

Voters' Guide

PRESIDENT-ELECT CANDIDATES

In early September, AAP members will receive notice that the AAP online ballot for the AAP president and district elections is available.

Members will be asked to choose their next president-elect, Mary Brown, M.D., FAAP, or Thomas McNerny, M.D., FAAP. The winner will serve as the 2012-'13 AAP president.

Voters also will elect district officers in seven out of 10 districts: district chairpersons (who serve as the AAP Board members), district vice chairpersons, and National Nominating Committee representatives. Online voting will commence Sept. 1 and conclude at 4 p.m. Central Daylight Time on Oct. 1, 2011. The new president-elect and newly elected district positions will take office during the 2011 National Conference & Exhibition in Boston.

AAP News election coverage continues in this special section. See the July issue of AAP News for profiles of the president-elect candidates, and the National AAP Election Center on the Member Center, www.aap.org/moc, for additional information on president-elect candidates.

If you have any questions on the election procedures, contact Janice Page, director, Board of Directors administration, at 800-433-9016, ext. 7502, or by e-mail at jp@page@aap.org.

Watch your e-mail for a communication from the **AAP Election Coordinator** during the last week in August or first week in September. It will contain your **personalized link** to the election ballot; no other login information will be required. Please note that, should you receive the communication prior to Sept. 1, you will not be able to access the ballot until Sept. 1. In addition, there will be a link to the ballot on the Member Center of the AAP Web site — all that will be required for you to access the ballot is to log on to the Member Center and click on the link, effective on Sept. 1.

**ALL MEMBERS
ARE URGED TO VOTE.**

American Academy
of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

The AAP National Nominating Committee has named Mary P. Brown, M.D., FAAP, and Thomas K. McNerny, M.D., FAAP, as candidates for AAP president-elect. Here, each candidate responds to the nominating committee question:

Please outline for the membership the area(s) you consider of highest priority for the Academy and what policy (or policies) you will focus on to advance these priorities?



**Thomas K. McNerny, M.D.,
FAAP
Rochester, N.Y.**

The highest priorities for the AAP and its membership are to ensure that, as health care reform unfolds, all children have access to high-quality health care, and pediatricians are paid appropriately for providing this care.

The Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) and the Affordable Care Act (ACA), along with Medicaid, provide opportunities for health insurance for most of our nation's children. However, unfortunately, approximately 5 million children eligible for health insurance are not enrolled in a program. The AAP and its members need to work with other organizations to promote "facilitated enrollment," which identifies and encourages eligible families to obtain continuous health insurance for the children.

In addition, as the federal government and the states attempt to reign in health care costs, especially for Medicaid and CHIP, the AAP and its members must work with legislators to ensure that their proposals "do no harm" to children. Since 75% of Medicaid costs are for chronically ill adults, cutting costs for children on Medicaid will not yield substantial savings and has the potential to lead to a decrease in access to high-quality health care for children. Delivering this message will require a concerted, coordinated effort of the AAP at the national level and its chapters at the state level.

An important provision of the ACA is that Medicaid payments must be at the same rate as Medicare starting in 2013. Since many states now pay pediatric generalists and subspecialists a fraction, often a small fraction, of Medicare rates, it is critically important that this provision of the ACA is implemented. Ensuring children's access to high-quality health care requires appropriate payment to pediatricians in addition to having insurance.

Finally, as efforts to implement the medical home are being promoted by public and private payers, the AAP and its membership need to demand that pediatricians be included in this process with appropriate payments for coordination of care, provision of care by telephone, e-mail, and telemedicine, and pay-for-performance incentives for quality improvements.

As AAP president-elect and president, I look forward to working with our dedicated membership to achieving these priorities.



**Mary P. Brown, M.D., FAAP
Bend, Ore.**

My highest priority is the Academy and its members because we are the most important advocate and strongest voice for children everywhere. Though we won't agree on all issues, the Academy will continue to address everything related to the welfare of children. If we only consider the easy things, we become irrelevant. I have been able to achieve consensus on some very contentious issues at both the district and national levels by focusing on what is best for children. The opinions of the membership must be heard and respected as we continue to discuss and solve the tough issues.

I will work to bridge the gaps between pediatricians of all ages. Young pediatricians are essential to our future, and they are our future! We have many varying experiences, but with the "intelligence" of the youth and the "wisdom" of our seniors, we can give our children a secure future. The media and social media are becoming increasingly important both positively and negatively. I look to our young colleagues to lead us in harnessing the beneficial aspects while dealing with the much discussed harmful parts, again focusing on children's welfare.

I will address the perceived disconnect between generalists and specialists. I have heard from many specialists who feel marginalized as we talk about "medical home" and the role of the generalist in care coordination. We must create a two-way street where generalists and specialists are valued equally for their important contributions. With apologies to Abe Lincoln: "A house (medical home) divided against itself cannot stand."

I will involve parents in all aspects of the Academy. Their important perspectives and powerful experiences help achieve our mission, vision and priorities.

Because many of the Academy's efforts are carried out at local and state levels, I will strengthen and respond to our chapters. Without grassroots activities and influences, the AAP could be a large organization with very little influence.

Finally, I will continue to promote the pediatrician as the best qualified to care for children. We must continue to focus on children whatever the issue.

Again, I would appreciate any comments to mary.brown@bendcable.com.

DISTRICT II



David A. Clark, M.D., FAAP
District Chairperson Candidate

Biography

Dr. Clark is professor and chairman of pediatrics at Albany Medical Center. He practices clinical neonatology, inpatient general pediatrics and genetics/metabolic disease. He is a graduate of State

University of New York, Upstate Medical Center (Syracuse). He trained in pediatrics at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and continued his neonatology fellowship training at Cleveland and Syracuse.

He has been an advocate for children and community and subspecialty pediatrics for over 30 years, including 10 years in New Orleans (District VII). Since returning to New York state in 1998, he has been involved with many efforts of District II with various branches of New York state government. These activities include newborn metabolic screening, oral health, medications in schools, perinatal care and child passenger safety. He is a member of the New York State Newborn Screening Commission and provides pediatric input to the Maternal Child Block Grant Committee.

Dr. Clark served on the AAP Committee on State Government Affairs from 2001-'04 and as its chair from 2004-'08. From 2004-'08, he was a delegate to the Committee on Federal Government Affairs and has continued since 2008 as chair of the Advocacy Committee of the Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs.

He has extensive experience working with children and youths with special needs. He has authored five books, three dealing with children with disabilities and early intervention. He has published more than 100 peer-reviewed articles and numerous invited chapters. He is a member of the Society for Pediatric Research, American Pediatric Society and the Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs.

He and his wife, Darlene, have three daughters and six grandchildren.

Position statement

The cornerstone of the medical home is the primary care physician who manages preventive care as well as acute and chronic illnesses. The pediatrician must have access to pediatric and surgery subspecialists to care for the children with special needs. The medical home is under assault by insufficient funding to the primary care provider, unfunded mandates and bureaucratic obstruction, including private payers.

If elected, I will vigorously advocate for children's issues in New York state and nationally. I will support the leadership of the three New York chapters as they formulate specific agendas in each geographic region. I will coordinate the activities of the chapters as we continue to promote the needs of children and pediatricians in the legislative and executive branches of New York state government. AAP District II members and the academic medical centers must work together to press for necessary legislation and regulatory change.

The resources of the AAP divisions of state and federal government affairs must be used to weave through the maze of federal and state laws and regulation created by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

I will champion the coordination of care, funded in a

healthy primary care medical home. My advocacy priorities include promoting adequate payment for primary care, minimizing unfunded mandates and adopting health information technology (electronic medical records). Health information technology provides an opportunity to reduce cost, improve quality and increase payment.

Finally, I will encourage, motivate and coordinate New York state AAP members.



Danielle Laraque, M.D., FAAP
District Chairperson Candidate

Biography

Dr. Laraque is chair of the Department of Pediatrics and vice president of Maimonides Infants and Children's Hospital of Brooklyn, N.Y. Prior to that, she was professor of pediatrics and preventive medicine and the endowed Debra and Leon Black

Professor of Pediatrics (2001); chief of the Division of General Pediatrics; and vice chair of public policy and advocacy at Mount Sinai School of Medicine (2000-'10).

She completed her medical studies at the University of California at Los Angeles and received the Roy Markus Scholarship (1977-1981). Her internship and residency were completed at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, where she also was a Robert Wood Johnson General Academic Pediatrics fellow (1984-'86). She is sub-boarded in child abuse pediatrics.

Her involvement in the Academy spans more than two decades and has represented the core of her advocacy efforts. She is a member of Chapters 2 and 3 and has served as Chapter 3 member-at-large; chair of the Injury and Poison Prevention Committee; vice president; president; and Nominating Committee member and chair.

At the district level, she served as vice chair (2004-'10) and currently is co-chair of the Children's Mental Health and Learning Committee. At the national level, she has served as a member of the Injury, Violence and Poison Prevention Committee, a member of the Mental Health Task Force, chair of its decision-support subcommittee, member of the Vision of Pediatrics 2020 Task Force, chair of the District Vice Chairperson Committee, and as the U.S. Public Health Service Primary Care Policy Fellow (AAP representative, 2001). In 2010, she received the AAP Job Lewis Smith Award for Outstanding Achievement in Community Pediatrics.

Position statement

The role of the District II chair is to represent the district encompassing Chapters 1, 2 and 3 and to serve on the Board of Directors of the AAP, setting national policy, research, educational and practice directions. District II, New York state, is diverse and complex. It spans a geographic area of 54,475 square miles, from the world-class urban areas of New York City to the North Country and the Adirondacks. It has a population of 19.5 million (23% being children younger than 18 years). It is ethnically, culturally, linguistically and racially diverse.

The three chapters represent the diversity of this state, and the health care issues confronting our pediatricians reflect the diversity of these communities. New York pediatricians span the gamut from solo practitioners to university-based practitioners, academic generalists, subspecialists and more. Our challenge is to improve pop-

ulation health and maintain the essence of pediatrics as defined by the physician-child-family relationship.

Health care reform, well under way, offers the opportunity to expand access and improve quality. We must actively engage in charting our future by addressing the structure of the health care delivery system, equitable payment of services, fostering the medical home model of care, public health application of evidence-based approaches, the integration of mental and dental health in primary care as well as the integration of medical advances and information technology. These efforts will require strong advocacy, engagement of our members, and include recruitment of new members, making the AAP relevant to the needs of all pediatricians and the children they serve.

DISTRICT III



Nathaniel S. Beers, M.D., FAAP
District Vice Chairperson Candidate

Dr. Beers is deputy chief of special education for Washington, D.C., public schools and a general and developmental-behavioral pediatrician at Children's National Medical Center (CNMC). Previously,

he was the director of the Children's Health Center, the largest provider of primary care in D.C., and deputy director for the Community Health Administration and the Title V director for the D.C. Health Department. He serves on the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Child Welfare, Mayor's Early Childhood Advisory Council and Children with Special Health Care Needs Advisory Board.

Dr. Beers is past president of the AAP Washington, D.C., Chapter. As president, D.C. increased from a small to medium chapter and successfully increased Medicaid reimbursement to 100% of Medicare. He was a founder of D.C. Partnership to Improve Children's Healthcare Quality.

He is chair of the AAP Committee on Membership, on which he has represented District III for the past eight years. He served on the board for the Section on Residents as District III coordinator, vice chair and chair. He has been engaged with the Young Physicians since its approval as a provisional section. Dr. Beers has mentored many young physicians, residents and medical students.

Dr. Beers graduated from George Washington University Medical School, completed his residency at Children's National. He was the Dyson Child Advocacy Fellow at Children's Hospital of Boston and chief fellow of general pediatrics. He got a master's of public administration at the Kennedy School at Harvard University.

He is married to Lee Savio Beers, a pediatrician at CNMC, and has a daughter and a son.



Daniel J. Levy, M.D., FAAP
District Vice Chairperson
Candidate

Dr. Levy is a graduate of the University of Rochester for both his B.A. and M.D. degrees. His postgraduate training was at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Johns Hopkins University, and he trained in psychotherapy at the Family Therapy Practice Center in Washington, D.C. He has been in private practice in Owings Mills, Md., since 1978, presently serving a multicultural population of both Children's Health Insurance Program and private pay patients. He teaches as an assistant professor of pediatrics at Johns Hopkins and clinical assistant professor at the University of Maryland. Dr. Levy is a senior fellow at Clemson University's Automotive Safety Research Institute.

Dr. Levy has served his state AAP chapter as secretary-treasurer, vice president, president, communications chair and foundation president. While president, the Maryland Chapter won Large Chapter of the Year award. At that time, he was engaged in establishing the chapter obesity task force, testifying before the Food and Drug Administration for changes in the use of cough and cold medications, and establishing well-received District III leadership and advocacy training. He was the AAP Maryland Pediatrician of the Year in 2008.

At the national level, Dr. Levy has been on the editorial board of *AAP News* and, most recently, District III National Nominating Committee representative. He is a member of the Councils on Communications and Media, Community Pediatrics, and Sports Medicine and Fitness, and the Section on Administration and Practice Management.

Most importantly, Dr. Levy is married to Dr. Nancy Levy, is the father of two, and is the grandfather of two incredible little boys.



Jay J. Ludwicki, M.D., FAAP
National Nominating
Committee Candidate

Dr. Ludwicki graduated from the University of Chicago with an A.B. in biology. He attended Temple for medical school and feels fortunate to have completed his pediatric residency at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia.

Currently, Dr. Ludwicki owns a thriving private practice in Milton, Del. He feels privileged to work with three great pediatricians and one pediatric nurse practitioner. Over the past few years, the practice has continued to grow with the implementation of an electronic medical record that integrates *Bright Futures* guidelines and truly allows the practice to function as their patients' medical home.

Dr. Ludwicki has been advocating for better health care for children within the hospital systems by serving as chairman of the pediatric department in Pottstown for two years, Beebe Medical Center for four years and at Milford Memorial Hospital for the past two years.

He also started working with the AAP Delaware Chapter seven years ago to advocate for children's health and well-being in a state dominated by retirees and their inter-

ests. He is half-way through his second term as president and has thoroughly enjoyed organizing the board members' skills and talents, which enabled them to receive the 2010 AAP Outstanding Small Chapter Award.

Dr. Ludwicki's main two goals in his final year of presidency are to develop a statewide structure for patients' medical home and to expand their developmental screening project using validated screening tools to all pediatricians and then to family practitioners.

D I S T R I C T V



Marilyn J. Bull, M.D., FAAP
District Chairperson Candidate

Biography

The health and well-being of children have been Dr. Bull's passion for over 30 years. She has worked at many levels within the Academy, starting with her involvement in the Indiana Chapter promoting child passenger safety and later as chapter vice president and president. She represented District V on the Chapter Forum Management Committee from 2003-'07 and served nationally as a member and then chair of the Committee on Injury, Violence and Poison Prevention. Her national responsibilities also have included chair of the Section on Injury Prevention and co-chair of the Expert Panel for the Infant Section of *Bright Futures*, Third Edition. Dr. Bull has represented the Academy on several boards and panels and has been a national spokesperson in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Bull attended Michigan State University and graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School. She trained in pediatrics at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago and did a fellowship in birth defects and genetic counseling at Boston Floating Hospital. She has been on the faculty of Indiana University School of Medicine since 1976, where she is the Morris Green Professor of Pediatrics at Riley Hospital for Children.

Dr. Bull has worked tirelessly to advance the causes of pediatricians and pediatricians throughout her career. Her efforts have been recognized with several awards, including the Irving Rosenbaum Community Pediatrics Award from the Indiana Chapter, the AAP Education Award in 2005 and the Public Service Award from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Position statement

Representing District V on the AAP Board of Directors has been an honor. Our district has established and implemented a strategic plan to share successes across chapters and pursue districtwide priorities. Important district issues include involvement of subspecialists and young physicians at the chapter and district levels and advancing resources for the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) process. The role of the Academy in mentoring young physicians and supporting practices in their quest to provide optimal patient care in a medical home and helping chapters meet the challenges of implementing the Affordable Care Act at the state level has been emphasized.

At the board level, advocating for advancing the resources for pediatricians for MOC has been important. Another priority is to have the Academy continue to enhance and integrate support for pediatric medical and

surgical subspecialists to ensure that a base of subspecialty care is maintained for all children.

Your Academy remains poised to respond appropriately and effectively to meet the challenges of promoting a health care system that adapts to the changing needs of patients, families and pediatricians. Through the collaborative efforts of pediatricians working locally in chapters and the district, our goals will be realized. Experience with the state chapter, district, councils, committees and sections and on the board has prepared me well to continue the responsibilities of district chair. It is with eager excitement that I will support the endeavors in progress in our chapters and serve as chairperson of District V.



Christopher P. Rizzo, M.D., FAAP
District Chairperson Candidate

Biography

Dr. Rizzo is a native of Ohio and has always lived in the Cleveland/Akron area. He is proud to have more than 22 years of experience as a board-certified pediatrician. He is an active AAP leader having served Ohio pediatricians as president of the Ohio Chapter, where his accomplishments included leading efforts to improve immunization rates for children and increase payment for physicians.

During his time as president, the chapter increased its non-dues revenue, hired additional staff, and expanded its office space enabling it to better serve its members and the children of Ohio. He continues to serve the Ohio Chapter as its representative on several statewide advisory boards and committees.

At the district level, Dr. Rizzo was elected by AAP District V members to be their representative to the National Nominating Committee. He helped improve transparency of AAP elections, engage young physicians and change the rules to allow AAP members to openly discuss elections. His service on this committee gave him a unique perspective on the issues and challenges facing pediatricians and the Academy.

Dr. Rizzo's professional work experience has always aimed at improving the lives of children through helping pediatricians, specialists and children's hospitals provide the best care possible. In the complex world of health care, he believes that pediatricians are the best-trained, most-qualified providers of health care for children and should have the resources to do the job right.

Position statement

The district chairperson is a member of the AAP Board of Directors. It is an important responsibility. The Academy is a highly credible organization dedicated to the health of children while serving its member pediatricians and pediatric specialists. Like most things these days, it takes teamwork to achieve its goals.

The Academy works tirelessly to create and support a system that allows pediatricians, pediatric specialists and children's hospitals to do what they do best — decide the best course of action for patients and their families. But the Academy cannot do it alone. We need AAP members to run for political office, lead research organizations, be medical directors of managed care companies, and work for pharmaceutical and device manufacturers — to fight for the needs of children and for the physicians who care for them.

I worked in clinical practice for nearly 20 years. The last few years, I had the opportunity to use my pediatric advocacy skills at a pediatric-focused biotech company. I am based in Ohio but interact with pediatricians, researchers and specialists throughout the Midwest and Great Lakes to better address the unmet medical needs of children through advances in technology. Who knows what I will do next, but I will always be an AAP member dedicated to the health of all children.

And as the parent of a 16-year-old daughter and a 7-month-old son, I have added incentive to see that every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

DISTRICT VI



Irwin Benuck, M.D., Ph.D., FAAP
National Nominating Committee Candidate

Dr. Benuck is the immediate past president of the AAP Illinois Chapter. He has been active in many chapter activities focusing on preventive health care. He has

presented at the District VI meetings on implementing office-based education directly to members and at the Annual Leadership Forum on chapter grant writing.

Dr. Benuck is a professor of clinical pediatrics, Feinberg School of Medicine (FSM), Northwestern University, and the division head of community-based pediatrics. After graduating from FSM and completing residency in pediatrics at Children's Memorial Hospital (CMH), he joined the practice of Traisman, Benuck, Merens and Kimball. Along with being a senior partner in a busy practice, he has been actively involved in various academic endeavors. He has been on the Appointment, Promotion, Tenure Committee for the Department of Pediatrics as well as on the Executive Admissions Committee at FSM. This has given him vast experience in reviewing resumes, evaluating support material and interviewing candidates. He, therefore, will bring insight and understanding as a representative for the National Nominating Committee.

Dr. Benuck also is director for the Preventive Cardiology Program at CMH. He has conducted research identifying children at risk for cardiovascular disease, published extensively and is a member of the expert panel for Pediatric Cardiovascular Risk Reduction for the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. He lectures in numerous venues including grand rounds, AAP-sponsored events and continuing medical education programs.

Dr. Benuck is married to Dorene, a children's librarian, and has two married children and two grandchildren.



Jeffrey H. Lamont, M.D., FAAP
National Nominating Committee Candidate

Dr. Lamont has been an AAP member since 1985. He started college as a music major, switched to biology and eventually graduated from the University of Illinois College of Medicine in 1979. He

completed his pediatrics residency at the Medical College of Virginia in 1982. He practiced in Virginia for three

years before moving to Wausau, Wis., in 1985, where he has practiced since.

He has been active in the Wisconsin Chapter for 24 years, serving initially as chair of the Early Childhood, Adoption and Dependent Care Committee, then as chair of the School Health Committee. He completed a three-year term as chapter president in July and has been a member of the AAP Council on School Health Executive Committee since 2006.

He served on the Wausau school board (2000-'06) and as president (2004-'06). He is medical adviser for four local school districts. He is active in the American Heart Association PALS program, serving as national faculty from 1991-2000 and currently as an instructor and regional faculty. He is a faculty member of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, teaching third-year medical students. He serves on the Marathon County (Wis.) Child Fatality Review Team.

Dr. Lamont and his wife, Jan, have two grown children.

"The AAP president is the personification of all that the Academy is, all that the Academy stands for and strives for. It is essential that candidates for AAP president be selected with this role in mind."

DISTRICT VIII



Kyle Yasuda, M.D., FAAP
District Chairperson Candidate

Biography

Dr. Yasuda is honored and humbled to be a nominee for chairperson of District VIII. In his current position of vice chairperson, he has been able to utilize his experiences in primary care practice, academics, health policy, advocacy and nonprofit organizations to represent the diversity of the children and pediatricians in his district.

Dr. Yasuda is on the faculty at the University of Washington (UW) and is the medical director of the pediatric clinics at Harborview Medical Center. He is the co-director of the Community Pediatrics and Advocacy Pathway for pediatric residents at Seattle Children's Hospital, and faculty member of the colleges at the UW School of Medicine, where he is involved in teaching clinical skills, professionalism, communications and ethics in an integrated four-year curriculum. He enjoys teaching, mentoring and sharing restaurant reviews in morning report with medical students and residents.

He advocates for children and pediatricians by being a member of the executive committee for Washington State's Title XIX (Medicaid) Advisory Committee and the state's Vaccine Advisory Committee. Dr. Yasuda also manages the nonprofit foundation affiliated with the chapter. The Community Pediatrics Foundation of Washington focuses on community-based collaborative advocacy, research and educational projects involving practicing pediatricians.

Dr. Yasuda enjoys fly fishing for steelhead and is the proud parent of his 16-year-old daughter, Mirei, who endorses his candidacy, but only after recently receiving her driver's license and aging her father by a few years.

Position statement

Communication and diversity are integral components in policy development, a cornerstone in membership organizations such as the Academy, and vitally important for influencing families. "Diversified communications" should be developed at the Academy to improve the implementation of projects and advocacy impacting pediatricians and child health.

Social media and ever-evolving technological capabilities have become part of everyday living. Blogs, Facebook, Twitter, Web pages, webinars, voice calls over the Internet are part of our culture and impact beliefs and attitudes in our communities. Diversified communication strategies should embrace differences in beliefs, attitudes of families and providers, and can be applied in development of specific interventions or processes.

How do we achieve "diversified communications" at the Academy? How can effective communications be improved at the district level? What do we need to do to ensure that pediatricians practicing in different settings or with varying beliefs are heard? Can we develop child health strategies that have diversified communications?

Social media is a key tool, and having a secured integrated social network system within the Academy is imperative. Social media is one of the ways to diversify communications and impact child health and advocacy. With a strong infrastructure at the Academy, it can improve the value of being an AAP member; enhance communications with members; provide opportunities for input to committees, councils and sections; strengthen inter-chapter relationships within districts and membership participation in chapters; and efficiently promote health agendas.



Keith R. Dveirin, M.D., FAAP
District Vice Chairperson Candidate

Dr. Dveirin has spent his entire pediatric career in District VIII — first six years training and working at Children's Hospital in Seattle, then 16 years in private practice as a general pediatrician

in Tucson, Ariz. You could say that he knows District VIII from top to bottom.

Dr. Dveirin is a past vice president and president of the AAP Arizona Chapter from 2003-'08 and has been active on the chapter's continuing medical education and legislative committees. Since 2008, he has served on the AAP National Nominating Committee (NNC) and currently is chair of the NNC. He is a member of the AAP Section on Administration and Practice Management. He has attended the last eight Annual Leadership Forums, National Conference & Exhibitions, and many other AAP legislative, advocacy and leadership meetings.

He practices general pediatrics in a four-pediatrician group, providing inpatient, outpatient and newborn care, with an interest in children with special needs.

Dr. Dveirin is a past president of the county pediatric society and a past chairman of pediatrics at Tucson Medical Center. He is clinical faculty at the University of Arizona School of Medicine, teaching medical students and residents, and has won several teaching awards. He writes guest editorials on medical issues for the local newspaper. For the past 10 years, he has been a volunteer community mohel.

Prior to moving to District VIII, Dr. Dveirin graduated from Stanford University and the University of California

San Francisco School of Medicine. He and his wife, a psychologist at the University of Arizona, have two tween daughters.



Martha Middlemist, M.D., FAAP
District Vice Chairperson Candidate

Born and raised in Colorado, Dr. Middlemist has been a pediatrician in private practice for 15 years. She graduated from the University of Denver and attended the University of Colorado School of Medicine. She completed her pediatric training at Denver's Children's Hospital. She has worked in a large pediatric practice serving children and their families in the Denver area.

Dr. Middlemist has been involved in advocacy for pediatricians and children through her work with the AAP Colorado Chapter. From 2005-'08, she served as chapter president. Nationally, Dr. Middlemist is a member of the AAP Section on Telehealth Care and the Section on Early Education and Child Care. In Colorado, Dr. Middlemist is the legislative chair for the chapter, runs the pediatric council and has a position on the Colorado Medical Society, Council on Legislation.

Dr. Middlemist also is involved in Maintenance of Certification (MOC). She serves on the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) Committee on Maintenance of Certification. She also is a member of the General Pediatrics MOC Content Task Force for the ABP.

Her experience in private practice, working with the state legislature, involvement in the pediatric council and service to the ABP gives Dr. Middlemist a strong understanding of many principles that are important to the Academy. Medical home, private payer advocacy, Medicaid, reimbursement and education/certification of pediatricians are all vital to improving the access and quality of children's health.

Married with two teenage children, Dr. Middlemist enjoys running, golf, skiing and traveling.



Neil K. Kaneshiro, M.D., FAAP
National Nominating Committee Candidate

Born and raised in Honolulu, Dr. Kaneshiro spent a few years in Illinois while attending college at Northwestern University. He learned many things there, the most important of which was that while there are wonderful opportunities to learn and experience life all over the world, District VIII is home.

He returned to Honolulu to attend medical school and moved to Seattle to complete general pediatric residency training. In order to advance his knowledge in the areas of health care administration, finance and policy, he also obtained a master's degree in health administration from the University of Washington in 2000.

Dr. Kaneshiro has worked in primary care pediatric practice for 16 years and using his M.H.A. degree has a part-time position with the regional Blue Cross insurer as assistant medical director where he ensures that pediatric issues are not forgotten by the payers.

He has been active in the AAP Washington Chapter since residency, serving on the board of trustees, as well

as being the chapter representative to the State Vaccine Advisory Committee. He also was chapter president in 2007-'09. He is finishing a term as District VIII representative on the Chapter Forum Management Committee.



Beverly A. Neyland, M.D., FAAP
National Nominating Committee Candidate

Dr. Neyland, professor of pediatrics at the University of Nevada School of Medicine (UNSOM), earned a B.S. degree from Bennett College in Greensboro, N.C., and an M.D. from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tenn. Additional training includes an externship at the University of Zagreb, Yugoslavia; an internship at Long Beach Memorial Children's Hospital in California; and pediatric residency at the University of California, Los Angeles/Harbor General Hospital in Torrance, Calif. She is board-certified by the American Board of Pediatrics.

She was in private practice in Las Vegas for 22 years; from 1974-'85 she served as chief of pediatrics at the University Center of Southern Nevada and chief of pediatrics at the Sunrise Hospital and Children's Hospital from 1990-2001. Since 1996, she has served as a member of the faculty in the Department of Pediatrics at the UNSOM in Las Vegas. She served as clinical director of the University Medical Center, Lieds Pediatric Ambulatory Care Clinic; and as interim chairperson of the Department of Pediatrics at UNSOM until a permanent chairperson was selected.

Dr. Neyland is vice president of the Nevada Chapter; co-chair of the Admission Committee-UNSOM; and member of the Governor's Maternal and Child Advisory Board. Recently, she was appointed to the Nevada Board of Medical Examiners. She has received honors and awards such as the B'nai B'rith Women of Valor Award, and honors from Committed 100 Men Helping Boys and the Professional Black Women Alliance. She has always been an active advocate for children.

DISTRICT IX



Stuart A. Cohen, M.D., FAAP
District Vice Chairperson Candidate

Dr. Cohen has been a senior shareholder and board member of Children's Primary Care Medical Group of San Diego since 1996. The 2010 recipient of the Abraham Jacobi Memorial Award, he has been an American Medical Association (AMA) delegate to the Academy since 1996, and serves on the AMA Group Practice Advisory Board.

He chairs the AAP delegation at the California Medical Association and is a past president of the San Diego County Medical Society. Dr. Cohen is board chair and president of the philanthropic San Diego County Medical Society Foundation and is medical director of Camp Mountain Chai in Big Bear Lake, Calif.

His AAP activities include past president of California

Chapter 3, Chapter Forum Committee, National Nominating Committee and the AAP Task Force on Reimbursement. He is chair of the Nominating Committee for the Section on Administration and Practice Management, and is a member of the Council on Community Pediatrics, was a recipient of a Maternal and Child Health Bureau Healthy Tomorrow's grant for the San Diego Kids Health Assurance Network project. Dr. Cohen chairs the California District continuing medical education Las Vegas seminars.

Dr. Cohen, appointed to fill the remaining term of Richard Pan, M.D., FAAP, as district vice chairperson, is running for a full term. He hopes to continue his work in helping the district board successfully promote increased transparency and accountability in its stewardship, as well as enhancing membership and non-membership revenue streams. He also wants to continue his advocacy for improved access to care for children and appropriate reimbursement for pediatricians statewide and nationally.

Dr. Cohen lives with his wife, Dana, a postpartum nurse manager, and their four boys in San Diego.

DISTRICT X



Sara H. Goza, M.D., FAAP
District Chairperson Candidate

Biography

Dr. Goza is a general pediatrician in Fayetteville, Ga., where she has practiced for 23 years. She also serves as medical director for Kidstime Pediatrics Southern Crescent, an after-hours clinic owned by more than 30 pediatricians in south metro Atlanta.

Born in Atlanta, she earned her B.S. at Rhodes College and her M.D. from the Medical College of Georgia. She completed her training at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. While there, she served on numerous committees and was house staff association president.

Dr. Goza has served in the Georgia Chapter as a district representative, newsletter editor, vice president, president, nominating committee chair and on the Pediatric Foundation of Georgia. She remains involved as chair of the Medicaid Task Force and on the Legislative Committee and Fall CME Planning Committee. She has tirelessly advocated for access to care for Georgia's children and for fairness of the Medicaid system for pediatricians. She also is the District X representative on the AAP National Nominating Committee.

She currently serves as chair of the Department of Pediatrics at Piedmont Fayette Hospital and has served on the Credentials Committee there. She serves as a preceptor for pediatric residents and nurse practitioner and physician assistant students. She serves on the board of directors for Joseph Sams School, a school for children with special needs.

She has in the past been on boards of Fayette Council for Battered Women, Fayette Council on Child Abuse, Fayette and Clayton County Child Fatality Review Boards, and the Girl Scouts of Pine Valley Council.

Position statement

I believe the American Academy of Pediatrics is a strong organization, but I also believe it could be stronger. The

strength of the Academy rests in its members. We as a group are a better voice for children than if we stand alone. It is imperative that our organization embrace and engage generalist, specialist and academicians at both the national and chapter levels. I like to compare it to a three-legged stool. Without all three legs, the stool falls over and will not stand. With all three legs, the stool stands strong.

The Academy needs its members to stand strong to effectively advocate for what is right for children and pediatricians. We must band together to fend off the attacks on our profession and on what we love to do — to take care of children. The challenges we face today are frightening and many.

If elected District X chairperson, I will work diligently to strengthen our chapters and in turn to strengthen the Academy. We must reach out to retain our current members as well as reaching out to engage those pediatricians who are not members. We must let our colleagues know what the Academy and our chapters are doing for children and for us. Communication to chapters for dissemination to members at that level is critical to the success of the Academy.

We as an Academy must strive to be the first place to which pediatricians, politicians and parents look for what is best for children.



Edward N. Zissman, M.D., FAAP
District Chairperson Candidate

Biography

Dr. Zissman founded Altamonte Pediatric Associates, a three office, six pediatrician, seven certified pediatric nurse practitioner practice in central Florida with

45,000 annual visits.

His commitment to advocacy for both children and pediatricians led him to become active in the AAP Florida Chapter (FCAAP), where he served in all officer positions and chaired the Pediatric Council, PAC, Practice Management and Child Health Finance committees. While president, he organized the FCAAP strategic planning and developed the FCAAP Resident Section.

Dr. Zissman's AAP service includes District X vice chairperson; CPT Coding Trainers Network – Florida trainer; Annual Leadership Forum lecturer: "Strategic Planning for Chapters"; conference presenter: practice management/coding/negotiating; Section on Administration and Practice Management (SOAPM) Executive Committee; Committee on Child Health Finance; representative to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-Vaccines for Children accountability workgroup; and lead subject matter expert: "Negotiating Contracts with Payers" PediaLink module.

Dr. Zissman graduated from Temple University and Hahnemann Medical College and served as pediatric chief at Naval Hospital Orlando. Pediatric training was at Sinai Hospital, Baltimore; Naval Hospital, Chelsea, Mass., and Tufts NEMC. He and his wife, Phyllis, a pediatric practice administrator, have raised four children and have three grandchildren.

His community service includes founding central Florida medical director of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and the Tay-Sachs Disease screening program; founding president and lifetime board member of a central Florida private school; mentor to students at the pre-

medical, medical and residency levels; assistant professor of pediatrics at University of Central Florida College of Medicine; and various leadership roles on the boards of local and national community service organizations.

Position statement

As the premiere advocate for children, pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists, the Academy must continue to support our diverse members with strong policy in the many areas we face challenges. From vaccine hesitancy to provider payments, alternative care sites to legislative roadblocks that threaten the doctor-patient relationship, the Academy proudly serves as the national voice for leadership in children's health and pediatric best practices.

My AAP leadership began with appointments to chair the combined FCAAP third party/child health finance committees, and to the original AAP Current Procedural Terminology coding trainers' network. Since that time, the Academy has evolved from a singular mission supporting children's health to broader advocacy for pediatric providers. I have been active in that evolution on both the SOAPM executive and the Child Health Finance committees.

I have worked diligently to convince Florida Medicaid to provide its children with access to care and fair payment to pediatricians for services that are accessible, continuous, comprehensive, family-centered, coordinated, compassionate, culturally effective and evidence based. I have helped to organize the FCAAP lawsuit attempt to accomplish that.

As your District X vice chair, my accomplishments include assisting Alabama, Georgia and Puerto Rico to win the AAP Outstanding Chapter awards, increasing district vice chair and district chair interaction, establishing the District X Web page and listserv, while co-chairing the ad hoc AAP committee on bar coding of vaccine products.

I continue to focus on increasing the value of AAP and state chapters' membership, and look forward to representing you on the AAP Board as your district chair.



James C. Wiley, M.D., FAAP
District Vice Chairperson Candidate

Dr. Wiley is president of the AAP Alabama Chapter. He graduated from the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., and the University of Alabama School of Medicine. He completed his pediatric residency at University of Alabama at Birmingham and The Children's Hospital of Alabama. He practiced general pediatrics for 18 years and has been named in Best Doctors and America's Top Pediatricians. He was awarded the Master Pediatrician honor by Children's Health System in 2006.

In addition to serving as medical director at Dothan Pediatric Clinic, Dr. Wiley has served as medical staff president of Southeast Alabama Medical Center and chairman of the Department of Pediatrics at Flowers Hospital in Dothan.

In addition to serving as president from 2009-'11, Dr. Wiley has held numerous roles within the leadership of the Alabama Chapter, including vice president, area representative on the Executive Board, continuing medical education chair, Schooled in Asthma Task Force member and physician project leader of Alabama's Chapter Quality

Network Asthma Quality Improvement Project, in which he successfully led 12 practices in the state's first pediatric quality improvement collaborative. During his tenure as president, he has strengthened the chapter's relations with the state's Departments of Pediatrics, as well as helped to create a strong partnership with the business community in building the business case for early childhood investment.

His current practice, Focus Inc. in Mobile, is devoted to the diagnosis and multimodal treatment of attention and learning problems. In addition to attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, his clinical interests include asthma and childhood obesity. He is married and has three children.



Avril P. Beckford, M.D., FAAP
National Nominating Committee Candidate

Dr. Beckford is passionate about serving the Academy. She served as the Georgia Chapter president (2008-'10), when the chapter received the Outstanding Very Large Chapter Award. She

currently serves as past president and chair of the Georgia Chapter Nominations and Foundation Committee. She has served as an AAP spokesperson on CNN and PBS and has had editorials published in *USA Today* and the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. She is the author of a parenting book and two children's books and has given talks internationally.

As a member of the Georgia Chapter, she has served as a board member (District representative) and as chair of the Section on Families and Professionalism. Dr. Beckford also has served on a number of nonprofit boards. She is the founding member of The Pediatric and Adolescent Center and is the chief pediatric officer for the Wellstar Health System.

Her constant joy and inspiration comes from the opportunity to serve children.

She is married to Lawrence Rowley, M.D., and they have raised two wonderful sons.



American Academy of Pediatrics

Voting takes place Sept. 1 through Oct. 1.