

The PASNAP Pulse

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Fall 2019

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Laws Governing School Nurses

Valerie Zanotti RN, CSN

Certified School Nurses in Pennsylvania must follow the laws and regulations set forth by the PA Department of Health, which has both statutory and regulatory responsibilities for the administration of the statewide school health program. The Pennsylvania Public School Code also dictates the services we provide, from the mandated screenings and immunizations to our prescribed duties. In addition, the PA Department of State, Board of Nursing establishes

standards of practice and disciplines licensees for violations of the Acts and the regulations. At the local level, school boards pass policies covering student welfare and safety and administrators and principals give directives that also must be followed. There may be times when the CSN finds that there is a conflict between what an administrator directs her/him to do and what is stated in the PA School Code or our nursing license. An example may be when an

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Senate Resolution Honors PA School Nurses

Kathy Verbel, M.Ed., BSN, RN, NCSN

At our recent September Board of Directors meeting, Morgan Plant delivered a special honor from the Pennsylvania Senate to the school nurses of PA. Senate Resolution No. 138 was introduced by Maria Collett, the State Senator from the 12th District, along with nineteen other Senators on May 8, 2019.

In this unprompted proclamation, the Senate designated May 8, 2019, as “School Nurse Day” in Pennsylvania. It went on to celebrate and acknowledge accomplishments of school nurses, listing numerous ways we have impacted our students, their families, our schools, and communities.

Your efforts are appreciated. Your professionalism is valued. Read the Resolution. See yourself as others see you, and be proud that you are a Pennsylvania School Nurse.

A Message From Our President



Lori Kelley, MSN, RN, CSN

It is hard to believe that we are in full swing of another school year. On the drive to the PASNAP Board meeting, I noticed that the days are getting shorter and the leaves on the trees in the Laurel Highlands are already beginning to change. It gave me pause, because I realized that this school year is flying by, just as each of the past 17 years as a school nurse. We all understand how overwhelming the beginning of the school year can be. I am sure each one of us has experienced more than 1 day where we did not have time to breathe and wondered how we would get everything done to meet our students' needs and meet all of our professional obligations.

As school nurses, we are all leaders within our school buildings. Our students and staff rely on us for help and guidance to keep them on the road of health. They come to us for advice and for council. We are privileged to have the trust of our school community.

As school nurses, though, our responsibilities go much further. One of the key components in the NASN 21st Century School Nursing Practice is leadership. This includes leadership within our schools, our communities and our state. It is incumbent upon us to advocate for our students and the safest practice possible. We must be familiar with

our Scope and Standards of Practice and the Pennsylvania regulations that guide our practice. It is our responsibility to be sure that our administrators understand our role as school nurses and the laws that govern our practice. In order to be sure that we are able to fulfill this responsibility, we must stay current on the happenings in both Harrisburg and Washington DC. We must remember the words of Florence Nightingale, "Unless we are making progress in our nursing every year, every month, every week, take my word for it, we are going back".

How do we accomplish everything we do on a daily basis and still have time for the advocacy-leadership role. The question then becomes "are we prepared to leave our comfort zones to reach a better place"--Elder Godoy.

In my experience, the easiest way to find inspiration and help for these enormous responsibilities is to look to our colleagues and our professional organizations. PASNAP's Board is working hard to keep our members abreast of the latest from Harrisburg and from the PA DOH.

Sue Dalton, our Legislative Chair and Morgan Plant, PASNAP's Legislative Consultant ensure that we are aware of the latest in Harrisburg. The Bill Tracking reports can be viewed on our website

<https://pasnap.nursingnetwork.com/page/36291-legislation-updates>.

Krista Fagnano, our NP at Large has spearheaded an effort to create a PA School Nurse Orientation Manual that should be available later this school year. Additionally, we are fortunate to have Dr Elizabeth Miller of UPMC join the board as our Medical Consultant. With her help, we are forging partnerships

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Laws Continued from Page 1

administrator directs the CSN to go out on bus duty or cafeteria duty. However, in assuming this duty, the nurse becomes unavailable to students should an emergency arise. The PA School Code 23.34 states, "The duties of school nurses shall be those assigned by the school district or joint school board which are **exclusively connected with medical and dental school health activities.**

The technical content of the duties of the nurse shall be those prescribed by the Department of Health." In situations such as these, the CSN must follow the directive of the administrator, while informing them of the PA School Code, and then contact their local Union. The local Union must then follow the procedures outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement to resolve the issue. It is

imperative that the Certified School Nurse is familiar with not only the laws governing them, but their contract, which also protects them against unfair labor practices. While we may not always agree with our administrators, unless what they are directing us to do is against the laws governing us or our contract, we have to follow the directive.

Message from the President Continued from Page 2

to advocate for the children in our schools. We can also look to Jeanette Slimmer as she is working hard to bring the best speakers to our conference that will take place in March 2020. We not only have a strong active professional organization in PASNAP, NASN provides us with many resources and nurse leaders to look to for inspiration and best practice. There are many opportunities for continuing education on their website and through the national conference (which will be in Las Vegas in 2020.) It is a fantastic opportunity to be inspired to

greatness by our amazing colleagues across the country. I am moved every day by the amazing nurses on the PASNAP board, who have mentored me and allowed me to pass that on to others. I am inspired by my co-workers and their amazing efforts to be there for their students and staff. We must be encouraged by our colleges and work to be nurses that influence others. I want to thank you for the honor opportunity to serve as the PASNAP President.

School Nurse
Healthy Children Learn Better
 Invaluable Improves Attendance
 Professional Caregiver Awesome Educated
 Emergency Disease Manager
 Listener Compassionate
 Wellness Assessment Skilled
 Caring Healer Kind

Snapshots from NASN 2019



Meet Dr. Liz Miller PASNAP's New Medical Consultant



Dr. Liz Miller is Professor of Pediatrics, Public Health, and Clinical and Translational Science and holds the Edmund R. McCluskey Chair in Pediatric Medical Education at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. She is also Director

of the Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine and the Medical Director of Community and Population Health at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. Her research addresses interpersonal violence prevention and adolescent health promotion in clinical and community settings. She provides training nationally on trauma-sensitive practices in clinical and school-based settings and has written clinical guidelines related to healthy relationships and dating/sexual violence prevention. She teaches medical, nursing, and public health stu-

dents as well as pediatric residents and fellows about the social influences of health, community-partnered research, and translating research for practice and policy change. Prior to her current role in Pittsburgh, Liz served as a school physician and medical director of a school based health center (in Boston) and as a board member of the California School Health Care Association (in Sacramento). Teaching future clinicians about the critical importance of school health is a passion!

**I WAS BORN
—• TO BE A •—
SCHOOL
NURSE**

**TO HOLD, TO AID,
TO SAVE, TO HELP,
TO TEACH, TO INSPIRE,
IT'S WHO I AM
MY CALLING, MY PASSION
MY LIFE & MY WORLD**

Join us in getting your inspiring message out there!

What is your why for being a School Nurse?

What super power do you bring to your school?

What everyday practice do you bring that you want to share with PASNAP?

What brings a smile to your face and the faces of your students?

How do you impact health and wellness in your school?

How do you involve the staff on health and wellness?



Pennsylvania
Association
of School Nurses and
Practitioners

SAVE THE DATE



*School Nursing:
Rooted in Values, Growing through Knowledge*

The Annual PASNAP Conference

Friday March 27, 2020 Pre-Conference
Saturday, March 28-29, 2020 Conference

Book your room at the **Penn Stater** today using the code
PAAC20A

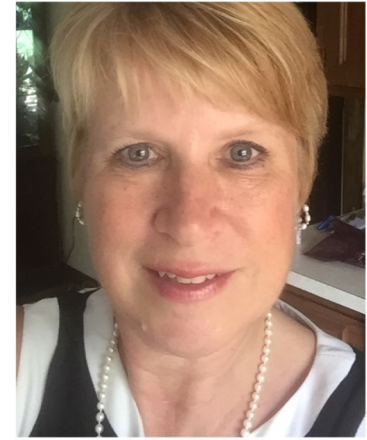
Meet Your Newest Board Members

Melody Haley, M. Ed, B.S.N., R.N. C.S.N. is the high school nurse at Mountain View Jr. Sr. High School in Kingsley PA and is currently serving as North East Representative for PASNAP. She has also served on the NEA, PSEA, DPS, SNS board for more than 10 years. After graduating from Mountain View, the same high school where she has practiced school nursing for the past 27 years, Melody attended and graduated from Bloomsburg State College (Bloomsburg University). She completed her Pennsylvania School Nurse Certification in 1987 from College Misericordia and recently completed her M. Ed. in School Nurse Education from Cambridge College.

After graduation from Bloomsburg, Melody worked medical /surgical nursing at St. Luke's Hospital in Bethlehem for one year before moving back to the Scranton area. After 11 years working as a C.E.N. at the Emergency Department of Mercy Hospital Scranton, Melody was hired as a full time C.S.N for the Mountain View School District, and continued working for 8 more years in the Emergency Department at Mercy.

Upon graduation from Bloomsburg in 1980, Melody was awarded the Albin C. Pierce Research Award for her research in school scoliosis screenings. She received the PSEA, DPS, School Nurse Section Excellence in Leadership Award in August of 2014, and the Mountain View Outstanding Alumni Award in November of 2014.

Along with her daily duties as a school nurse, Melody organized and lead the Wellness Committee who created the school district's Wellness Policy in 2005, and is still an active member of the Wellness Committee today. Other programs created and implemented by her include; the "Biggest Winner" health promotion and weight loss program, the Indoor Running Club for students, and the Student Health Council. She is part of the Concussion Management team, CPR instructor and serves on the school district's Safety Committee. Melody has also been a track and field coach at Mountain View for 17 years and the program's head coach for the past 5 years.



In her spare time she is the Youth Exchange Officer for the New Milford Area Rotary, a member of the Endless Mountain Hot Air Balloon Company's crew, enjoys being "Melma" to her three grandchildren, and keeps her husband, of 38 years, "Chuckles" on his toes.



Lisa Bahn is an elementary school nurse with Spring Grove Area School District in York County. She serves three K-4 buildings and one K-6 parochial school. She has been a school nurse for more than 20 years. Lisa is currently serving as the treasurer for the York County School Nurses Association. She lives in the district where she works with her husband and two dogs. They have two adult children. Lisa enjoys cycling outdoors, gardening, and travel. Lisa is looking forward to this new experience with the PASNAP board as a South Central Rep.



"My teacher says to tell you I'm having trouble with my ears. Everything goes in one and out the other."

What's your NURSE name? 🤪

1st letter of your first name + 1st letter of your last name

A - Hey	N - Hey	A - Nurse	N - Nurse
B - Hey	O - Hey	B - Nurse	O - Nurse
C - Hey	P - Hey	C - Nurse	P - Nurse
D - Hey	Q - Hey	D - Nurse	Q - Nurse
E - Hey	R - Hey	E - Nurse	R - Nurse
F - Hey	S - Hey	F - Nurse	S - Nurse
G - Hey	T - Hey	G - Nurse	T - Nurse
H - Hey	U - Hey	H - Nurse	U - Nurse
I - Hey	V - Hey	I - Nurse	V - Nurse
J - Hey	W - Hey	J - Nurse	W - Nurse
K - Hey	X - Hey	K - Nurse	X - Nurse
L - Hey	Y - Hey	L - Nurse	Y - Nurse
M - Hey	Z - Hey	M - Nurse	Z - Nurse



Stay in touch

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Do you have a story, anecdote or 'aha moment you are willing to share with your peers?

- a heart warming narrative
- a student comment that made you grin from ear to ear
- a wonderful resource in the community, on the web, or for your smart phone
- a new way of doing something (or an old way that still works great!)
- an award or accomplishment that made you proud

Send to NurseCallas@gmail.com "attention Pulse newsletter "



The PASNAP Pulse

PASNAP Pulse Staff

Maureen Callas - Editor

