This Director’s Report covers our January Board meeting as well as NASN activities for February and March, 2013.

NASN Board Meeting: January 26 - 29, 2013 Alexandria, VA

This is one of the 2 major meetings for NASN Directors. It includes an orientation meeting for new Board members, a work day, two inservice sessions on Leadership training, the official Board meeting and a trip to “the Hill” to visit our respective legislators and/or their legislative assistants.

Even though there is a Finance sub-committee that meets regularly with NASN CFO, the CFO, Chris Cephas, does an entire session with the whole Board. Fiscally, NASN is quite stable, receiving its income from dues, programs and grants. Each source represents about 1/3 of NASN’s income. Conference income is good and book sales have increased significantly with the release of the Second Edition of *School Nursing: A Comprehensive Text* and the new text for Administrators. No plans are in the works to increase dues if we can continue to increase membership.

Each sub-committee reviews old or develops new Position Documents to which they are assigned. Some of the documents are retired, others are revised and accepted and others are newly written. Although each sub-committee is responsible for certain documents, they are reviewed by the content experts at NASN and then by the entire Board and then brought to the entire Board at our meeting for a vote.

The following Position Documents were retired: School Health Nursing Services Role in Health Care Eating Disorders; School Health Nursing Services Role in Health Care School Vision Screening; Reduction in Force; Health Promotion and Disease prevention; Alternative Education Programs; Scoliosis Screening; “State School Nurse Consultant.”

The Position Documents approved were: to combine 504 & IDEIA into one Position Document; and School Located Vaccinations. The decision was also made to develop a Position Document on Bullying.

Part of the workday was spent defining Global School Nursing, what is seen as NASN’s role in Global School Nursing and what should our future role be. We were given 3 questions to answer: What is the global community?; What does indispensable resource mean?; What resources does NASN currently provide? It was a very interesting discussion. For many, Global School Nursing was defined as those countries outside of the US and not Department of Defense schools that would like NASN’s help and recognition. For others, it was addressing the students in our schools who come from all over the world, recognizing their customs and their health concerns that may be impacting the role of school nurses in the schools. And for others, it was a combination of both.
NASN has chosen 3 legislative priorities for 2013. They are:

1. To ask Legislators to support and promote the Prevention and Public Health Fund, which creates a healthier, more sustainable future for our children.
2. To ask Legislators to join other bipartisan members of Congress and sign on to a letter encouraging the U.S. Department of Education to take the lead in efforts to prevent dating violence.
3. To ask Legislators and other members of Congress to reintroduce the legislation called the Student-to-School Nurse Ratio Improvement Act, which recognizes the critical role school nurses serve in providing access to quality care.

In addition, we asked them to consider the Comprehensive School Safety Plan. Currently, it does not include school nurses, yet almost 1/3 of our school clinic visits are for mental and emotional concerns of students. I told the Legislative assistants I visited that we are on the front lines of school safety and need to be included in the Comprehensive School Safety Plan wording.

I met with the Legislative Assistants for Marco Rubio, Bill Nelson and my new Representative, Trey Radel. In addition, Rep. Radel was in Cape Coral on February 18th, and I spoke with him here as well.

I am still serving on the Advocacy and Public Relations Sub-committee. In addition to the Position documents which are assigned to our committee, we have 4 main initiatives: a new membership campaign, the Partnering with Parents initiative, the Healthy School Nurse campaign and the Institute of Medicine (IOM) Future of Nursing initiative.

The new membership campaign is designed to increase membership and benefit those who encourage others to join. Our goal is to develop a recruitment and retention plan to increase membership by at least 5% and to improve the retention of members by at least 5%. We are re-examining the Partnering with Parents initiative. We began by getting parents who were interested in becoming spokespersons for school nursing and qualified school nurses. Florida led the way with 8 parents to submit. Unfortunately, we did not have a program ready to capitalize on their enthusiasm and direct it into positive channels. We are looking at the programming now and then we will reconnect with interested parents.

The Healthy School Nurse Campaign is a collaboration between the ANA and NASN. In addition to looking at the health and wellness behaviors of school nurses across the country, we are looking at campaign slogans and ways to do a fitness promotion at the conference in Orlando. Our committee is working with 2 other committees to review the IOM initiative and learn new ways to promote the Future of Nursing, specifically School Nursing, with school nurses around the country.

Our committee was assigned 3 Position Documents: School Trips: the Role of the School Nurse; the Role of the School Nurse in Violence Prevention and Mental Health: the Role of the School Nurse. All 3 are changes from an Issue Brief to a Position Statement. I am chairing the first two and the new Director from New Jersey is chairing the 3rd.

The Executive Board has begun their review of the Strategic Plan.
We had two inservice sessions on Leadership Training. The first was Strengthening School Administrators Support for School Health Services. It was presented by a young lady who works on the Federal level with the Coordinated School Health Program. As she presented her session, several of the nurses became more and more concerned. We discovered she did not really understand school health services and was actively advocating for school based health centers (SBHC), not understanding that SBHC do not see all the students and that they work best in cooperation with a school nurse. Also, SBHC do not do the basic screenings, such as vision and hearing, which students needs in order to remove that barrier to learning. Once she understood, she took a step back, started getting information from us and began her efforts to change the presentation that she planned to give to the National Association of School Administrators.

The second dealt with our efforts at legislative advocacy. Titled "And How Are Our Children? School Nurses: Getting Your Voice Heard and Influencing Change on Capitol Hill", it was presented by NASN’s Assistant Director of Government Affairs, Angela Shubert. She reviewed NASN’s Legislative Priorities for 2013 and some background info about each of them.

I brought greetings from Florida with a picture of a Florida island and a small bag of Key Lime cookies, which were a big hit, and a greeting: "Welcome to Florida! Home of water, sunsets, beaches, Key Lime and the 2013 NASN Conference!" NASN will once again have their Purses for Nurses auction to support the Endowment Fund. If you or anyone you know has a purse for Florida to donate, please let me know. The Endowment Fund is also hosting a beach party at a man-made beach outside the hotel. it will be closed off to all but the Endowment attendees. Tickets to the Endowment can be purchased along with your Registration. Linda Davis-Aldritt will be contacting Shirley to present greetings from Florida.

**NASN Executive Committee Meeting February 21, 2013 Conference Call**

We received reports from the 5 Strategic Committees as to their progress towards their assigned duties. Carolyn Duff, President-elect, gave her reports about new assignments to other committees. Sharon Conley gave a technology report. Chris Cephas gave a Financial report. My Strategic Committee, chaired by Chris Tuck of Kansas, is ahead of schedule with two of our Position documents.

**The NASN Subcommittee for IOM/Report on School Nursing was charged to:**
1. Look at strategies to involve school nursing in healthcare reform initiatives and implementation of recommendations of the IOM report.
2. Consider public relations strategies to disseminate IOM Future of Nursing report to raise awareness of recommendations.
3. Consider the role of NASN in preparing nurses to meet the challenges of the IOM recommendations.
For several years NASN has been working to develop the Endowment Fund and help reach the goal of $1,000,000. A group called the NASN Million Dollar Team has been formed to oversee this effort and how the funds will be used for research once our goal has been reached and disbursement of funds from the interest on the $1,000,000 is available. This team sends a report to the Strategic Committee on Programs. The report includes committee members, awards/grants/scholarships, criteria/review/selection, and possible allocations from the Endowment Fund.

A key belief of the awards process includes, “Our committee believes that the criteria for the awards must be school nurse focused and that a school nurse must be an integral part of the research project.” This statement resonated with me. The majority of the funds raised, including corporate sponsorships, are still coming from the working school nurses. This is an opportunity for school nurses to do research in their area of expertise and receive support as they do so.

Other activities of the NASN Director

Welcome letters to New Members

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Spoke to Chuck Spewock of the Citrus County Lions Club

While I was in D.C. at the NASN Director’s meeting, I received a phone call from Chuck Spewock of the Citrus County Lions Club. He wanted to know about the FASN/Lions Club relationship. After I explained to him the benefits, he was very excited to see things happen for Citrus County. In March I received the membership forms and a check for 5 school nurse sponsorships that I sent on to NASN. He hopes to sponsor more in the future.

Florida Action for Healthy Kids

I represent FASN on the Executive Board of FLAFHK. We had a conference call on March 28, 2013. Discussed School Grants for Healthy Kids, Fundraising, Healthy District Award Update, and Trainings, including a presentation at the NASN Conference with Jamie Marshall (Dairy Council) and Sue Kennedy (former school nurse from Escambia Co., now a Wellness Coordinator w/ United Health) and myself.