

MAHS/MASC NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FROM THE MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF
HONOR SOCIETIES AND STUDENT COUNCILS



FRONT: Emily, Deborah, Sydney, Ella, Zayda, and Reegan **BACK:** Salma, Courtney, Doug, Hadley, Braden, and Kobe

HELLO!

This is your 2021 MAHS & MASC Vice Presidents Ella Nordlie and Hadley Stephenson! We have lots of exciting news to share about what the current Exec. Board has been working on and other events that are currently happening around the state, so read below to get the scoop. Also, make sure to follow us [@masc_mahsmn](https://www.instagram.com/masc_mahsmn) on Instagram for more updates, and stay tuned for future newsletters to come :)

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The MAHS/MASC Executive Committee met in person for the first time at the Anderson Center at Bethel University on February 26th. The number one agenda item was the upcoming MAHS/MASC state convention. Last year's state convention was canceled due to the Covid pandemic. Karrie Fredrickson, MAHS state advisor and Sartell High School Honor Society advisor, announced that Sartell High School had been given permission to hold an in-person state convention on April 18th. The convention has been modified to meet Covid safety standards. The total number of delegates and advisors will be set at 200. Schools will be limited to three delegates from student council and three delegates from honor society. All significant convention activities will take place on Sunday from 8am to 8pm. This will include Ted Wiese's keynote and activities, election speeches and the candidate forum, idea sharing, big ideas, and a final dinner at 6 pm. Schools that want to stay overnight can book rooms at a convention hotel to be named. Monday morning will have an additional short session after breakfast. MAHS/MASC is grateful for the efforts of Karrie Fredrickson and her student leaders to bring us back to the "new normal!"



FROM LEFT: Sydney Rhodes, Doug Erickson, Braden Bourland, Ella Nordlie, Hadley Stephenson, Zayda Thalacker

MASSP AWARDS & PANEL SOLUTIONS



Ufearo and Caamir receive the MASSP Scholarship

MASC President Salma Caamir and MAHS President Deborah Ufearo were presented with the MASSP Principal's scholarship. The award ceremony took place in person at the Anderson Center on the Bethel University Campus on February 26th. David Adney, Executive Director of the MASSP, presented the awards. Adney stated, "In this covid world it is more important than ever to hear student voices. The organizations led by these two young ladies have been incredibly important. The MASSP appreciates their input on distance learning and racial equity." Salma and Deborah will lead their organizations in the upcoming MAHS/MASC state convention on April 18th.

Exec. Board Hosts Racial Equity Panel; Themes, Thoughts, and Tactical Solutions

After hosting the racial equity panel, the state executive board secretaries found that three common themes arose from the discussion: action, comfort, and social media.

Many students emphasized that when working to create equity, action should not be led by students, but rather admin. Many students have hopes that their administrations will get more involved in the process, creating a supportive environment for everyone.

Many students also highlighted that when it comes to finding solutions for racial equity, it shouldn't take a big event or a death of an innocent person of color to start taking action; we must start taking action now.

Finally, the last theme dealt with comfort. Many believe that we need to accept being uncomfortable, as it will benefit the greater good in the end.

All in all, everyone who participated felt as if it was a very productive discussion. Although we have a long road ahead, it was encouraging to hear about ways to take the next step and create impactful, long-term solutions.

DIVISION SPOTLIGHT

HENNEPIN

Hello! My name is Claire Ficek. I am a senior at Mound Westonka High school, and the current president for the MASC Hennepin Division Board. When I first was brought on to take over this position at such an unknown time, I was worried. Worried that I would not fill the previous president's shoes. Worried that we would not be able to meet and encourage Student Senate members in our area. But most of all, worried that I would fail. Although this year has been uncertain, the Hennepin Division has persevered and was determined to make this year better than ever before.



CLAIRE FICEK, PRESIDENT

Planning began towards the end of the summer for a fall Hennepin Division Meeting. Although schools were distance learning or hybrid learning, and many people were scared to even leave their homes, we knew it was important to motivate Student Council members to create a great school atmosphere. We created meeting agendas for both in person and online meetings, just in case the plans were changed last minute. When the day got closer, Governor Walz had told us we could only have online gatherings. So, we went with Plan B. We sent emails and texts, posted on social media platforms, and had my advisor reach out to other schools. We wanted to make this event HUGE!

And it was! With over 50 kids participating, we had almost every school represented in the MASC Hennepin Division. We started the night off with a PearDeck, asking questions about the school year and opinions on events. We then led into our guest speaker part of the night, where our very own, Doug Erickson, encouraged students to push through the adversity we were facing, and remember that we are all leaders.

We knew that even though this year was full of uncertainty, it was our duty to keep the student body united. After all, that is what Student Senate is all about.

STATE CONVENTION UPDATES

Sartell High School is in the middle of planning for the 2021 MASC MHS State Convention. We are ecstatic to be able to have the convention in person on a condensed schedule. We can't wait to welcome you all to our school! Our district is allowing us to have 200 students in person, however, we will have access to an interactive virtual experience for a reduced price as well. We have planned a 12-hour schedule for April 18th from 8am to 8pm. Our theme is Leadership is the Game of Life and you will be spending your day in a school turned into life-sized board games. Even though the convention is shorter, we have planned to include everything that makes it great. We will have Ted Weise as our speaker for one of our main sessions. There will be time to meet in small groups to discuss both student council and honor society leadership roundtables and big ideas. We also are providing time for our 10 divisions to meet as it has been hard for them to hold meetings this year. Our council is also planning lunchtime activities including a rock wall, fun prizes, and time to network with other students and get to know the candidates. Our day will end with a live game show and banquet dinner where we will announce awards and welcome our new state executive board members. It's only a month away and we can't wait to see you all there!

MORE INFO

Wanna be featured on a division spotlight page in an upcoming newsletter?? Email us at **mascmahsocialmedia@gmail.com** with some information about your division!

Have you been keeping up to date with our real-time Instagram posts?

If not, follow us **@masc_mahsmn** to see what the Exec. Board and other divisions and councils around the state have been up to!

We look forward to seeing as many of you as we can at the State Convention at Sartell High School in April!

- Your Vice Presidents