IASN has begun working on its goals and strategic plan for 2017 under the leadership of new President, Linda Vollinger. An ad hoc committee, chaired by Joan Kittler, is putting together a booklet for new board members explaining the jobs and responsibilities for each board position. The board welcomes members who are interested in holding a board position. Think about it and apply! Nominations come out in the spring!

A conference planning committee is being formed to help in planning of the annual IASN October Conference. Sites close to major highways for easier access is being considered for the conferences.

Just a reminder, a team meeting for an IEP needs a PEL-RN or an RN ISBE IEP Designee. All your credentials should be included after RN in your signature.

Membership
IASN has a total of 756 members of those 423 are listed as active. The active membership is not growing. By joining this professional organization, a school nurse will learn more about the role of a school nurse, current information related to school nursing and share experiences with other school nurses across the state. Many good friendships are made. If you work with school nurses that are not members, urge them to take a chance and become a part of IASN, their professional organization. Enjoy the benefits! Membership is fun! Think about joining!

Congratulations!
Donna Kunz re-elected as the IEA Representative.
Joan Becker appointed as the IDPH liaison to IASN.
Donna Kunz, Mary Anne Wesoloski and Linda Vollinger spoke at the Great Northern Area Bargaining Conference, January 7, 2017. This conference is attended by IEA and ESP members who are members of their district’s negotiation team. The focus of this discussion was to encourage the inclusion of nurses and nursing needs in the negotiation process and share the roles of the school nurse. A document reflecting all the people that work in the health office with their varying qualifications was prepared with the assistance of Mary Anne Wesoloski, Linda Vollinger and Jessica Gerdes. This information was shared and well received.

ANA-IL is hosting Nurse Lobby Day in Springfield, March 29, 2017. If interested and want to attend there is a cost of $30.00 and 1.5 CNE. Here is the link to register:
https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07edjst4vadb91ea7f&oseq=&c=&ch=
ICAAP IL. Chapter American Academy Pediatrics

The Committee on School Health met by conference call on Jan. 6, 2017. We were privileged to meet Dr. Ken Fos, the new School Health Officer at CPS. Much of the call focused on the rules changes to the Child Health Examination and Immunization Code.

“The only new requirement is the 4th dose of polio vaccine for children entering kindergarten.” The Department is adopting the ACIP guidelines with respect to this 4th polio dose and we make no apologies for this.

“Comment: Donna Rehm, High Point Elementary, Orland Park requests that the implementation date for the polio vaccine be adopted effective for the 2017-18 school year rather than the 2016-17 school year. (Thanks to Donna for requesting this change. It shows what one school nurse can get done!)

“DPH agrees to add language in Section 665.280 to indicate that the local school authority may sign on form and to broaden the definition of Local School Authority to specify that school authority personnel include homeless liaison, principal, social worker, and registered nurse employed by the school.

Included - “Local school authority – that person, including, but not limited to, homeless liaison, principal, social worker or registered nurse employed by the school authority, who has having ultimate control and responsibility for any public, private/independent or parochial elementary or secondary school, or any attendance center or nursery school operated by an elementary or secondary school or institution of higher learning.”

NASN NEWS
NASN has been working on creating a new strategic plan involving the restructuring of the board committee to match their strategic plan initiatives and goals. Our IASN members, Donna Kunz, Linda Vollinger and Cameron Traut will be presenting a Round Table Presentation on “The Role of the School Nurse in Concussion Care and Management” at the 2017 NASN annual conference in June in San Diego, CA. The NASN Board will be going to the “Hill” in Washington, D.C. February 4-7 to talk with legislators about school nursing.

Legislative News
Not much legislative action of late. New legislation for Students with asthma became effective 1/1/17.

Asthma Episode Emergency Response Protocol and Asthma Action Plans
Illinois Public Act 099-0843 requires Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to develop a model asthma episode emergency response protocol, and for each school district, charter school, and non-public school to adopt a similar protocol, including all the components of the ISBE model protocol, by January 1, 2017. See ISBE School Health page for this protocol. www.isbe.net/Pages/School--Health-Issues.aspx
The same law also requires schools to request from parents of students with asthma, an Asthma Action Plan (AAP). If provided, the asthma action plan must be kept on file in the office of the school nurse or, in the absence of a school nurse, the school administrator.

The same law also requires school personnel who work with pupils to complete training on the management of asthma, prevention of asthma symptoms, and emergency response in the school setting every two years.

There is new language in the Nurse Practice Act HB 313. To read the bill and the changes go to general assembly website. www.ilga.gov.

Website www.iasn.org
The job board is active. Postings are coming in for the 2017-2018 school year already, as well as, summer camp positions. Talks about moving the listserv to NASN’s IASN School Nurse Net Community site are underway.
IASN Social Media Policy & Guidelines was developed by Cathy Yonkaitis & Barb Wicks. Please read and follow the policy so you are not removed from using these member benefits.

IASN Social Media Policy and Guidelines

IASN has a place in social media through the social networks of Facebook, Twitter, and the IASN Listserv. This is a means for IASN to share information with our membership and stakeholders. The listserv allows for our membership to share ideas, ask questions, and share solutions to issues encountered in the school nursing realm with each other.

Social communication should build a sense of community around conversations. We want our content to enable members and potential members to learn more or discover new skills. Our social media presence should add value to our community and help inform stakeholders and other interested parties.

IASN concurs with and agrees to follow NASN’s Social Media Policy and Guidelines. IASN expects its membership and stakeholders to follow these Social Media Policy and Guidelines for communication via social media.
The following guidelines are excerpted from the NASN Social Media Policy and Guidelines.

Be Conversational

It is important to write as if we are having a conversation – it is social media so it should be social. If we get too formal in our language in the social media arena, we might miss an opportunity to engage in a stimulating dialogue. Remember, the social web is NOT a business report, presentation, or a marketing forum with canned messages. We should bring out the IASN personality – say what’s on our minds – and write in a manner that invites a response and encourages comment.
Be exciting in social media communication!

Avoid Starting Fires

Differing viewpoints are healthy – but avoid inciting members. Firing back to criticism can appear defensive. It’s important to be cautious and considerate of others’ opinions and reactions; err on the side of caution and keep potentially inflammatory discussions harnessed. Once the information is sent out via social media – it can spread quickly and remain out there indefinitely.

Social media is a fast-paced world so **THINK BEFORE YOU POST**.

If an error is made in posting to social media, the best practice is to admit the mistake quickly, correct it, and move on. If it’s misinformation, go back and give the correct information to the IASN community. Just say “Update” and share the new information.

**Some Special Considerations When Using the IASN Listserv**

Maintain the confidentiality related to client/student health issues. Be careful, when in doubt leave out ANY information which may make identifying the student easy. Do not use the listserv for: personal messages; advertising or other commercial endeavors, campaign or political statements or religious messages.

Do not post a survey for research or other purposes without pre-approval by IASN.

**IASN Foundation**
The Foundation would like to award money to IASN members as scholarships, achievement awards, and research grants. The Margaret Winters Scholarship has been increased to $1500 plus a complimentary admission to the next IASN conference. Updates and new application procedures will be posted on the IASN website. Deadlines for all applications are August 1. Think about applying!

Present Foundation officers:
**President** Linda Kimel  
**Vice President** Lynn Rochkes (scholarship coordinator)  
**Treasurer-Secretary** June Oney  
**Member at Large** (fundraising coordinator)  
**Member at Large** Michelle Maurer

The Mentorship program is very successful. There are 16 mentors and 7 mentees. If you would like to have support and encouragement in your role as the school nurse, grab a Mentor! Contact Carol Virtue for more information. [carolvirtue@gmail.com](mailto:carolvirtue@gmail.com).

The Inquiry and Innovation Committee received a request in November, to assess the IASN membership for a research project involving a survey. We are excited to see the results of this research.
Division News

DuPage Valley—The fall meeting’s topic was Food Allergies and GI Disorders. Installation of elected officers was held. The division presented 5-$1000.00 donations to Wellness House, People’s Resource Center, DuPage Valley County Health Dept. Behavior Health Program & Vaccinations to Children and CareLink Foundation. Thank you DuPage Valley Division.

LSCV (Lake Shore Calumet Valley)-- An educational offering will be February 23 from 5-7 pm on Legal Issues for School Nurses. Watch the listserv for more information.

Marquette-Kaskaskia—Updating bylaws, job descriptions and ways to increase membership was discussed at their meeting.

Northeast—A winter educational offering titled, “What's the Buzz about Executive Functioning” as related to school nursing was well attended. Installation of officers was held.

Northlake—An educational offering will be Tuesday, February 7 from 4:30-7:30 pm. Topic is Collaboration for Student Health—Hospitals and School Nurses Working Together. Meeting will be at Condell Medical Center 801 South Milwaukee, Libertyville. Rooms C/D. Free registration. CNE’s pending.

National Association of Hispanic Nurses
Gloria Barrera announced the annual NAHN-IL scholarship fundraiser and Go Red event will take place on February 16, 2017 from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Proceeds will benefit the NAHN-IL scholarship fund and the American Heart Association. All are welcome. You may purchase your tickets here or donate any amount here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/go-red-for-healthy-heart-month-networking-and-scholarship-fundraising-event-tickets-30689091900.

Edited by Barb Wicks RN MS MEd PEL-CSN NCSN