

PRESS RELEASE

Lee County Public Schools

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SUBJECT: **DISTRICT HOME TO FLORIDA SCHOOL NURSE OF THE YEAR 2012**

Lee County Public Schools is very proud to announce that **Maiya Christensen** was named the 2012 Florida School Nurse of the Year. Ms. Christensen is the school nurse at **North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts**.

“Once again a District employee has set themselves apart from their colleagues through hard work and dedication to students,” said Dr. Joseph Burke, Superintendent of Schools. “We’re very proud of Ms. Christensen and know she’s an outstanding choice for this honor.”

This award is sponsored by the Florida Association of School Nurses, the professional organization serving school nurses in Florida and is open to school nurses throughout Florida.

Ms. Christensen epitomizes school nursing by the way she manages an impressive schedule of assessing children and staff. She is an instrumental liaison between her school and the extensive network of community resources that she frequently accesses, including the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, the Chamber of Commerce and the Army Corp of Engineers. Due to her experience with immunization compliance and registry, she is known by her peers as the “immunization expert” and was instrumental in arranging and marketing her school as one of the few sights selected for a family flu clinic.

The purpose of the School Nurse of the Year award is to recognize the contributions of school nurses by focusing each year on one school nurse who has demonstrated excellence in school nursing practice and leadership in school health. Each nurse is judged according to their involvement in specific areas of nursing expertise, which include: Standards of Nursing Practice; Quality of Care; Performance Appraisal and Ethics; Collegiality; Education Standard; Research; Program Management; Collaboration; Health Education; Resource Utilization; and Communication.

Each year one nurse is selected who epitomizes the best in school nursing in the state. In being chosen as Florida’s top school nurse, Ms. Christensen is now submitted to the National Association of School Nurses to be recognized in their Excellence in School Nursing Award.

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