The Role of the Professional School Nurse

School Nursing
“a specialized practice of professional nursing that advances the well being, academic success, and life-long achievement and health of students”

What’s different?
- Medical professional practicing in an educational setting
- Independent Practitioner
- Emerging Specialty

Tidbits from an Experienced School Nurse
- Foster a strong relationship with Administration—they can make or break you
- Participate in School Activities
  1. Faculty Meetings
  2. PTA
  3. School Sponsored events

Tidbits
- Add the extras
  1. Learn the educational lingo
  2. Ask for and keep an updated bulletin board
  3. Sponsor a student club
  4. Offer faculty wellness programs
     - Weight loss clinic
     - Exercise Program
     - Blood Pressure Monitoring

Tidbits
- Become involved in the community
  - Coalition membership
  - School Health Advisory Board
  - Let your students/families see you outside of the school setting
  - County event planning
Tidbits

• Professional Development
  1. Become active in a professional organization-NASN, VASN, ASHA, VEA, NEA, etc.
  2. Keep learning!!!
     • Attend professional conferences
     • Take a class
     • Pursue an advanced degree

MOST IMPORTANTLY:
BE PROUD OF YOUR SPECIALTY

YOU ARE NOT JUST A SCHOOL NURSE

YOU ARE THE HEALTH PROFESSIONAL IN YOUR BUILDING!!