stated that 5% of students

seen by a school nurse were sent home for illness or injury while 18% of students seen by an unlicensed clinic personnel were sent home. This alone should validate having a school nurse every day at every school. However, this can only be done through correct data collection and recording.

As a millennial I understand and appreciate the mentorship and guidance I have received from seasoned school nurses, but it was empowering to be able to contribute my input

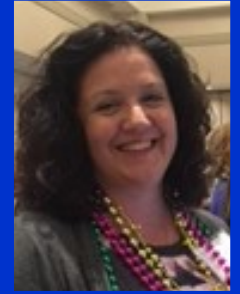
and possible solutions during our Leadership Academy on how we could increase our NASN membership, retention and satisfaction. Millennial nurses will take school nursing into the future, where relationships between principal and school nurse will truly be interprofessional. Doctors' Selekmán presented us with the difference between a principal's

(Cont. on pg 8)



FASN Director's Message

Lisa Kern, RN, MSN, NCSN
FASN Director



Highlights Summer Board Meeting:

- **Position Statements** are intended to give our members talking points; documents that speak to our policy makers. The Board approved the following [position statements](#):
 - ◊ Supervision and Evaluation
 - ◊ Child Maltreatment
 - ◊ School-sponsored Before, After, and Extended School Year Programs
 - ◊ Environmental Health
 - ◊ Do Not Attempt Resuscitation
 - ◊ Bullying and Cyberbullying
 - ◊ Chronic Absenteeism
- The board approved the joint statement with the Society of Pediatric Nurses: [Early School Start Times](#).
- The board also discussed and approved position briefs related to [Reunification of Refugee or Immigrant Children](#) and [Gun Violence](#). Please read these exciting statements and share them!



Leadership Academy overview:

- NASN introduced the new initiative for robust national School Health data set [Every Student Counts! NASN National School Health Data Set](#). This is intended to build school nurse capacity, create data infrastructure and uniform data points using a tiered approach. We were lucky to have Amy Rikken and Jennifer Rivera from the DOH School Health office attend the Data Counts session so they can collaborate with school health leaders from around the state to collect and submit robust data from Florida.
- **We discussed how best to engage younger school nurses in FASN** and we had the expertise of Wally Colon (from Florida!) and other affiliate millennials invited by NASN to attend this event. Succession planning is an issue for many affiliates. With older members retiring, we need to attract younger school nurses to FASN. One idea we discussed was to do a school nurse session at FNA to better explain our role and responsibilities to Florida nurses.
- **Membership Ideas:** We learned that it takes “7 touches” for someone to make a decision. We sincerely appreciate the work of our Membership Chair Karen Bodwell who makes **many** contacts to new members to welcome them and to lapsed members to ask them to rejoin! FASN BOD is tasked to develop an innovation plan for membership and will be participating in the October NASN membership drive.

NASN Conference highlights:

The Florida Affiliate rally was well-attended. President Janet Jones coordinated and led this event. Those who came to the NASN Business meeting wore orange vests in support of Gun Violence Prevention and in honor of the 17 lives lost at Stoneman Douglas in February. My Director's address to the board was submitted to President Nina Fekaris:

NASN Annual Membership Meeting – FASN Director Florida

Baltimore, June 30, 2018

Madame President, officers and staff, my name is Lisa Kern and I am the Director for the Florida Association of School Nurses. FASN was organized in 1993 and became affiliated in 1995.

On behalf of school nurses from the Sunshine state where we support close to 3 million students, their families and school communities each day, I bring greetings and congratulations on NASN's 50th anniversary.

Today, Florida members #WearOrange to remember the 17 lives lost this year at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School and for the 49 lives lost 2 years ago at Pulse in Orlando and for all other lives lost due to gun violence across our nation.

Our accomplishments are reflected in the voices of the Florida students who are leading the way and speaking out to keep children safe on their #RoadtoChange. We are proud to join them and to bring you 11 active voting members.

NASN members who were not able to attend the conference can take advantage of [six FREE CNE e-learning](#) offerings for conference sessions related to attendance, leadership, telehealth, NASN history, mental health, and opioid addiction. Don't miss this opportunity!

Hope you have an amazingly productive and energizing 2018-2019 school year!

(Cont. from pg. 5)



perspective and the school nurse's perspective. Incredible tools for getting on the same page for student health and success.

As we continue to move toward our future, nurses will be equal leaders in writing health policy and achieving scientific discovery backed by the data collected within their districts and states. However, this can only be achieved if we dare ourselves to continually seek professional development and leadership opportunities as challenged to us by Speaker Marjories McKettrick-Maloney from Shriners hospital.

Attending the NASN Conference was a great experience where I met so many gifted, passionate and relentless school nurses that not only advocate for themselves, their jobs and positions but for their students, families, values and safety. NASN 2018 was a wonderful conference rich in history, resources for the present and inspiration for the future. See you next year Denver!



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!

VSP Vision Vouchers news flash! They've lifted the limit on the number of vouchers you can get. And each voucher is good for a full year.

#FASN STRONG



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 members' 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!

**REFER
a
FRIEND!**

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!



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