



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES

**Happy School Nurse Day to all of our valued NYSASN Members!
May 7, 2008**

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President NYSASN*

School Nursing is a specialty practice. School nurses have an extraordinary opportunity to promote optimal educational outcomes for hundreds of students each year! Imagine the plight of these students if there were no school nurses to meet their health and safety needs at school. Who would suffer from that loss? We all would. These students are the potential leaders of our next generation. Society needs to invest in the future by promoting best health practices, and by ensuring the safe delivery of health services in schools. The Registered Professional Nurse is the standard bearer of school health care, and our school aged children have a right to receive our services.

School Nurses make it possible for children to be educated in the least restrictive environments. We work to prevent the outbreak of contagious diseases by monitoring trends in our school population and by enforcing policies that promote comprehensive health and wellness. Students are screened for vision, hearing and scoliosis, so that referrals can be made for interventions that will help the child who may have been struggling without having these needs identified. School Nurses are a part of Child Study or Instructional Support Teams as a partner in the educational outcomes of the student. Daily, we meet students' emergency medical needs caused by accidents and injuries, and give prescribed medications and treatments. Complex medical problems are less difficult for the student who has a school nurse to make a plan of care to address their needs and to help them to master the skills that they will need to cope with their health concerns throughout their lives. Immunizations, health appraisals, dental certificates, and BMI's are monitored. We assist families to comply with NYS mandated requirements for school attendance, which helps to ensure the optimal health of the student and the school community at large.

On National School Nurse Day, please celebrate the specialty services that we proudly provide. Every child deserves a school nurse. You have made a difference by being there to provide this needed care and you have touched many lives in the process.

The New York State Association of School Nurses applauds all school nurses for a job well done. I am proud to represent you and our profession.

The mission of the New York State Association of School Nurses is to advance the practice of school nursing and enhance the educational success of students by promoting quality health services.