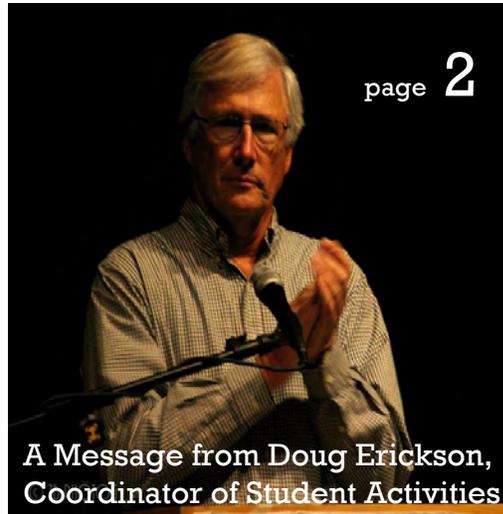


Meet the 2012-2013 Division Presidents!

Capital – Carl Zwieng, Irondale
Central – Mack Liebl, Rocori
Eastern – Ajan Ajanic, Fridley
Hennepin – Connor Bass, South
Northeast – Breena Alfredson, Cherry
Northwest – Dawson Ehlke, Fosston
South Central – Jayme Harlander
Southeast – Alex Cheng, John Marshall
Southwest – Charles Fenske, Willmar
Western – Ian Fritz, Detroit Lakes

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A Message from Doug Erickson,
Coordinator of Student Activities

MASC State Convention



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State Service Project

Upcoming Dates

- Mar 5** Deadline for advisors to reserve a hotel room in Owatonna/Medford
- Mar 15** Due in MASSP office:
- Advisor of the Year nominations
 - Administrator of the Year nominations
 - Outstanding Student Council nominations
 - Officer of the Year nominations
 - State officer nominations
 - State convention registration
 - Roundtable/workshop/hot topic submissions
- Apr 6-8** State Convention at Medford High School and Owatonna High School
- Apr 12** Deadline for NASC registration
- Jun 20-24** 2013 NASC National Conference in Las Vegas, NV

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“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, concerned citizens can change world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has.” – Margaret Mead

Greetings MASC!

Can you believe it's already March? Holy buckets, this year has flown by! We are only a couple of weeks away from spring break, and then in the beginning of April, it's the 2013 MASC State Convention. After that, we finally can start our countdown to summer, even though that seems pretty far away with all this snow outside. Despite the cold, dreary weather, I hope everyone is staying motivated in school and in their activities. As student leaders, it is our responsibility to bring enthusiasm and positivity to our schools and communities everyday. With a little elbow grease and a little passion, we can truly make an impact in the world.

— Sophie Zhou, MASC Vice President

A Message From Doug Erickson, MASC Coordinator of Student Activities



I am sure some of you have noticed—the 2012-13 school year is passing quickly. It is a little bit like my gas gauge. The needle stays on full forever and then plummets to empty. Okay—maybe not yours but it seems that way to me. The same is true for the school year. We just crowned a homecoming queen and now people are planning prom. Of course, that does mean we are rapidly approaching the state leadership convention. I will not spend time on what our convention coordinators will cover elsewhere in the newsletter except for a few reminders.

Reminders and Upcoming Dates

If you are reading this article, you have found our new website (<http://masc-mahs.org>). Find the calendar heading at the top of the page and click on it. You will see **March 11th** is an important due date for many different items. Pay especially close attention to the state officer due date. I need to have that information by the due date. I will contact anyone who is running for state office and let them know I have received their information to run. Also, **March 5th** is the day the advisor must

make reservations at one of the four hotels in the Owatonna/Medford area. On **May 22**, we will host a middle level/junior high conference at our offices in St. Paul. The theme is "Fishin' for Leadership." It will be a low cost, one day experience.

Updates on the President

Our president, Ali Mohr, has been busy. On January 17, she spoke to a large group of school board members. Their questions centered mainly on safety and the difficulty of high school courses. Ali handled every question with a deftness that most of our politicians lack. She did not even need to grab an awkward drink of water as Mr. Rubio did during the Republicans response to President Obama's address. On January 30th, Ali was honored by the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals at their winter conference. It was a big night for Sauk Rapids/Rice as Ali's principal was named Minnesota's High School Principal of the Year.

Medical Amnesty

Your executive board heard a thought provoking presentation by a group promoting Medical Amnesty. Basically, the group was proposing a law that would eliminate an underage drinking violation if a person called 9-1-1 to get medical help for a friend who had too much to drink. The students, who are part of the University of Minnesota student governing body, will present during our hot topic sessions. The delegates will vote on whether to

support this initiative. This is a real life issue that your executive board has decided to let you give your input.

MASC State Convention

As part of my position of CSA I have had the opportunity to meet with divisions across the state and even travel to North Carolina and Illinois. Each time I meet students who are involved in leadership, I am more and more impressed with the depth of their commitment. I am so excited to see many of you at the state leadership convention. The Medford and Owatonna student councils have put countless hours into the planning of this convention. We have great speakers, activities, the excitement of an election, and even a semi-formal (if you want to get dressed up) banquet.

NASC National Conference

If you cannot make the state leadership convention, travel with us to Las Vegas on June 20-24. If that is not possible, we have the summer leadership camp in St. Cloud on August 4 and 5. Whenever possible, whether it is division meeting or a national conference, try to expand your leadership experience and bring back that experience to your school. It has been an honor to serve you as the coordinator of student activities.

Doug Erickson
Coordinator of Student Activities
763-232-2501



2013 MASC State Convention

Lights, Camera, Lead!

The 2013 MASC/MAHS State Leadership Convention, “Lights, Action, Lead” is Saturday, April 6th to Sunday April 8th at Medford and Owatonna High Schools. We are pleased to have Keith Hawkins and Yahya Bakkar as our convention keynote speakers, and we are excited to see you there!



Registration Cost – The registration fee for the 2013 MASC/MAHS State Leadership Convention will be \$140 per student and \$170 per advisor. Each MASC member school is allowed to bring 3 voting delegates, 1 non-voting delegate, and 1 presenter delegate.



Roundtable Presenters – Roundtable sessions are 12 minutes in length and repeated four times, and workshop presentations are 24 minutes in length and repeated two times. If you or someone at your school is interested in presenting a roundtable about community service projects, activities, or events that you have done at your school, please email a title and description of the presentation at derickson@orono.k12.mn.us by **March 11th**.

Running for a State Officer – If you are interested in running for a MASC or MAHS Executive Committee position, you can find the forms on the new website (<http://masc-mahs.org/>) under “Forms.” Forms are due by **March 11th**. You may mail, fax (651-999-7331)



or scan (renee.leforte@mail.massp.org) your application. You will receive a confirmation email.

Awards – All of the forms for the awards presented at the MASC/MAHS State Leadership Convention are available online under forms. The award forms are due to the MASC/MAHS office on **March 11th**.

Convention Registration Forms – Please head to the MAHS/MASC new website under forms for all of the forms needed for the MASC/MAHS State Leadership Convention registration. Once you have filled out all the forms, they can be faxed (651-999-7331) or scanned and sent to renee.leforte@mail.massp.org.



2013 NASC National Conference

The 2013 NASC Conference will be held at Sunrise Mountain High School in Las Vegas, Nevada. The conference will be held from Saturday, June 22nd to Monday, June 24th, although the Minnesota delegation will be traveling starting on Thursday, June 20th for some pre-conference bonding.

Flight Information: We will be traveling on Sun Country Airlines from the Hubert Humphrey Terminal. We will meet at the airport at 2pm on June 20th. Our flight is SY105 departing at 4:05pm arriving in Las Vegas at 5:20pm. There will be 35 spots reserved until April 12th. We will return the late evening of Tuesday, June 24th. We will leave after the closing general session of the NASC conference. Our flight is SY106 at 6:10pm arriving at Hubert Humphrey (Terminal #2) at 11:07pm. Doug has negotiated two free bags per person. That is 100 pounds of free luggage!

Hotel Information: The Minnesota delegation will be staying at the Hilton Grand Vacations Club for four nights. This is the largest non-gaming hotel on the Las Vegas strip. Students will be studying four to a room. All rooms are considered suites.

Pre-Conference Activities: On Thursday and Friday, the Minnesota delegation will be enjoying many of the family friendly activities within walking distance of the hotel. Minnesota advisors will be in direct supervision of all the pre-convention activities.

Conference: Starting on Saturday, June 22nd, students and advisors will be attending the NASC National Conference where they will participate in general sessions with nationally known keynote speakers, attend small group workshops, and network with student leaders from around the country. All of the NASC National Conference will take place at Sunrise Mountain High School in Las Vegas. Phil Boyte and Amy Gallimore are the two featured speakers. More information can be found at <http://www.nasconference.org/>.

Registration and Costs: The Minnesota delegation is open to students who will be in grades 9-12 in the fall of 2013. The registration form must be filled out online at <http://nasconference.org>. All sections must be filled out completely by the advisor and student in one sitting. Please be specific in the areas of allergies and special dietary needs.

The early bird registration (\$1045) is due by **April 12th at 3pm**. This package price includes air transportation, ground transportation, hotel (four night stay), conference registration, t-shirts, and trading items. This rate does not include meals for our touring days (6/20 and 6/21) and lunch and dinner on the day we are traveling home (6/24). Each student receives three t-shirts for the conference and trading items. The t-shirts are to be worn by the delegates during the NASC National Conference. A \$450 deposit per person by April 12th will hold your space, and full payment is due Friday, June 1st. Checks should be made payable to MASC (Minnesota Association of Student Councils).

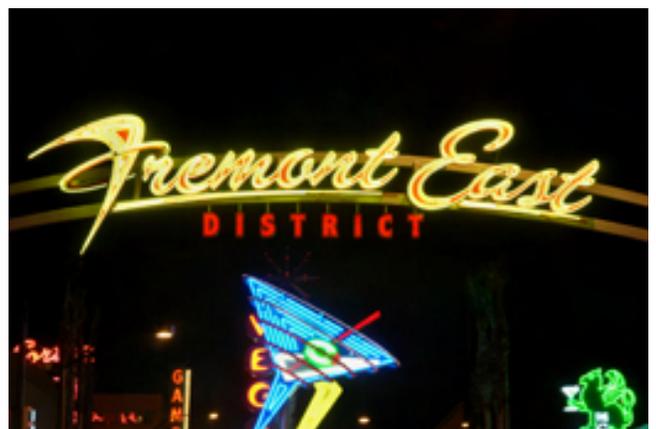
Vegas Fun Facts!

Las Vegas is a vibrant city with lots of history and fun facts. Below are a few fun facts about the city and the surrounding area.

- The city of Las Vegas celebrated its 100th birthday on May 15, 2005. The event celebrated the May 15, 1905 land auction when 110 acres of land in downtown Las Vegas were auctioned off.
- The Hoover Dam was completed in 1935. It took a total of 21,000 men five years to complete the structure.
- The famous “Welcome to Las Vegas” sign was created in 1959 by Betty Willis.
- In 2011, more than 368 million people visited Las Vegas. Compare this to 1970 when a mere 6.7 million people visited the city.
- Las Vegas is home to Clark County School District, the fifth largest school district, which currently handles more than 311,000 students.
- The famous Las Vegas strip is for the most part, not within the city limits of Las Vegas. The majority of the strip is located within Clark County.
- The Stratosphere Hotel and Tower, at more than 1,100 feet, is the tallest building west of the Mississippi and the fifth tallest building in the United States.
- Fremont Street was closed to traffic in 1994. The Fremont Street Experience opened in December 1995.

Photos courtesy of Las Vegas News Bureau

Taken from http://www.nascconference.org/las_vegas.html





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2012-2013 State Service Project

Fighting Hunger, Poverty, and Education

This year, our state service project is focused on:

1. Combating hunger locally and globally
2. Supporting child education

As a united front, we can combat hunger, poverty, and education locally and globally!

(continued on next page)



State Service Project

How You and Your Student Council Can Help

Here some suggestions as to what you and your student council can do to participate in the state service project. The most important part of this project is to get your entire school involved! The more, the merrier, and the bigger the impact we can make! ☺

Door-to-Door Food Collection

- Method 1: Officers should divide the city into sections and designate groups of three to four people to ring doorbells for that section.
- Method 2: Each group can drop of pamphlets to people's houses with information about the food drive, such as your school's name, the purpose of your food drive, and when you will be collecting the food. With the pamphlet, leave a brown paper bag (you can get donations from local grocery stores), and include on the pamphlet that people can just leave food in the brown paper bag, and you will come by to collect the bags in that neighborhood on a specific date. That way, you don't have to disturb people by ringing their doorbell.
- This can also be done in coordination with other local student councils.

Food Drive Competition

- Motivate students by setting up a privileged prize to the homeroom, grade, first period class, etc. that collects the most food.
- Examples of prizes: pizza party, bagels, longer lunch, etc.

- You could even do this by including middle and elementary schools to make it a district wide competition. Younger kids will love to take part!

Check the website of your local food shelf to see what items are requested most!

Kids Against Hunger Drives

- "This was very popular at my school. I had organized the first KAH packing, and a survey afterwards revealed that everyone would refer this to a friend, would fundraise more, and would like to do this again." –Rakin Solaiman, MAHS VP
1. Student council and other school organizations work together to decide to undertake a school wide/district wide KAH fundraiser and packaging.
 2. Student council can create a presentation about child hunger and present to each class (grade level). For two weeks, students raise money and submit the funds.
 3. Afterwards, people sign-up to package food.
 4. At a later date, Kids Against Hunger brings the ingredients to the school for packaging, and an entire day is devoted to education and packaging.

This is a great way to get other organizations involved with the service project too! In conjunction with the student fundraising, similar activities like these can bring in enough money for a school-wide packaging (and reduce the amount of money each

student needs to bring: for ex: \$12 instead of \$20.

Pros:

- Cost-effective for children (\$.23 for 6 meals!)
- Good learning experience
- Promotes volunteering among ALL students
- Unites the school

Cons:

- Each student must raise about \$20 to participate in a packaging. There are some recommendations for fundraising later in this article.
- May be difficult to get an entire day off from school to do packaging

Website:

<http://www.kidsagainsthunger.org/>

Silent Auction

This is a great way to raise a large sum of money quickly. It's fun, and you can get students, teachers, parents, and the community involved!

- Students can donate:
 - "Chores" such as yard raking, car washing, etc.
 - Cookies
 - Music lessons
 - Tutoring sessions
 - Knitted hats
 - Art projects
- Teachers can donate:
 - Class outside for a day
 - Pie throws
- To get the community involved, ask local businesses for donations and offer them some kind of advertisement in return. Also, you could open the event up to the public so parents and community members can purchase items too.

(continued on next page)

Dinner-Theatre

You can sell tickets for a half-an-hour to one-hour dinner before a play. Enhance the ambience of your cafeteria by adding decorations and asking students to play the violin or piano during diner.

*You can combine the silent auction with the dinner-theatre to make it more appealing to the public!

(“How You and Your Student Council Can Get Involved” Cont.)

Bake Sale

During school, you can selling cookies or baked goods from a local bakery (ask them for a tax-deductible donation). You can sell them before school as breakfast, during passing time or after school as snacks, and during lunch as desserts.

Enthusiasm

The most important aspect of any project you do is enthusiasm—it will make the biggest difference. Create enthusiasm in the halls, at practice, everywhere! Keep the school updated and interested by reminding them of the events your student council is hosting and your goals. Sometimes, it is helpful to keep students motivated by reminding them with hunger facts over the morning announcements or on posters around the schools.

YUDA Bands

Sell these stylish bands that are handmade in Honduras for \$7 each. \$2 per band goes to a child’s education in Honduras, relieving the burden from local families who cannot afford textbooks, uniforms, pencils, notebooks, etc. YUDA Bands has a website where you can get more information, along with a step-by-step guide as to how you can introduce a YUDA Bands project to your schools (<http://www.yudabands.org/getinvolved/step-by-step/>).

Online Websites

Many websites will donate food if you participate in a game. Some of these include:

- www.freerice.com
- www.thehungersite.com

I hope these suggestions help! ☺

Adapated from Rakin Solaiman’s article

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@MNMASCMAHS

Get updates on conferences, inspiring quotes, and tips to improve your student council!

Find us on Facebook! +

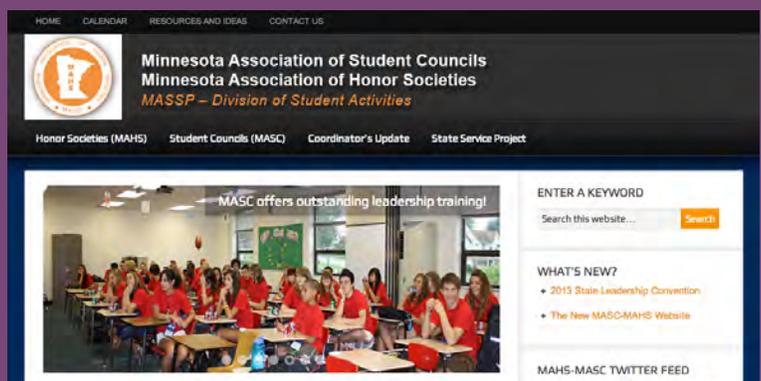
www.facebook.com/mnstudentcouncils

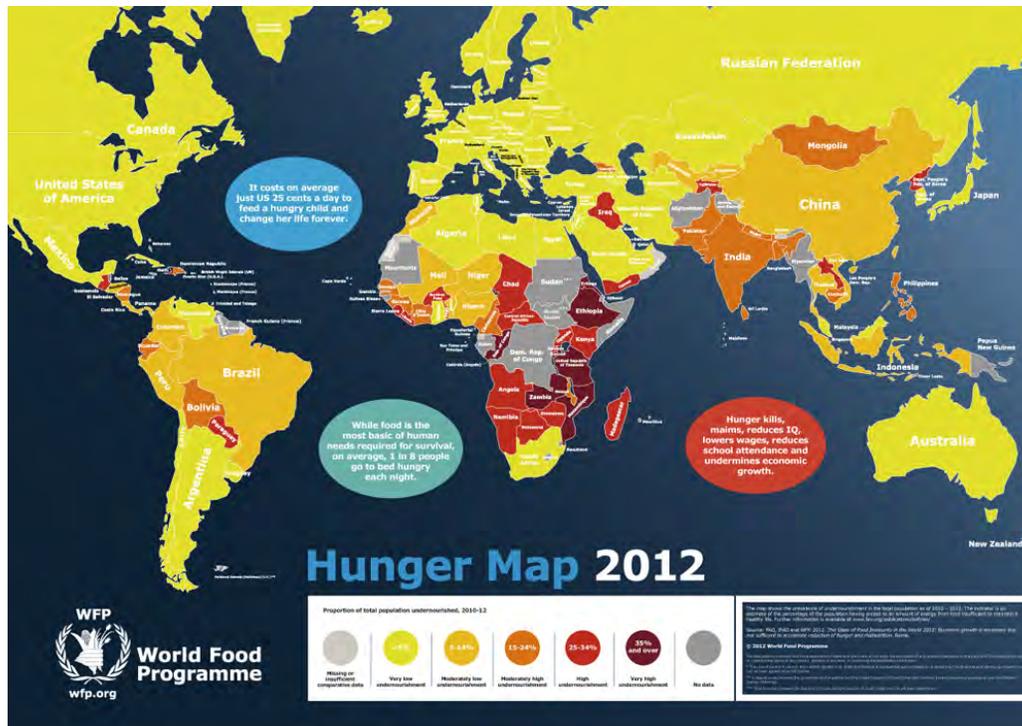
Use our Facebook page to connect, network, and idea share at any time!

Check out our website!

www.masc-mahs.org

Find everything you need... information about conferences, registration dates, forms, newsletters, and more!





Myths and Realities of Hunger

Myth #1: Poor people are unmotivated and have weak work ethics.

The Reality: **Poor people do not have weaker work ethics or lower levels of motivation than wealthier people** (Iversen & Farber, 1996; Wilson, 1997). Although poor people are often stereotyped as lazy, 83 percent of children from low-income

families have at least one employed parent; close to 60 percent have at least one parent who works full-time and year-round (National Center for Children in Poverty, 2004). In fact, the severe shortage of living-wage jobs means that

many poor adults must work two, three, or four jobs. According to the Economic Policy Institute (2002), poor working adults spend more hours working each week than their wealthier counterparts.

Myth #2: Poor parents are uninvolved in their children's learning, largely because they do not value education.

The Reality: **Low-income parents hold the same attitudes about education that wealthy parents do** (Compton-Lilly, 2003; Lareau & Horvat, 1999; Leichter, 1978). Low-income parents are less likely to attend school functions or volunteer in their children's classrooms (National Center for

Education Statistics, 2005)—not because they care less about education, but because they have **less access to school involvement than their wealthier peers**. They are more likely to work multiple jobs, to work evenings, to have jobs without paid leave, and to be unable to

afford child care and public transportation. It might be said more accurately that schools that fail to take these considerations into account do not value the involvement of poor families as much as they value the involvement of other families.

(continued on next page)

(“Myths and Realities of Hunger” Continued)

Myth #3: Poor people are linguistically deficient.

The Reality: **All people, regardless of the languages and language varieties they speak, use a full continuum of language registers** (Bomer, Dworin, May, & Semingson, 2008). What's more, linguists have known for

decades that all language varieties are highly structured with complex grammatical rules (Gee, 2004; Hess, 1974; Miller, Cho, & Bracey, 2005). What often are assumed to be deficient varieties of English—

Appalachian varieties, perhaps, or what some refer to as Black English Vernacular—are no less sophisticated than so-called “standard English.”

Myth #4: Poor people tend to abuse drug and alcohol.

The Reality: **Poor people are no more likely than their wealthier counterparts to abuse alcohol or drugs.** Although drug sales are more *visible* in poor neighborhoods, drug use is equally distributed across poor, middle class, and wealthy communities (Saxe, Kadushin, Tighe, Rindskopf, & Beveridge,

2001). Chen, Sheth, Krejci, and Wallace (2003) found that alcohol consumption is significantly higher among upper middle class white high school students than among poor black high school students. Their finding supports a history of research showing that alcohol abuse is far more prevalent

among wealthy people than among poor people (Diala, Muntaner, & Walrath, 2004; Galea, Ahern, Tracy, & Vlahov, 2007). In other words, considering alcohol and illicit drugs together, wealthy people are more likely than poor people to be substance

Taken from:

Gorski, Paul. “The Myth of the Culture of Poverty.” *Poverty and Learning* 65.7 (2008): 32-36. ASCD. ASCD. Web. 23 Feb. 2013.

Division Presidents

Find out about them in these interviews!

Central Division: Mack Liebl, Rocori High School



I am a senior at ROCORI High School. I am involved in student senate (of course), NHS, Knowledge Bowl, intramural basketball, and Varsity Golf. Our fall division conference was on Halloween, and it went pretty well despite some speaker troubles. We covered some important topics and got them resolved which will hopefully help out schools in our division in the future. Fun facts... I am freakishly good at ping pong, I can ballroom dance, current champion of the Four Person Scramble tournament at Koronis Hills Golf Course (which is also where I am employed). I aspire to become a forensic scientist in the future after I graduate from the University Of Minnesota Duluth, where I currently plan on double majoring in Biochemistry and Criminology.

Eastern Division: Ajan Ajanic, Fridley High School



I am Ajan Ajanic a senior at Fridley Senior High school and I am very involved in my school. I am in student council (obviously), captain of the math team, key club, NHS, Senior mentor, captain of the soccer team and captain of the wrestling team. My future plans are to attend the University of Minnesota Duluth and to study chemical engineering there. One of my goals that I set for my self is leave no regrets in anything I do. At the last winter conference for eastern division we did a Harlem Shake EMASC style.

Here is a link to see the video of the dance:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IaiZMRrdHps>

Northeast Division: Breana Alfredson, Cherry High School



I have been the president of the Northeast Division for the past year. I am a senior at Cherry High School. In addition to CEP classes at the high school I take PESO classes at a local college and will achieve my Associates Arts degree when I graduate. After high school I plan to attend Saint Scholastica in Duluth, MN for my undergraduate in biology and eventually go to Medical School in hopes of becoming a Family Practice Doctor. Within the high school, I am captain of the basketball and play forward. I am also captain of the track team and compete in sprinting events and high jump. In my free time I enjoy duck hunting, fishing, camping, kayaking Lake Superior, skiing, and running.

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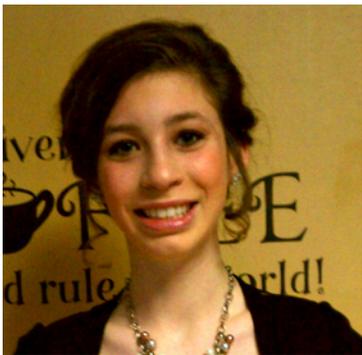
(“Division Presidents” Continued)

Northwest Division: Dawson Ehlke, Fosston HS



I'm a senior this year at Fosston High School, and have been busy with one-act plays, all-school plays, knowledge bowl, and of course student council stuff. We had a great turnout in Fosston for our Fall Summit, and students from different schools got to know each other in ways they probably didn't expect with a pretty wild talent contest, and a new and engaging discussion format for hot topics. Rather than focus on a specific fundraising goal, the NWD executive board decided on and kicked off a volunteer hour drive to promote student leaders directly impacting their own communities through service. We'll tally up the results for the Winter Summit coming up this month, and preliminary figures are looking fantastic! It's been a privilege to work with a great board and a dedicated body of student leaders. I love movies, books, and video games, and my respective favorites are Braveheart, Percy Jackson and the Olympians, and Skyrim. I'm psyched about Star Wars Episode VII and really hope it isn't terrible. I'm planning on attending Northwestern College in St. Paul to pursue Digital Media Arts and Animation, and hope to someday use my leadership skills to lead survivors in the event of a zombie apocalypse, nuclear fallout, or other inevitable global catastrophe.

South Central Division: Jayme Harlander, Hutchinson High School



Hi I'm Jayme Harlander! I'm a junior at Hutchinson High School and am in cross country, danceline, Student council, key club, and link crew. In my spare time I teach dance class, volunteer at church, and read. My favorite book is The Hunger Games!

Southwest Division: Charles Fenske, Willmar High School



Age: 17

Sports: Swimming

Activities: Speech, Student Council, Boy Scouts (Eagle Scout)

Occupations: Lifeguard (specialize in beach fronts and slides), swim lessons instructor, tutor

Hobbies: Thought provoking, reading, listening to One Direction and Public Enemy and 2Pac, and tweeting/checkin Twitter

Future Plans: Business, Law, Education, or Ministry

Fun Facts: Does not have eyebrows

Ron Paul/libertarian advocate

All 104 shirts are organized by color

Currently in a race to 400 followers on Twitter. Follow me @Chazzy_Chaz

Middle Level Workshop

Fishin' for Leadership

Date: May 22nd, 2013

Time: 9:00am to 1:30pm

Location: The New TIES Conference Center (1667 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108). Park in the large back lot and look for conference signs.

Cost: \$15 per student/advisor (Advisor with eight or more students will not be charged)

Who May Attend: Student council members and other leadership groups in your school

Presenter: Doug Erickson, MASSP Coordinator of Student Activities.

Doug is a former middle level teacher at Palatine Middle School in Palatine, Illinois. He has done many one-day leadership workshops for middle level students in Minnesota. He has also presented to middle level students and advisors at the National LEAD conferences. Doug has been a finalist for both the Earl Reum National Workshop Presenter of the Year and the Warren E. Shull Advisor of the Year awards. Currently, Doug teaches a leadership class at Orono High School.

Conference Schedule:

9:00 am Registration

9:15 am Introductions

9:30 am Presentation of "Fishin' for Leadership"

"Fishin' for Leadership" will be a highly interactive workshop based on the four concepts presented in the Fish Philosophy. Students will be introduced to the ideas of "Be There," "Choose Your Attitude," "Play," and "Make Their Day" as they apply them to their student leadership group and school. Doug will make use of power point, video, group discussion, and activities to keep your middle level/junior high students moving and motivated.

11:45 am Lunch

12:30 pm Debriefing and Application

Students will sit down with their councils or leadership groups and look at their own school. They will apply the Fish Philosophy and make a plan to implement the concepts to their school

1:20 pm Final Comments

We hope you will take advantage of this low-cost opportunity to receive content and start your students on a pattern of meeting young leaders from across the state!





MASC/MAHS Region IV Meeting

On Friday and Saturday February 8th and 9th, the MASC/MAHS Executive Committees participated in leadership training with the Executive Committees of Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. Everyone got to exchange ideas, swap stories, and share some laughs! Let's hear what the Executive Committee has to say about the meeting. (MASC VP Sophie wasn't able to attend, although she was present in spirit! ©)

"What can I say? I had a fun-filled weekend getting chased by hotel security, exploring downtown, and hanging with some of the greatest high-school leaders in the United States."
 -- Rakin, MAHS VP

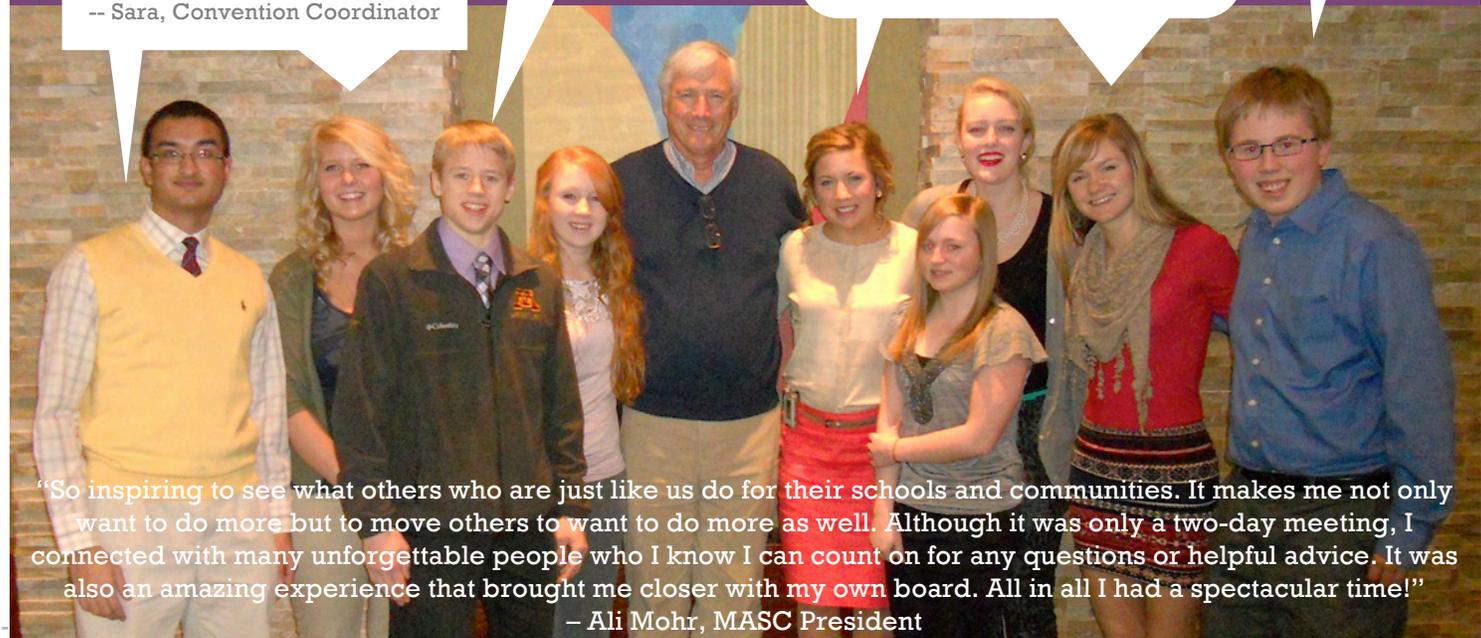
"It was an awesome event filled with great new leadership skills and meeting some cool people from SD, ND, WY, and MI. It was also cool to learn what other states do for their state conventions."
 -- Tyler, Convention Coordinator

"Great way to network and compile different ideas with everyone around the region! Loved hearing how the different states do things!"
 -- Megan, Convention Coordinator

"It was a fun event in Minneapolis for leadership training and networking."
 -- Jack, Convention Coordinator

"It was a great time filled with leadership and meeting some amazing people from SD, ND, MI, and WY! It was really interesting to see what the other states were doing."
 -- Sara, Convention Coordinator

"An amazing experience, getting to reinstall what we are all working towards as student leaders: making high school a better experience for all students, not just the 'Kings and Queens.'"
 -- Sammie, MASC Secretary



"So inspiring to see what others who are just like us do for their schools and communities. It makes me not only want to do more but to move others to want to do more as well. Although it was only a two-day meeting, I connected with many unforgettable people who I know I can count on for any questions or helpful advice. It was also an amazing experience that brought me closer with my own board. All in all I had a spectacular time!"
 -- Ali Mohr, MASC President

At our February meeting, two students representing the University of Minnesota gave us a presentation on Medical Amnesty and asked for our support. Here is some information about the issue. Let us know what your thoughts are!

Medical Amnesty For Minnesota

Medical amnesty legislation gives minors an incentive to make the right choice in a bad situation. This change in the law will grant immunity from underage alcohol consumption and possession prosecution to minors who seek help, as well as the persons receiving the attention. To receive immunity, minors must give their name, stay at the scene, and cooperate with authorities. Immunity from other crimes besides alcohol consumption and possession would not be granted. The policy is one of public safety and has the potential to save lives.

Studies show that more than 10% of students are unlikely to call for medical attention when a person is unresponsive due to alcohol. There should be no hesitation in making a life-saving call. Medical amnesty helps to ensure this hesitation is reduced.

A study conducted by the University of Minnesota's Boynton Health Service found 37% of people age 20 participate in high risk drinking. The potential for medical emergency is high. Efficient and timely medical attention is a necessity. We cannot risk the safety of our young people by enacting legal barriers to medical attention.

Enacted in 10 states already, the policy has seen success in regards to preventing unnecessary complications from alcohol consumption. A study conducted at Cornell University showed that after just two years of medical amnesty being in place, calls to EMTs increased by 22% and students citing fear of facing legal consequences was reduced by 61%.

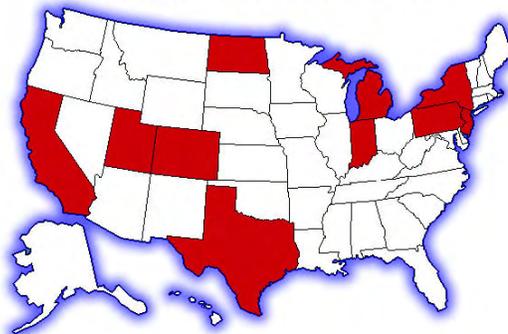
With successful precedent and positive results, medical amnesty in Minnesota is a common sense change that will ensure the call is made and lives are saved.

Taken from the "Medical Amnesty for Minnesota" Facebook page.

Studies show that more than 10% of students are unlikely to call for medical attention when a person is unresponsive due to alcohol.



States with a Medical Amnesty Law



Medical Amnesty for Minnesota
February 25

Studies show that more than 10% of students are unlikely to call for medical attention when a person is unresponsive due to alcohol. There should be no hesitation in making a life-saving call. Sign the petition to support medical amnesty: <http://msa.umn.edu/medicalamnesty/>

Medical Amnesty fo

What's your opinion on the issue? Email sophia.zhou0@gmail.com with your thoughts, and you'll be featured in our next newsletter!