



New York State Association of School Nurses

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"Caring for New York's Future"

From the Induction Ceremony, Outgoing NYSASN President remarks...

Suzanne Smith RN BSN NCSN

A year ago, I gave a speech and bravely shared some goals for my year as President of NYSASN. I blinked and the year passed. Tonight I have the privilege to welcome and induct the next President of NYSASN for 2011, Sue Depan. I know Sue will lead us well this next year and she will have all of our support.

My goal to promote a mandate for a school nurse in every school building remains despite the reality of a harsh economy. I remain passionate about school nursing and the need to advocate for the children of New York and the safety of the public. As a former Public Health Nurse, I have always felt that the School Nurse is an extension of the Public Health Nurse role. Lillian Wold and Lina Rogers also believed this and as you know, that was over 100 years ago.

NYSASN represents a voice for school nurses. Membership in NYSASN equates to having a voice on many levels. We can only be a voice for school nurses if school nurses join our organization. We must continue efforts to increase membership in NYSASN. Professional development offerings annually such as this conference, and quarterly board meetings help NYSASN to advocate for current issues impacting School Nurse Practice.

The current challenge to the nurse practice act in California is an indirect challenge to the NYS Nurse Practice Act. The highlight of my Presidency is the NYSASN BOD decision to sign on to an amicus brief in support of the California nurse practice act. .

It has been my pleasure to serve as President of NYSASN. Thank you.

Warm regards,
Suzie Smith