

# MAHS Newsletter



## State Service Project: Kickin' It Childhood Disease

The Minnesota Association of Honor Societies and the Minnesota Association of Student Councils will be working together for one state-wide

“Prescription for Success”.

This year’s project is open-ended and easy to get involved with. Your school probably already has a service project that ties into childhood disease! Feel free to count these commitments as your contribution to the project. If not, there are plenty of ideas to help you get started.

- Operation Smile
- Locks of Love
- ...And many more!

Remember to be creative; this service project is meant to be flexible. Please send in any creative or exciting things your school or community has taken on to support the State Service Project at the MAHS website.

### Teens Kickin' It: Childhood Diseases



service project this year. Our theme this year is “Teens Kickin’ it Childhood Diseases” it is tied to the Rochester State Convention’s theme,

Some organizations that would be worth looking into are

- Pennies for Patients
- Children’s Lighthouse of Minnesota
- Ronald McDonald House
- JDRF

Be sure to keep track of your school’s contributions and bring the totals to the State Convention in April so you can share all of your work!

-Svati Pazhyanur, Eastview High School, Eastview MN

## STAR Leaders Conference

Last summer, I had the opportunity to attend the first (and sadly, last) STAR Leaders Conference, in St. Louis, Missouri. I didn’t know what exactly to expect; I had never been to a national convention of any kind before, where I would have the chance to meet people vastly

different than me, from far off places like New Hampshire and Louisiana. Indeed, as soon as we arrived at our St. Louis hotel, our humble troupe of Minnesotans was instantly enveloped into a flurry of activity. Each state had their own version of fun going on, some versions louder

than others. (Just ask anyone about ‘rowdy’ Oklahoma.)

The following day, the official conference actually began. We had several spectacular speakers, including Vernice ‘Flygirl’ Armour...

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## MAHS/MASC State Convention

- > April 21-23, 2012
- > Prescription for Success
- > Century High School — Rochester, MN
- > [www.youtube.com/watch?v=hMVIkyJqpPg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hMVIkyJqpPg)





Rochester Century High School

### MAHS/MASC State Convention

This year MAHS and MASC will have a combined State Leadership Convention. The Executive Committee's of each organization have been working together to make this transition as smooth as possible for everyone that will be attending; there are registration forms on the website.

The title for this convention is

"Prescription for Success" and the theme is medical based. The location shall be at Century High School - Rochester, MN and the dates are Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> though Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

It is our hope that everyone will be able to attend; since there will be candidates who will be running for the Executive Offices (President, Vice Presi-

dent, and Secretary) if you would like to run for a State Officer the forms are also on the website. There shall also be two guest speakers and other members of NHS from all over the State!

*"We hope to see you there!"*

-Daniel Harren, Bertha-Hewitt High School, Bertha, MN

**Forms of Registration for the upcoming State Convention, along with the form for running for a State Officer will be on the website soon.**

### Dodgeball Tournament for Minnesota JDRF

Eastview's chapter of NHS holds an annual dodgeball tournament to raise money for the Minnesota Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF.)

The tournament is always very highly anticipated and encourages lots of participation. Last year, we raised \$2000!

To make it more interesting, we offered prizes to the teams with the best costumes, best sportsmanship, and more!

The tournament is a great way to raise money for a worthy cause (and serve as Eastview's contribution to the State Ser-

vice Project), not to mention...who doesn't love an exciting game of dodgeball?

-Svati Pazhyanur, Eastview High School, Apple Valley, MN



*dedicated to finding a cure*



## Continued STAR Leaders Conference

the first African American woman fighter pilot, and Judson Laipply, the world famous internet sensation behind “Evolution of Dance.” Needless to say, the excitement of the two and a half days rose and fell with the drop of a hat. One minute, we could be listening intently to a heartbreaking speech, the next we could be dancing to Michael Jackson. There would be tremendous moments of calm reflection hidden inside what seemed like the most organized form of chaos. We had opportunities to idea-share with organizations from all over the country, and even some places outside of it. There were breakout sessions with smaller groups focused around a speaker in a more intimate atmosphere, as well as chances

to show off our state cheers in front of the whole assembly.

Getting more to the point, the STAR Leaders Conference was both seriously fun and seriously serious. Not only did we get to learn the Evolution of Dance, we got to see how different chapters of NHS operate around the country, and just how differently they can be run. I did mention in my opening that it was also the last STAR Leaders Conference as well. This is true.

But never fear! There are still multiple chances to attend national conferences for NHS in the future. Every year, the NASSP hold a few LEAD conferences all across the country. LEAD stands for Lead-

ership Experience and Development, and the goals of LEAD and STAR Leaders are basically the same. Although it is a bit late to register for the last two conferences of this school year, which both occur in February in Washington, D.C., and Chicago, there will be more to pick from next school year.

Although it might seem a bit cliché, STAR Leaders genuinely changed my life, maybe not in massive ways, but in enough little ways that make me a better leader and a better person. If given the chance, I would wholeheartedly suggest that all of you out there attend one of the upcoming LEAD conferences.

-Charlie Wilcox, Chisago Lakes High School, Lindstrom, MN

**There is still time to register for the Chicago and D.C. LEAD Conferences, check the website at [leadconferences.org](http://leadconferences.org)**

**Next Fall, November 9-11, there will be a LEAD Conference in Phoenix, Arizona**

***“The future belongs to the few of us still willing to get our hands dirty”***

## Review of President’s Forum

MAHS and MASC began an amazing partnership in Alexandria, Minnesota on November 14<sup>th</sup> at the President’s Forum.

Phil Boyte, our guest speaker, did a superior job of engaging a room full of high school students with his hands-on approach to leadership training. He used traditional ice breakers and get-to-know-you

games to illustrate the importance of making connections to achieve goals for larger initiatives. Mr. Boyte’s approach left students with new friends and an excitement to kick off a year of service.

The Presidents’ Forum also introduced the State Service Project, Teens Kickin’ It to Childhood Diseases.

The State Executive Boards presented ideas for all chapters to get involved with this state-wide initiative. Overall, the forum was a memorable success and a great start to an enjoyable year.

-Svati Pazhyanur, Eastview High School, Apple Valley, MN



**Location of President’s Forum**

## The New Year

With the New Year comes New Year Resolutions. This creates an excellent time for us to reflect upon the previous year to see if we have been upholding our commitment to NHS and its values. Charterer, Scholarship, Leadership, and Service are the pillars on which the National Honor Society stands. We should strive to include these characteristics in all that we do.

The celebration of the New Year is one of the oldest holidays. Many people associate this holiday with having fun, staying up late, and making various goals for the next year. This year could be different though, usually people set a few futile goals that will be forgotten by the end of the

month. Let us instead set one specific goal that we can follow through for the entire year: To try our best to embody the values of NHS with every action.

Aim to represent character by coming to school every day with an optimistic attitude that today will be a glorious day, and show it through a smile. Try your best to elevate your scholastic level. Working at being a leader can be hard work, but struggle through and put the effort into it because it is important to lead and to be a superior role model for everyone within your community. Taking time out of your day to volunteer should not only provide an opportunity for other person to feel appreciative, but it

should also be pleasing to you. Service ought to be one of the most rewarding pillars to represent.

This year will be different from last year, so why not change our New Year's Resolutions. We can make miscellaneous goals and not follow through, or set a specific goal of trying our best to embody the values of NHS with all of our actions. Let us, the members of National Honor Society, start the New Year off with a great commitment to our community!

-Daniel Harren, Bertha-Hewitt High School, Bertha, MN



***“Service ought to be one of the most rewarding pillars to represent.”***

Access further information on <http://www.massp.org/mahs.html>



***Be sure to LIKE us on Facebook --- head to the MAHS website and click on the Facebook link.***

