

# **FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES**

**Annual Business Meeting**

**February 7, 2009**

**Called to Order: 8:20am**

**Attendees: See attached sheet**

## **I. Welcome**

### **A. Introduction of Officers**

Due to a death in the family the President was unable to attend the conference. Karen Thoennes, President-elect, presided over the meeting. Ms. Karen Thoennes, FASN President Elect, introduced the current FASN Board including Charlotte Barry, NASN Director, Janie Sailors, Past President, Linda Kent, Treasurer, Deborah Price, Membership Secretary, and Jeanne Polimeni, Recording Secretary.

### **B. Regional Roll Call**

Ms. Thoennes introduced the Regional Representatives with each Representative placing their puzzle piece of counties onto the FL map. Attendees were reminded to notice any vacant positions and challenged members to consider growing in leadership by filling open positions:

**Region 1:** Karen Capps

**Region 2:** Barbara Roufa

**Region 3:** Needs representative. "Who will step up?"

**Region 4:** Noted resignation of Nancy Hurst. "Who will step up?"

**Region 5:** Sandra Gallogly

**Region 6 and 7:** Carolyn Seifert

**Region 8 and 9:** Donna Ramirez. Ms. Ramirez introduced their new County Liaison Elizabeth Wipf.

**Region 10:** Needs representative, Alice Morrison present as County Liaison. "Who will step up?"

**Post Note:** Mary Stump stepped up to become Regional Representative for Region 7.

### **C. Recognition of Others**

#### **1. Committee Chairs :**

Ms. Thoennes introduced the following Committee Chairs and Committee Members:

**Education Committee Chair:** Janie Sailors with Marcy Taylor and Connie Blackwell.

**Legislative Committee Chair:** Mary Jackman

**Nominating Committee Chair:** Mary Jackman

**Regional Representatives Chair: Karen Thoennes**

Ms. Thoennes also recognized the many hours of assistance to the organization contributed by Steve Sailors, Janie Sailors' husband and Paul Rose, Kathleen Rose's husband.

**2. NBCSN Nurses:**

Ms. Thoennes asked those nurses achieving their NBCSN to stand to be recognized.

**3. Scholarship Winners:**

Ms. Thoennes reported that 26 scholarships had been awarded for the February 2009 Annual FASN Conference and asked the winners to stand.

**11. Acceptance of Reports**

**A. Minutes of the 2008 Annual Business Meeting: Jeanne Polimeni**

A motion was made by Sandra Gallogly and seconded by Cynthia LaMont-Wint to accept the minutes of the 2008 FASN Annual Business Meeting (distributed in conference folder). The motion was approved.

**B. 2008-2009 FASN Budget: Linda Kent**

Linda Kent distributed a copy of the proposed budget that was previously approved by the Board last year. Ms. Kent told the attendees that the budget time period changed from a calendar year to a fiscal year to better meet the needs of the organization. The budget year now goes from 07/01/09 to 06/30/10. She acknowledged the receipt of the book "Managing Chapter Funds" from NASN which the Finance Committee has been reviewing and implementing to continue to develop solid fiscal practices. See attachment of the budget.

**C. Yearly Updates:**

**1. President's Report (from Kathleen Rose, FASN President)**

Ms. Kathleen Rose and the Board of Directors have been working hard on the five-year strategic plan. The FASN web site: [www.FASN.net](http://www.FASN.net) has been updated. FASN has now established the procedure for using electronic voting in the FASN elections. This was put into use for the first time in the 2009 FASN election for the membership and recording secretaries. The Board has held and participated in monthly conference calls. The Nominating Committee is now a permanent committee

**2. NASN Director's Report: Charlotte Barry**

Dr. Charlotte Barry told the group that her role is working as a liaison between FASN and NASN. She meets with the Directors comprised of each state affiliate who meet twice a year, once in January in Washington

D.C. and again at the annual NASN Conference. See attachment of the NASN Director's Report.

### **3. Regional Report: Karen Thoennes**

Ms. Thoennes said in line with the Conference theme of "Putting all the Pieces Together" that it is important to fill the open Regional Representative positions and open County Liaison positions. She also noted the accomplishment of Region 1 receiving NASN scholarship funds to present the NASN H.A.N.D.S. program (Helping Administer to the Needs of the student with Diabetes in School). Additionally, Regions 8 & 9 had their annual conference that provided 5 CEs and was well attended.

### **4. Membership Report: Deborah Price**

Average 2007 FASN Membership: 222 members

Average 2008 FASN Membership: 265 members

Ms. Price reported that Nov./Dec. membership climbed to 287 members.

### **5. DOH Report: Laura Brazell**

All 2.6 million public school students benefit from the basic school health services funded by the DOH. Currently the county health departments receive a total of \$30,000,000 to implement 3 statutory state mandated programs. Due to the State of Florida's recessionary pressures, it is possible that the \$30,000,000 will be reduced by \$9,000,000. This funding supports 29% of the total school health staff in Florida. Public and private partners in local school districts support 70% of the current budget. The loss of \$9,000,000 will impact the staff and services to the children of 67 counties. The greatest impact will be to those 46 counties, which have comprehensive or supplemental school health programs. With the support of the executive staff of the DOH, an effort is being made to maintain this funding. The school health services program office submitted a legislative budget request for the fiscal 2009-2010 school year for \$9,000,000 in recurring general revenue. Preliminary RN counts from the 2007-2008 school year annual reports show a loss last year of 70 RNs. There were 1020 RNs in school health programs in the state of Florida in 2008. Data provided by school nurses from last school year showed that 75,000 students visited health rooms on a given day and that 20,000 medications were administered daily. In 2008 more than 3,000,000 nursing assessments were made. Data has revealed that 576,000 students have reported health conditions with 70,000 care plans completed.

Laura Brazell told the nurses that measuring the number of students being returned to class and the number of classroom hours saved is critical information to show how school nurses have an impact on education. She emphasized the importance of letting elected officials and decision makers know the numbers of children coming to the school clinic due to

lack of available health care elsewhere, putting the health and safety of Florida students at risk. Nurses can access the online conference handout in which Jack Levine, 4 Generations Institute, provided tips for advocacy for School Health. Laura challenged the nurses to put a face to school health in your local area, as every child deserves a school nurse.

**6. DOE Report: Diane Mennitt**

Ms. Mennitt thanked FASN and the Conference Committee for a job well done with this year's FASN Annual Conference. She thanked Joan Thackaberry for doing the conference CEUs. Diane Mennitt told the group that it is important to make the time to attend the conference furthering professional development despite busy schedules. She included in the conference folder a student services brochure. Included in this brochure is the Prevention Response Intervention Model that explains how services are provided to schools.

**III. Business**

**A. Installation of Officers Presentation by Mary Jackman and Donna Ramirez:**

**1. Recording Secretary: Sandra Gallogly**

**2. Membership Secretary: Alice Morrison**

Mary Jackman along with Donna Ramirez welcomed Sandra Gallogly as the new FASN 2009 elected Recording Secretary, and Alice Morrison as the new 2009 FASN elected Membership Secretary. They both accepted the duties and responsibilities of their positions.

Mary Jackman thanked outgoing secretaries, Jeanne Polimeni, Recording Secretary and Deborah Price, Membership Secretary for their work done as FASN Secretaries and presented each with an FASN puzzle as a remembrance.

**B. Recognition of the School Nurse of the Year by Leslie Adams:**

Leslie Adams, Awards Committee Chairman, presented **Christian Connie Blackwell as the 2008 School Nurse of the Year**. Her supervisor, Elaine Wade, spoke highly of Connie's many accomplishments that led her to nominate Connie. Ms. Blackwell has worked for nine years at Barron Collier High School in Naples, Florida. She has provided skilled nursing care to 1,750 students and promotes health and wellness through classes she has developed and instructed. Her associates describe her as highly motivated with impeccable organizational skills and compassion in her care. She has received many letters of recommendation including a letter from a student diagnosed with biliary atresia. Among the honors she has received include FNA 2007 Nurse of Excellence Award and US Air force Service Medals. The School Health Corporation presented Connie with a gift in recognition of her being the 2008 SNOY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Polimeni, R.N.