



## IASN NEWSLETTER

THE BEST RESOURCE FOR  
LEARNING FROM SCHOOL  
NURSES LIKE YOU.



SEPTEMBER 2021 Edition

### IASN Wants to Hear from YOU!

What a year it has been! IASN wants to support you professionally and learn about you and your future school nursing professional practice needs. Please take a few minutes to identify how IASN can serve you as a member and prioritize our resources for the next 3-5 years. We will also be asking demographic questions regarding you and your professional school nursing practice to better understand who our current members are.

[Take the Survey  
Here](#)

### 64th Annual Virtual IASN Conference - Thriving in School Nursing: Transforming Student Health *October 1-2, 2021*

**Registration is now OPEN!**

The IASN board is proud to offer a virtual experience for our members. As we continue to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, it was important to IASN to offer an opportunity for school nurses to come together to be inspired, empowered, and re-energized.

**Registration Fees**  
IASN Members - \$49  
Non Members - \$79

#### **September 23rd - Virtual Annual Meeting**

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm  
Report from the President  
Report from the Treasurer  
Bylaws Amendments  
Swearing in of new officers

Detailed agenda is pending

**Disclosures:** No conflict of interest is present on the part of the planning team. Speaker disclosures will be made at the time of the individual presentations.

### Friday, October 1st - Virtual Pre-Conference

#### Screening of *Resilience: The Biology of Stress & the Science of Hope*

7:00 PM: Screening Begins (#IASN21Screening)

8:05 - 8:15 PM: BREAK

8:30 PM: Roundtable Discussions led by IASN Board

### Saturday, October 2nd - Virtual Conference

9:00-9:15 AM: President's Welcome, Installation of Officers, Board Intros, Awards by INF

9:15-10:15 AM: Keith Carlson Keynote

10:15-10:20 AM: BREAK

10:20-11:15 AM IASN Talks (Ignite)

11:15-12:00 PM: LUNCH BREAK

12:00-1:00 PM: Presentation by Dr. Emily Landon (Title to be announced)

1:00-1:05 PM: BREAK

1:05-2:05 PM: Anna Volerman, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics at University of Chicago; Illinois Asthma Partnership; title TBA

2:05-3:15 PM Presentation by Robin Cogan

3:15-3:20 PM Giveaways presented by NASN Director and Wrap Up

[Register for the 2021 Virtual Conference Here](#)

## Meet Our Conference Keynote - Keith Carlson RN, BSN, NC-BC



Nurse Keith has over two decades of experience in nursing and healthcare as a clinician, administrator, and entrepreneur.

As an accomplished speaker, writer, blogger, podcaster, consultant, and holistic career coach for nurses, Keith has his finger on the pulse of 21st-century nursing. He keenly understands the challenges faced by nursing professionals and healthcare organizations.

Keith's well-known nursing podcasts – The Nurse Keith Show and RNFM Radio – reach listeners on six continents. His message of savvy career advice for nurses has been featured by Nurse.com, Nurse.org, Working Nurse Magazine, American Sentinel University, MultiBriefs News Service, StaffGarden, American Nurse Today, NursingCE.com, Health eCareers, among others.

Keith is a Board Certified Nurse Coach (NC-BC) and has logged more than 1,000 hours providing holistic career coaching for nurses throughout the United States.

[Hear a brief clip from Keith here.](#)

## Meet Jo Volkening MEd, BSN, RN, PEL/IL-CSN, NCSN



- How did you get started in school nursing and what has been your greatest challenge this year?

A long time ago, I was working as a nurse on the floor in a hospital and being run into the ground. In a search for a nursing career sustainable with a healthy work-life balance, I cut my hospital hours and tried out substitute school nurse assignments. God bless the school nurse who showed me the teacher's pay scale and explained contracts and certifications.

This year, my greatest challenge was a work assignment of focusing specifically on SpEd work for a large high school. Besides many IEPs, I singlehandedly completed over 125 evaluations with eligibility meetings for 504s this year--which I hope stands as a lifetime record. I want to give special recognition to my incredible nursing colleague and friend, Pam Seubold, who was a lifeline to me both professionally and personally throughout this very difficult year.

- In what ways has your community leaned on you as a public health expert this past year?

Anyone who knows me at all quickly learns that I lean heavily on evidence-based practice, published guidelines, and research. This year, I attended a weekly Zoom COVID seminar offered by infectious disease professors at University of Chicago Medicine. This valuable resource (called ECHO Chicago) equipped me to bring cutting edge COVID epidemiology, research, treatment, testing, and vaccine information to my nursing colleagues.

- What do you want new nurses entering our specialty to know about our profession?

School nursing is an incredibly rich and rewarding career. You get to work with highly educated teachers who value collaborative relationships. Your patients are kids and adolescents who are an unending delight; they will always share fresh, honest, and entertaining perspectives. I love having a job working with kids every day.

- What's one wish you have for school nursing for the future?

One wish I have for school nursing is that administrators, teachers, and parents learn that a school nurse is not just any nurse who happens to work in a school. School nursing is a specialty practice, complete with its own board certification. I also wish other people could hear all the stories where school nurses save lives.



*What does IASN  
mean to you?*

"IASN represents a collection of nurses working together for the wellness of children in schools. It helps give me a sense of community in an otherwise very autonomous role. Attending the IASN conference this year was an amazing way to network among peers, share challenges and triumphs, and stay informed on the most current practices."

Amy Janis