Dear Colleagues,

As this summer draws to a close and all of you prepare for another busy year, I hope that all of you were able to find a time to rest and rejuvenate. We can reflect on last school year when our work as school nurses came to the forefront in the news as we dealt with the H1N1 pandemic. Whether it was caring for sick children with flu-like symptoms or helping with flu vaccination clinics, school nurses did their jobs with efficiency, caring and professionalism.

We send our congratulations to Tia Campbell, Virginia School Nurse Specialist at the Department of Education, for her election as Vice President of NASN. We are proud of her. Tia was installed as vice president of NASN at the annual conference in Chicago on July 2.

The VASN board is busily preparing for the annual VASN conference and meeting in November. Join us for the VASN Fall Conference on November 5-6 in Colonial Williamsburg’s Woodlands Hotels and Suites. We have worked out a great deal for you, your colleagues, OR you and your family. As always, there will be informative sessions, the annual VASN meeting and instillation of the elected board. The School Nurse, School Nurse Administrator, and Private and Parochial School Nurse of the Year awards will be presented at the banquet. More information about registration will be on our website www.vasn.us

One of the goals in our bylaws is to promote the interests of its members. To this end, the VASN board has signed a contract to have Rebecca Bowers-Lanier act as our lobbyist to the Commonwealth of Virginia legislature. In addition to being a lobbyist, Rebecca is also a nurse. Having Rebecca as the VASN lobbyist will help in moving our interests forward in the legislative process.
I would like to welcome all new members. Our organization is only as strong as our membership. I invite all of you to become actively involved in VASN. We are still in need of regional directors for regions III and V. If you are interested in serving in some capacity in VASN, please contact me through our website at www.vasn.us

I wish all of you a smooth beginning of the school year. We hope to see you in November in Williamsburg.

Catherine Sturgeon,
VASN President

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**State School Nurse Consultants’ Report**

We hope everyone is having a wonderful, relaxing summer! We have been busy at the state level preparing for the 2010-2011 school year. Several superintendent’s memos have been released that you might find of interest: June 18th (Mandated Staff Training, #139-10), June 25th (Physical Examination and Immunization Requirements for School Enrollment, #145-10), and July 30th (Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan (FAMIS) Outreach, #177-10). Superintendent’s memos may be accessed at: [http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/index.shtml).

The School Health and Education Partnership Conference was held at Longwood University July 11-14, 2010. Two hundred thirty five (235) participants enjoyed educational offerings and networking with school nurse colleagues. This conference is held each summer and participant’s say it gets better every year. Mark your calendar now for July 10-13, 2011! The School Nurse Code of Ethics states that continuing education/professional development is the responsibility of each nurse. This is a very affordable (usually just at $100) conference and includes your room, meals, and all your educational materials. Come join us! It’s great fun!

Project Immunize Virginia (PIV) hosted the webinar, “*Children Ready for School This Fall? Learn About the New Immunization Updates Required for School Entry*”, on April 30, 2010. Virginia Department of Health staff, Dr. Sandy Sommer, Quality Assurance and Policy Manager, with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Division of Immunization, and Janet Wright, VDH School Age Health Specialist, with the Division of Child and Adolescent Health, provided discussion on the immunization regulatory process, changes in immunization requirements for the upcoming school year, and immunization resources available to assist you in immunization record review. This webinar is now available for viewing on the PIV website under the “News & Events” section. The presentation slides are available to download under the Resource tab on our website. To view the webinar, click: [http://www.immunizeva.org/news/2010/5/6/webinar_children_ready_for_school_in_the_fall_whats_new_for_sy_201011/](http://www.immunizeva.org/news/2010/5/6/webinar_children_ready_for_school_in_the_fall_whats_new_for_sy_201011/).

Utilizing poly com technology, we were excited to bring a diabetes update training session to school nurses. This diabetes training was presented by the Virginia Department of Health and the Virginia Department of Education, in collaboration with the Hampton City Public School nurses. The “Diabetes Education for School Nurses” poly com training session is now available to you from the VDH school
News from the NASN Director

It has been my honor to represent VASN on the NASN Board. Tia Campbell sure left huge shoes to fill and it is evident that her passion for School Health and her heart for service have had a profound and lasting effect on that group. To that end, all are thrilled to have Tia join the Board as Vice President. Her installation was the highlight of an amazing conference experience for all in attendance from Virginia!

The June NASN Board meeting was crammed full of interesting business. Here are the highlights. If you wish to know specifics just let me know.

The Endowment Fund, created to fund research grants in the future, has exceeded the half way point to $1,000,000. (That is 1 million for those who need the help!) The Investment Advisory Group tracks these funds separately even though they are invested along with other organization holdings.

Motions regarding the membership, selection and announcement process for NASN Fellows of the National Academy of School Nursing (Betty Murphy is the only Fellow inducted from Virginia) were approved.

As a member of the governance committee, I was pleased to see that the Role of the School Nurse and UAP have been elevated from Issue briefs to Position Statements. Look for some great changes to the current issue brief on the Role of the School Nurse focusing less on care of sick and injured and more on professional activities of case management, care coordination, training and access to care roles. A Policy and Procedure Manual that would make Gwen Smith cry was distributed. Revision of this process is as challenging on the national level as it has been on the state level! The Governance
Committee also proposed a **Position Statement on Delegation** which was adopted. The unique nature of our practice outside of a health care setting makes interpretation of the Nurse Practice Act such a challenge. We anticipate this will offer clearer guidance and support.

The definition of school nursing was revised to include **promoting a healthy environment**. I nod to Norma Bergy for leading the charge here in Virginia by educating us on the use of chemicals in school buildings.

Check out the revised wording of the **Code of Ethics** and **Health Care Reform** the next time you are on the NASN website. Advocacy and inclusion are the hallmarks of these changes.

While NASN stands strongly with the ratios of the past, more credence is being given to the weight that **workload based on students’ health care needs and acuity formulas**. I know we are struggling with developing a method in my county and the questions raised are obviously global. Therefore the revisions to the **Caseload Assignment Position Statement** reflect that struggle and offer some guidance and support as well.

When you get the NASN newsletter please be sure to read Sandi Delack’s letter to member. It clearly outlines the work being done to expand this organization on a global level. Many discussions were held on expanding membership and opening the doors of our practice to international considerations. The benefits are many, as well as the challenges.

The NASN affiliate websites are now required to meet certain uniformity standards when using the NASN logo and linking to NASN websites. Julie Taylor, our webmaster, is working on these changes for us.

How many times have you searched for an article and are unable to access the full text. In this world of evidence based practice, and since we cannot keep Ruth Smith (from EVMS Library) in our offices, we are sometimes at a loss! NASN is exploring funding to provide a **full text service to members**. The cost is high so other options for funding are being explored.

Speaking of funding, the board voted to create an **Annual Fund** to accept and manage gifts given to the organization. It will allow for NASN to apply for CFC funding as well. The Finance Committee will monitor this fund.

Lastly, VASN was well represented at the NASN conference. **Tia Campbell** led 2 breakout sessions on web based orientation of school nurses and a poster presentation by her, **Vicki Southall, Bernice Allen** and other Virginia nurses on SNAP. **Jessica Dawson** shared the Medicaid billing successes and challenges experienced by the Henrico school system as part of a panel of experts in a general session. **Angelina Gibson** from the North Star Academy, shared the use of “Be the Beat” to encourage movement and fitness and cardiac health. I participated in the roll out of the Voices of Meningitis Challenge and invite you to get some very valuable materials for your school community at [www.voicesofmeningitis.org](http://www.voicesofmeningitis.org)

Best Wishes for a healthy and safe start to the new school year!
Barbara
Meet your Candidates

It will soon be time to vote for a new president and treasurer for VASN. Please read the bios of the following candidates:

Candidate for VASN President-Elect
Deborah Zeller
Deborah Zeller received her Nursing Diploma from Washington Hospital Center in 1975. Subsequent nursing roles included critical care, psychiatric nursing, and home health care administration. She continued her studies, earning a BSN from Hampton Institute in 1982 and an MSN from Walden University in 2010. She has been employed as a school nurse at St. Andrew the Apostle School for nine years. Deborah is a National Board Certified School Nurse and has been a member of VASN since 2001. Her service to VASN has included: chair of the Private & Parochial School Nurses (PPSN) Special Interest Group, liaison to the Virginia Council for Private Education, member of the VASN Conference Committee, and member of the School Nurse of the Year Award Committee. She has been instrumental in advocating for nonpublic school nurses, and serves as an NASN Discussion List Monitor for the PPSN Special Interest Group and a member of the PPSN Executive Committee. Most recently, Deborah led her school’s Design for Excellence reaccreditation study, a process that analyzed community needs, measured achievement of quality standards, and developed a five-year improvement plan.

Candidate for VASN Treasurer
Andra Wild
Andra Wild received her BS in Management from the University of Maryland in 1975, and has over fifteen years of leadership experience as an office manager and direct care provider in pediatric and general dentistry practices. She also has over five years of management experience in both mortgage financing and mortgage insurance underwriting. In 1996, Andra continued her studies and completed an AS in Nursing from Northern Virginia Community College. Upon completing these studies, she assumed her school nurse role at Holy Spirit School, where she has been employed for fourteen years. Ms. Wild has been a longstanding member of VASN. In addition, she has served for five years as the secretary of her district’s School Health Advisory Committee. In this role, Andra has been instrumental in developing new policies that support the safe delivery of coordinated health services for students.

Way to Go!!!!!!!!

Congratulations to Janet Wright, Linda Lawrence, Kathy Pfeiffer, Barbara Robinson, Janice White, Fran Gray, Daria Weber, Tia Campbell, Cathy Sturgeon and Eileen Horan for being awarded the FRANKIe award for their work in developing the diabetes protocol and diabetes form that is used by many endocrinologists and school systems in Virginia. The Frankie award is named in honor of the former Director of the CDC Division of Diabetes Translation, Frank Vinicor, MD. The Frankie awards are a tribute to the Diabetes Prevention and Control Programs and national organizations for innovative work using Nation Diabetes Education Programs (NDEP) campaigns.
Be on the Lookout:

Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network Liaison: Helen Rebull

The Dey pharmacy has made some changes in their Epi-pen packaging. While the old prescriptions slowly expire with the old packaging, the renewals will come with new packaging.

Please see the web address below to preview what it looks like. Thanks to Deb Zeller for the heads up on how to get the latest info: [http://www.epipen.com/page/how-to-use-epipen](http://www.epipen.com/page/how-to-use-epipen). It is about 8 minutes long and is very well done. So those with Internet access during training sessions may not need to obtain a DVD.

I printed off this poster to stick on the medicine cabinets in my buildings. I will also include it in faculty orientation.

At summer camp this year we are not only washing all hands before eating but also after eating. Peanut butter fingers on playground swings will surprise playground supervisors if a food allergic reaction gets started there.

Recent news articles tell of deliberate smearing of city playground equipment with peanut butter. This necessitated the hiring of a professional cleanup crew and the removal of some portions to be cleaned by the manufacturer. It was a very expensive and dangerous prank. The humor is completely lost on me.

As the new school year starts, watch for expired Epi-pens and recalled Benadryl lots. Some parents may lose track of the timing. Fresh new bottles or boxes are best. Any camp experience is bound to be hard on the products.
... and now a word from the President elect

The School Nurse of the Year, School Administrator of the Year and the Private and Parochial School Nurse of the Year nomination forms will be sent out to the superintendents and coordinators of each school division in during the early part of September. Please note the forms are easier to fill out this year. It will loosely follow the format of the National Association of School Nurses nomination form. Please look for the updated version on the web site. It will be posted in August.

Norma B. Bergey RN BSN NCSN

Extra, Extra Read All About It!

VASN FALL CONFERENCE 2010


LEARN: GRANT WRITING, FREQUENT FLYERS, STETHESCOPE ASSESSMENT, OVERWEIGHT, VISION AND BP CERTIFICATION, POSTER PRESENTATIONS, RAFFLES, VENDORS, CEU’S, WALK THROUGH WILLIAMSBURG, 2010 BANQUET (Nurse of the Year and Administrator of the Year), BOARD MEETING, AND MORE!

WATCH: www.vasn.us for full details in August!

Colonial Williamsburg

THAT THE FUTURE MAY LEARN FROM THE PAST

VASN FALL CONFERENCE

Thinking about shopping for the holidays in Colonial Williamsburg? While you’re there, join us for the 2010 VASN Annual Fall Conference on November 5-6. Come meet our guest speaker, an endocrinologist, who will uncover truths about childhood overweight, chronic health conditions and vitamin deficiencies. Become a Certified Prevent Blindness Vision Screener, a Certified Blood Pressure Specialist, or learn grant-writing skills. Assessment, Education, and Leadership tracks are also available. Join us at our Friday evening banquet where we will announce the 2010 School Nurse of the Year, School Nurse Administrator of the Year, and Private and Parochial School Nurse of the Year. Leave with skills in stress management, healing touch, the power of prevention and many resources for your students. There is something for everyone at this conference. More details coming soon to: www.vasn.us
And Last but Not Least

Proposed Change to Bylaws

The VASN Board is recommending two bylaw changes that will be voted on at the annual meeting at the VASN Conference in Williamsburg on November 6, 2010. Please read the proposed changes listed below.

On Sunday, July 11, 2010

1. Jane Walsh moves to change the VASN, Article VI, Section 3, Terms of Office
   Bylaws to reflect the following: the terms of President-elect, President, and Past President to a two year term each.

   Seconded by: Dinx Jansen

2. Debbie Zeller moves to add the following to the VASN, Article X, Special Interest Group Chair
   Bylaws to the following:

   Section 1: Composition: The Chair of the Special Interest Group(s) (SIG) shall be appointed by the
   President or a two year term.

   Section 2: Authority: The SIG Chair shall serve on the VASN Executive Committee and act as liaison
   between the Executive Committee, members in the SIG, and NASN’ SIG Executive Committee.

   Section 3: Duties: The SIG Chair shall:
   A. Hold one or more meetings per year
   B. Be responsible for the expenditure of funds designated by the Executive Committee for use
      by the SIGs.

   Section 4: Terms of Office: The SIG’s Chair’s term of office shall be two years.

   Section 5: A vacancy in the post of SIG Chair will be filled in accordance with Article VI, Section 4 of
   the Bylaws.

   Seconded by Beth Jewell

   Vote will be conducted on November 6, 2010 at the VASN conference in Williamsburg.