

**NDSNO MEETING  
AUGUST 15, 2006  
PER IVAN  
12:30 to 4:15**

**The following people were present at various locations in the state.**

Grand Forks -Kathy Mack, Mary Ann Delisle, Kim Adams, Twyla Streibel; Bismarck- Denise Nelson, Stephanie Yesel, Karen Goebel, Evy Monzelowsky, tiffany Baumgartner, Theresa Schmidt, Lisa Murdoff, Vonnie Eretz, Kjersti Hintz, Jocé Koch, Becky Bailey, and Wanda Rose; Richland- Becky Willits: First District - Linda Wright, Penny Hamilton, Molla Romine, Lisa Clute, and Marsha Fitterer; Fargo – Deb Watne, Lori Thomas, Lola Dosch, Nancy Leith, Jane Prather, Tracy Huebner, Nikki Roesler, Andrea Schroeder, Dianne Kappelman Beyer, and Andrea Schroeder; Nelson Griggs County - Julie Ferry and DeAnn Miller; SW District Doreen Ott, Jodi Olson, Lori Faulhaber, Ruby Perhus, Colleen Stebbins, and Janet Kuhn; Jamestown Stephanie Hatton.

**A welcome and introduction** was done prior to the start of the meeting. The lead site for the IVAN was in Grand Forks with Kathy Mack leading the meeting.

**Election of new officers** The vice president and treasurer positions are up for election in October. So far Jane Prather has expressed an interest for the vice president position and Phyllis Hanson is interested in doing the treasurer position again. The ballots will be mailed out by early September and are due back to the state school consultant by 10-1-06. Discussion also took place on the booth that the NDSNO will have at Teachers Convention, October 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. We will need to have the booth manned on Wednesday pm, and Thursday until 4 p.m. Becky will send out a sign up sheet for people able to cover one hour slots for the booth. The booth will focus on school legislation and how we need to change our image. Senator Fischer has previously told the legislative group to try focus on why the nurse is necessary over a school clerical staff. He also wanted the focus to be on substance use and mental health issues. Overall, the routine of schools has greatly changed since many of the current legislatures were in school. (i.e. both parents working, single parent families, increased use of prescription and illegal drugs, etc). We will also sell door hangers. The October meeting will be hosted by Bismarck Burleigh with the following items on the agenda: annual meeting, Jeana Peinovich (DMF), Stephanie Kolari (Epilepsy Foundation) and networking.

**Legislative update per Wanda Rose.** There has been a separate legislative working group that has been meeting to draft a bill. They have also been able to meet personally with Senator Tom Fischer. The bill would be a titled school health and wellness. The funds would go through the ND Department of Health, under the family health section. The request is for 3 million dollars from the general fund for the initial round. The first approval would include a staff person at the state to develop the grant criteria and oversee the program. The thought would be that the funds for nursing would become available to the fall of 2008, with the goal to have the RFP's go out in January of 2008. The grant would have a matching request. This could be in-kind, resources, or staffing. There also has been some discussion on working with the regional Joint Powers Agreements, currently in place with many of the school districts. Our overall focus is to talk about the children of North Dakota.

Discussion then took place on what each individual school nurse can do to educate their local legislators. Many handouts were provided prior to the meeting. These included: 1) tips for contacting your legislators, 2) tips for meeting with your legislator, 3) tips for telephoning your

legislator, 4) tips for writing/emailing your legislator, 4) power point presentation on NDSNO legislation, 5) frequently asked questions regarding school health and wellness services, 6) the bill draft, and a 7) listing of the legislators with their districts served. In addition, Wanda did go over the legislator list and highlighted key members of the legislature. Remember to write a thank you to the legislator for taking the time to meet and continue to keep them posted on the school health and wellness issues. These forms were provided by Wanda Rose and Becky Bailey. In addition the website of <http://www.legis.nd.gov/> would also get you to the site where you can look up the legislator. School nurses need to identify their support networks such as Public Health Administrators, PTA/PTO, school boards, principals association, parents, service clubs (senior citizen groups, ND Children's Caucus, Retired Teachers' Association, foster grandparents) and get the education on the importance of school health services for all children in North Dakota. Ideally, at legislation time we could have these support groups on a calling tree to keep them updated on the bill.

It is recommended that school nurses meet with their local legislators up for reelection on an individual basis with two supporters and one legislator. This would be the odd numbered districts. It was even suggested that a parent could go with to the meeting. Another idea was to have a town hall meeting and pull numerous legislators to the meeting. Having personal stories is a good idea to help "hook" the legislators. We are in the process of collecting success stories to 'toot' our horn regarding the value of school nurses. It was also suggested that we contact the legislators by the end of September. The NDSNO is trying to determine who school nurses could report back to after their meeting. For now just keep track of anyone you visit with their views. Jane Prather had made up a thank you basket to give to Senator Fischer for all of his time and effort for school health and wellness issues. She had included education with the basket to include the following topics that school nurses can facilitate: health promotion, attendance, emergency and disaster teams, CPR and AED, screenings immunizations, medication, chronic disease, headache and stomachache, insurance coverage, puberty education staff wellness and referrals.

**Other** Jane Prather discussed an upcoming event at the Women's Conference in Fargo on October 28, 2006 where school nurses can volunteer to help at the event and in turn will receive a monetary gift to the NDSNO and also wonderful exposure for school nurses. We would need to staff from 8 to 5. If nurses are interested please contact Jane at [prahtej@fargo.k12.nd.us](mailto:prahtej@fargo.k12.nd.us)

Submitted by  
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NDSNO Secretary  
September 1, 2006