

## **Welcome to the NYSASN Annual Fall Conference 2008!**

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the beautiful Sagamore Resort. Once again, we anticipate a most exciting time of learning and sharing experiences together in this beautiful setting. You will nourish your minds and your spirits with the educational offerings and lush surroundings. Please take some time to breathe the air, walk the grounds, and commune with nature while you are here. It is food for the soul.

With the conclusion of this conference, I will be at the end of my Presidency of NYSASN, and begin my term as the immediate Past President. It was both a challenge and a privilege to have served the NYSASN membership for the longest Presidential term in the history of our organization. The past eighteen months that I have served as your President have been fast paced, and flown by! It is with deep respect and admiration that I have reflected on the efforts of those who have come before me in this role, and for those who will step up to continue the important mission of this organization. I have had the opportunity to represent NYSASN with many educational stakeholders. Let me take a moment to tell you about some of the highlights of my term in office:

- Appointed to a four year term as the school nurse liaison to the NYS Department of Health Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee
- Appointed as a member of the newly formed Task Force to Improve Access to Dental Care by the NYS Dental Association
- Acted as the representative to the NYS Education Department's Pupil Personnel Services Advisory Committee
- Attended the NYS Council of Educational Associations Summit to share ideas and resources among key educational partners
- Attended 2 NASN conferences to represent NYSASN at Leadership trainings and Affiliate President Luncheons in Nashville, TN and Albuquerque, NM.
- Filled in as NASN Director substitute at an NASN Task Force, NASN BOD and NASN Finance meetings
- Attended 2 SSHSC Institute for School Nursing conferences
- Instructed school nurses as a part of the School Nurse Orientation Program on the topics of Anaphylaxis and Asthma
- Presented to school nurses in Texas on the topic of Anaphylaxis at the invitation of the Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network and the American College of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology

- Wrote articles for newsletters and journals to include the New York State School Boards Association publication *On Board*, and the *School Nurse News*
- Attended a NYS PTA Annual Conference and Delegate Banquet as an invited guest
- Presented on Food Allergy Management at the NYS School Boards Association Conference in October on *What You Need to Know About Food Allergies*
- Presided over six NYSASN EBOD and BOD meetings, and three conferences
- Worked on NYSASN Restructuring and Presentation Preparation meetings to advance our mission
- I have spoken at dozens of venues about membership, and participated in many membership initiatives with NYSASN and NASN

As with the change of seasons, my focus as Past President will shift to continuing the committee and liaison work that I have begun, while mentoring the incoming President Elect, supporting our incoming President, and seeking candidates to accept nominations for upcoming elections. **You** may be one of those new voices with that fresh approach and a source of inspiration that will help us continue to move forward with our initiatives. Please join us in our volunteer efforts to advance the profession of school nursing. School nurses ensure better educational outcomes. I thank you for your membership in NYSASN and your dedication to the school aged children in New York State!

Deepest regards,

Rita Molloy, R.N.  
President NYSASN