WYOMING SCHOOL NURSE ASSOCIATION

President's Message

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November WSNA President's Message

A Season of Gratitude 🧡

As we get closer to Thanksgiving, it's a good time to reflect on the people and work we are thankful for. I am grateful every day for the work of school nurses and the important role you play in keeping students healthy, safe, and ready to learn. From managing health conditions and responding to emergencies to offering reassurance, advocacy, and support, the impact you make reaches far beyond the health office.

I'm also especially grateful for the school nurses who came before us and helped build the profession and association we have today. Beth Strom, past WSNA President and current Treasurer, and I have been going through archived WSNA documents dating back to the 1960s. It's fascinating to see how far we've come, from newsletters typed on typewriters and mailed to members, to annual dues of just 75 cents! These nurses went to great lengths to stay connected, even paying for long-distance phone calls to communicate and support one another.

It reminds me how fortunate we are to be able to connect so easily today through email, virtual meetings, and conferences. While the way we communicate has changed, the heart of WSNA remains the same: ***School Nurses supporting School Nurses***.

I hope you'll take a few minutes to enjoy reading All in the name of Love, published in 1995, about Zelma McMullen and the tremendous love and dedication she poured into her work as a school nurse. Her story is a wonderful reminder that the impact of school nursing has always reached far beyond the health office.

Looking Ahead

- **Rounds with Dr. Harrist:** Thursday, November 19, 9:00–10:00 a.m.
- **UW ECHO in Student Health – Supporting Our Students:** Wednesday, November 18, 3:45–5:00 p.m.
- **WSNA School Nurse of the Year Nominations:** Keep an eye out! Nominations will be opening in the next few weeks. We loved hearing the stories and celebrating last year's nominees and can't wait to recognize another group of amazing Wyoming school nurses this year!

November Is Diabetes Awareness Month

November is Diabetes Awareness Month! NASN recently shared a newsletter highlighting diabetes awareness, new school health data, and resources available to school nurses. Take a look at their November newsletter and explore the great diabetes resources available through the NASN website. It's a great opportunity to refresh your knowledge and find tools to support students living with diabetes.

WSNA2027 – Save the Date!

Date Change!

Join us in Rock Springs, Wyoming, on **June 14–15, 2027** for WSNA's Annual Conference. More information about the conference, speakers, and training opportunities will be coming soon. We look forward to connecting with school nurses from across the state!

Join WSNA — Be Part of Your Wyoming School Nurse Community

Not a WSNA member yet? We'd love to have you join us!

Joining is easy: Wyoming has a unified membership with NASN, which means you join NASN and automatically become a WSNA member. Your membership dues are paid directly to NASN, with no separate WSNA membership fee.

For $140 annually, you get access to both NASN and WSNA, including:

- Continuing education and professional development
- NASN resources and publications
- Conference and education discounts
- Scholarships and professional opportunities
- Connections with school nurses across Wyoming and nationally

Ready to join? Visit NASN's membership page and select **Wyoming** as your state when completing the membership application.

Join NASN + WSNA today and be part of strengthening school nursing across Wyoming!

Thank You!

Thank you for the work you do every day and for the difference you make in the lives of Wyoming students. Do you have a school nurse topic you'd like to learn more about, or a unique challenge or success you'd like to share with other nurses? We'd love to hear from you!

Wishing you all a wonderful Thanksgiving break. Take time to rest, recharge, and enjoy the people and things you are thankful for.

We're in this together!

Rori Pedri, MSN, NCSN, RN
President, Wyoming School Nurse Association