



Advocacy Also Occurs at the District Level

- With the School Board
(Invite the Board member in your school's district to visit your school. During public comment at a Board meeting, thank them for their support.)
- With our Principals
(Develop a "State of the School" Health Report. Do they realize how many diabetics are in the school, what percent of students are asthmatic, how many meds are given in a month, how many students are seen in the clinic and how many go back to class?)
- Among the Staff
(Send out a monthly "Nurse's Notes" geared to the staff: Say Boo to the Flu! Breast Cancer Awareness, Healthy and Fun Holiday Eating Tips, etc.)
- With our Parents
(Do a monthly column for the school's newsletter: When your child should stay home? Sending medication into school, etc.)
- PTA
- And even the Kids
(Get on the TV School News - do a weekly broadcast to help students learn to be safe and healthy; teach classes as a guest presenter, work with asthma students to learn better control of their condition.)

And Advocacy Occurs Professionally, too. . .

- Among our Colleagues
(Do a power point at the beginning of the school year about school nursing, mentor a new school nurse.)
- Among the General Nursing Population
(Offer to do a program for the local FNA, write a clinical excellence paper, offer to have nursing students shadow you)
- Among other Professional Groups
(Speak to the Kiwanis or Lions Clubs, thanking them for what they do for kids, and telling them how their help has improved your care of students. Give them general examples of the scope of your nursing practice. Really want to challenge yourself, offer to speak to a medical group!)

ADVOCATE FOR SCHOOL HEALTH

School nursing is a specialized practice of professional nursing that advances the well-being, academic success and life-long achievement and health of students. To that end, school nurses facilitate positive student responses to normal development; promote health and safety including a healthy environment; intervene with actual and potential health problems; provide case management services; and actively collaborate with others to build student and family capacity for adaptation, self-management, self advocacy, and learning. (NASN 2010)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS- PARTNERS, RESOURCES

Partners to help advocate for school health and Florida's children:

NASN
ANA
FASN
FSHA
ASHA
Florida Children's Movement

NASN WEBSITE

- Has many resources available- Including policies, research, on many current and important topics for school health-
- Current news related to school nursing
 - Continuing Education programs
 - Policy and Advocacy

NASN SCHOOL NURSE JOURNAL

- Member benefit
Has many valuable articles on advocacy-
Some recent ones-
May 2011
Sept 2011

NASN

"Every Child Deserves a School Nurse"

NASN will be an influential advocate for safe and effective school health services. An NASN Strategic Goal

Take action . . .

- Join NASN's advocacy Issues discussion list- now called **School Nurse Promotion discussion list**, to subscribe go to snpromotion@lists.nasn.org
- Complete *Effective Ways to be Heard: School Nurse Advocacy (1.0 CNE Contact Hours)*.
- Apply for NASN's Advocacy Education Award.
- Nominate a legislator or public policy maker for NASN's Lillian Wald Award.
- Download NASN's School Nurse Advocacy Toolkit.

ANA Support

American Nurses Association (ANA) Discusses Need for School Nurses on CBS' "The Early Show"

07/14/11

The American Nurses Association (ANA) continues to advocate for the daily availability of school nurses in educational settings to address the safety and health care needs of the nation's children. School nurses are essential in promoting health, preventing injury, and providing direct health care services to students in order to achieve a safe and healthy learning environment.

ANA spoke out on the issue on "The Early Show" on Thursday. Nurses are encouraged to [view the coverage here](#).

ANA, NASN PARTNER TO DEVELOP SCHOOL NURSING STANDARDS TEXT

Second edition of *School Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice*
Collaborative effort of ANA and NASN

Building on decades of collaboration, the National Association of School Nurses and the American Nurses Association again have worked together to publish the premier one-volume guide to contemporary school nursing. The Standards of School Nursing Practice and their accompanying competencies describe and measure the expected level of school nursing practice and professional performance, based on ANA's *Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice* (2010).

ANA-Delegation in the School Setting: Is it a Safe Practice?

Cheryl Reesha, EdD, MSN, RN

Abstract

Delegation of nursing tasks to unlicensed assistive personnel (UAPs) in school settings continues to be a necessary, yet challenging practice. Although the practice of delegation to UAPs in schools, as in other healthcare settings, is necessary due to limited resources and increasing healthcare needs, it remains essential to provide students with healthcare that is safe and high in quality. Therefore, school nurses must understand delegation decisions and processes and develop the skills necessary to train and supervise UAPs. This article will discuss the need for delegation; the factors necessary for safe delegation; the benefits and challenges associated with delegation; and the implications of delegation for practice in school settings, including policy development, the rights of delegation, education for delegation, and the building of relationships that support delegation.

Citation: Reesha, C., (May 31, 2010) "Delegation in the School Setting: Is It a Safe Practice?" *CJIN: The Online Journal of Issues in Nursing* Vol. 15, No. 2, Manuscript 5.

ANA-Legislative: Shortage of Nurses: The School Nursing Experience

Ozo M. Nwabuzor, MSN, RN

Citation: Nwabuzor, O. (February, 2007). Legislative: "Shortage of Nurses: The School Nursing Experience." *Online Journal of Issues in Nursing* Vol 12 No 2.

DOI: 10.3912/OJIN.Vol12No02LegCol01

The purpose of this column is to examine the problem of a shortage of school nurses in public schools in the United States. Areas of focus include the role of school nurses in schools, the definition of "school nurse," the major reason for the school nurse shortage, the use of Unlicensed Assistive Personnel (UAP) to provide nursing services in schools, and recommendations for alleviating the shortage of school nurses.

Recent articles indicate that there is a critical shortage of school nurses in public school districts across the nation. Horowitz and McCoy (2005) reported "an analysis of 2004 census data by USA TODAY showed roughly 66,000 nurses worked full time at schools. That's one for every 850 students, a ratio that falls to meet federal guidelines that call for one nurse for every 750 students" (p.1). According to Magnuson (2002), "the United States Department of Health and Human Services (USDHHS) recommends at least one nurse per 750 students in well populations (that ratio changes when students with disabilities are considered)." Similarly, the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) recommends a maximum of one school nurse to 750 regular education students (Grisman, 2006). A look at individual states may reveal an even grimmer picture. In California, for example, the school nurse to student ratio can be as high as one nurse to 5,000 students or more, as is the case with this author who has a workload of approximately 6,000 students.

ANA- IMMUNIZE

The *Bringing Immunity to Every Community* Initiative is a two-year cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to promote immunizations among nurses and their surrounding communities. Nurses have an important stake in helping to promote immunizations, both by being vaccinated to protect their families, contacts, and patient populations, but also by advocating for vaccination and striving to break down the barriers to a fully-vaccinated American population. As the country's only full-service professional organization representing the country's estimated 3.1 million registered nurses, the American Nurses Association and the American Nurses Foundation (ANA/ANF), has a long history of leading and participating in health promotion activities, and nursing itself is grounded in education and action to prevent disease and enhance wellness.

FNA LOBBY DAYS annually

- Provide Continuing education
- Host a reception with Legislators
- Legislative briefings
- Attend committee meetings

FNA LEGISLATIVE RESOURCE TOOLKIT

Sponsored by FNA and FNF (Florida Nurses Foundation)- see attached

Excellent resource for Advocacy

Tips on how to communicate with your legislators

IOM REPORT BRIEF -OCTOBER 2010

The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Initiative on the Future of Nursing seeks to build a blueprint for the future of nursing as part of the larger efforts to reform the healthcare system.

ASHA

The American School Health Association (ASHA) is the leading membership organization for all school health professionals. It is concerned with all health factors that are necessary for students to be ready to learn, including optimum nutrition, physical fitness, emotional well-being, and a safe and clean environment. This broad spectrum of topics makes ASHA unique among health and education organizations and sets the stage for collaboration among its membership and partners.

FSHA

What FSHA Supports- *Health Service*

FSHA supports a registered nurse in every school; FSHA supports a nurse to student ratio of no more than 1:1500.

FSHA recognizes that with the financial resources available it may be difficult to achieve "one nurse to 1500 students" as an immediate goal and therefore recognizes the value of well trained, supervised health aides in schools. If health aides in every school should become the accepted minimum level of care then the following stipulations are recommended:

Establish a budget for a school health training core curriculum for health aides.

Establish a policy to assure adequate supervision and monitoring by RN's is implemented with a ratio of no more than one school health nurse to five school health aides.

FLORIDA CHILDREN'S MOVEMENT

The Children's Movement of Florida believes that the well-being and education of our children in Florida must be the highest priority of government, business, non-profit institutions and families. The economic future of our state and the stability of the communities we live in depend on achieving this goal. The major objective of the citizen-led, non-partisan Children's Movement of Florida is to inform the political, business and civic leaders, and the parents and people of this state, about this issue - and encourage them to make the well-being and education of our children our highest priority, including in the way we invest our public resources.

What Can FASN Do?

- Expand the Legislative Page on the web site
(Regular update on Legislative Issues, links to NASN Issue briefs, fact sheets with information, develop a Power point presentation for use with our colleagues at county, regional and state levels, development of an advocacy brochure)
- Periodic Legislative/Advocacy e-blasts
(Remind the nurses about the issues, the information available, resources they can use)

TOOLS YOU NEED TO ADVOCATE IF YOU MEET WITH YOUR LEGISLATORS

- An issue you are passionate about!
- The number of your Voting District (keep alert it may change soon!!)
- List of Committees and Subcommittees and their membership. (will be posted on FASN Website)
- House and State Interim Committee Meeting Schedule - Be Proactive put thoughts in their heads!!! (will be posted on FASN Website)

TOOLS YOU NEED TO ADVOCATE

- 2012 Legislative Session Dates (will be posted on FASN Website)
- Contact Information for all State Legislators. See them in their neighborhood, bring a plate of cookies!! (will be posted on FASN Website)
- The intention that you can make positive changes!!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TALLAHASSEE

- Implementation of laws passed in previous sessions
- Agencies are presenting updates on programs.
- Appropriation Committees are hearing agency proposed budget recommendations.
- Important to School Health and Education
- **DOH Proposed Reductions:
- School Health: \$118,570
- Full Service Schools: \$632,342
- **DOH Legislative Budget Request Reorganization
- Where does School Health belong DOH or DOE or.....??

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

- It's early, you have time to connect with your Legislators, most legislation has not been officially filed.
- This is a reapportionment year – Much time will be utilized to redraw legislative districts (Federal Law mandates changes are made according to the results of the last census. This happens every 10 years)
- Appropriation Committees are hearing agency proposed budget recommendations. (See slide

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE??

- Support State issue utilizing Resolutions created by National Organizations (NASN, FNA, ASHA, etc.)
- Encourage membership to contact their legislators now (in their neighborhood) and during session (in Tallahassee)
- Share your stories of children's educational successes achieved through improved health outcomes .

SOME POINTERS WHEN CONTACTING YOUR LEGISLATORS

**Be succinct- you will have limited time
Pick 3-4 specific topics to share**

Make the visit the FIRST of many- develop an ongoing relationship



GETTING YOUR MESSAGE ACCROSS

Can you fit your message into 2 minutes or less?

KEY POINTS FOR AN EFFECTIVE 2 MINUTE MESSAGE:

1.
2. ...



CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS AT HOME...

You do not need to go to Tallahassee to contact and meet and educate your legislator

It is just as- maybe even more effective- to meet with them and their staff while they are at their home offices in their/your district



WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE??

Encourage membership to get involved with local school and community groups:

- SHAC (School Health Advisory Committee)
- SAC
- PTA
- School and Community Health and Wellness Committees
- Get published in Newsletters
- Your input!!!!



NASN ONLINE LEARNING OPTIONS

Advocacy

Effective Ways to Be Heard: School Nurse Advocacy

1.0 CNE Contact Hour

Free to NASN Members! (Non-member price: \$15.00)

The Media Is on the Phone. What Now?

1.0 CNE Contact Hour

Free to NASN Members! (Non-member price: \$15.00)



RECOGNITION AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

NASN Recognition Awards

One or more Individuals or organizations to receive a Recognition Award in the following categories:

- 1) An organization/individual who has continuously supported or uniquely contributed to NASN or has helped in promoting school nursing or school health services nationally.
- 2) A school nurse for a special NASN project.
- 3) A media journalist who has made a significant contribution by presenting/authoring a feature on school nursing



RECOGNITION AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS- CONT'D

- 4) Lillian Wald Legislator/Public Policy award will be given to a legislator or public policy official who has supported or uniquely contributed to NASN, school nursing, or school health services.
- a.) The individual has effectively advanced legislation or public policy during the past year in areas of importance to school nursing

Application Deadline: March 1st

SCHOOL NURSE ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

NASN presents a school nurse advocacy toolkit to support your efforts in improving school nursing services.

As materials are updated and as new materials are developed, they will be made available here.

If you have questions about these materials, please feel free to contact NASN's Director of Government Affairs, Mary Louise Embrey at membreym@nasn.org

The Case for School Nursing (2010)

Developed by the NASN Strategic Goal Committee on Research
[Download](#) this document from NASN website

Can be downloaded from www.NASN.org

School Nurse Ratios by State and FAQs (2011)

Includes Ratio Ruler graphic and answers to frequently asked questions about school nursing and the role of the school nurse.

Download a PPT presentation:

Schools + School Nurses = Safe and Healthy Students (2011)

"Make the case" for providing funding for school nursing. It is vital for every school nurse to educate their school administrators, school boards, community groups and parent/teacher organizations about the important contributions that school nurses make to the health and safety of students, the school and community.

Can be downloaded from www.NASN.org

Ask your representative to consider joining the House Nursing Caucus. (Established in 2003 by Representative Lois Capps (D-CA) and Ed Whitfield (R-KY), the House Nursing Caucus educates Congress on the issues important to nurses and the impact nurses have on health care issues in general. Is your representative already a member? Take the time to write a note of thanks!)

A Final Note

- The School Health Program in Tallahassee cannot advocate for or against anything, but they can take the input from others to those in charge of making the decisions.
- Every voice carries weight. You never know who is listening. School nurses need to speak positively about their profession and express their concerns for the health and safety of the students when cuts are made to the program. When we do this, we are not only advocating for school nursing but for the students and staff we serve.