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NATIONAL SCHOOL NURSE DAY MAY 6, 2009
“SCHOOL NURSES: MEETING THE NEEDS OF TODAY’S STUDENTS”

Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, Singapore and Washington DC (May 4, 2009) *National School Nurse Day* is a time to celebrate the nursing profession and the specialty of school nursing. On May 6, 2009, the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) will recognize the contributions that school nurses have made over the past year. This year’s theme, “School Nurses: Meeting the Needs of Today’s Students,” is reflective of the overall impact school nurses have on the health and well-being of students, who face more challenging issues today than ever before.

In the U.S. alone, over 60,000 school nurses are actively transforming school communities and meeting the new challenges facing today’s students in limitless ways as they care for our nation’s children. The multiple roles of school nurses and the many services they provide make them a valuable school and community resource.

“In this 41st Anniversary of our national association, *National School Nurse Day* reinforces the need to share the vital work of school nurses in serving school communities and beyond. The nurses support the physical, mental, emotional, and social health of students,” said Donna Mazyck, NASN Board President. “*National School Nurse Day* provides an opportunity for school nurses to articulate what they do to remove or minimize health related barriers to student success. We are school nurses; we support student success!”

Annually, NASN announces national school nurse awardees that have exhibited exceptional work throughout the year. The 2009 National School Nurse of the Year is Gloria Hilsinger of Washington State and the 2009 National School Nurse Administrator of the Year is Nina Fekaris of Oregon.

Schools and communities are encouraged to join with their school nurses in celebrating what they do on a daily basis to keep kids healthy and ready to learn. Most states have also identified a “School Nurse of the Year” and a “School Nurse Administrator of the Year” award winner who have made a significant impact on students, staff, and the community. For more information on the award winners and *National School Nurse Day*, visit the NASN Web site at www.nasn.org.

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The National Association of School Nurses is a non-profit specialty nursing organization, incorporated in 1977, which represents school nurses exclusively. NASN has nearly 14,000 members and 51 affiliates, including the District of Columbia and overseas. The mission of the NASN is to “improve the health and educational success of children and youth by developing and providing leadership to advance school nursing practice.” To learn more about NASN, please visit us on the web at www.nasn.org or call 866-627-6767.

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