

## **TASN DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2012**

On the weekend of NASN's January Board of Directors (BOD) meeting, during the first day, the committees met to discuss and plan action for their particular agendas. Strategic committees that a director from each state may serve on include: Governance and Administration, Advocacy / Public Relations, Finance, Programs, and Research. Each of these committees play an important role in the overall success of NASN in achieving its strategic objectives.

I have continued to serve on the Research Committee for my last year as TASN Director for NASN. The Research Committee continues to be responsible for the position statement revision and approval process. Almost all NASN Position Statements are now current or have been reviewed within 5 years. One of the strategic research objectives that the research committee has been working on is to promote mechanisms for school nurses to have education available for increasing our understanding of the available research, including level of research credibility. There will be articles published for this process in upcoming journals. I invite you to read and learn about this important subject. Research is one of the most important ways that we will "make the case" for a need for school nurses in schools.

NASN is getting very close to reaching the million dollar mark for research funds to start being dispersed yearly. It is expected that within one to two years, \$30,000 to \$50,000 per year will be available. The research committee has made and will continue to make recommendations to the Endowment Million Dollar Team as plans are made for use of these funds.

NASN was invited to participate on a panel on June 27 at the annual conference for the National Assembly on School-Based Health Care

NASN Government Affairs Department has participated in meetings with federal agencies such as the Surgeon General's Office, the Department of Education Office of Safe and Healthy Students, and the Center for Medicaid and Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), to highlight the ways in which school nurses across the country are working in the area of prevention with students and collaborating with outside partners to enhance the effectiveness of their work.

On May 16, NASN participated in a Congressional briefing highlighting the emergency epinephrine act. Deb Zeller, NASN Member and current President of the Virginia Association of School Nurses, spoke on behalf of NASN, and provided the school nurse perspective in support of the bill. A Representative from Maryland and Phil Roe (R-TN) kicked off the event. This bill has at least 38 bi-partisan co-sponsors in the senate and 52 bipartisan co-sponsors in the house.

The NASN Programs Committee is busy working on the upcoming summer conference in Orlando, FL. At the national conference, NASN provides leadership training for affiliate leaders each year.

Respectfully Submitted

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TASN Director for NASN