
MASC/MAHS

By: Kalley Anderson and Maddie Theisen

Welcome!

This will be the last newsletter from the 2015/2016 Exec Board. This year has been incredible and has gone by way too fast. Now, it is time for us to bid farewell as we move on to new adventures. Serving MAHS/MASC is one of the best experiences we have all had and it is with great difficulty that we part with our positions. However, we know that the next MASC/MAHS exec board will do amazing things. Good luck to the candidates running this weekend. We hope that everyone has a fantastic time at this State Convention full of fun leadership activities. We want to wish everyone a great rest of the school year. Goodbye and good luck!

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A Note From Doug

Welcome to the 2016 MAHS/MASC state convention!

Sauk Rapids/Rice student council has done an outstanding job in getting ready for this event. Led by convention coordinators Luke and Sydney and their advisors, Trisha and Cory, you will experience three days of a well-prepared convention. Let's start with the elections. Unlike what has transpired on the national level over the past months, you will witness creative campaigning, thoughtful speeches and impromptu answers to the candidate forum questions. More importantly, you will get a chance to meet the candidates informally during the convention and the Saturday night activities. Finally, the voting delegates will take your input and elect an outstanding 2016-17 executive board. The elections are only the beginning. We have three outstanding speakers that will inspire and entertain you. Jessie Funk was one of your favorites at the national convention in Albuquerque. Mark Lindquist is not only a nationally-ranked speaker, but also has appeared as an actor on many television series and sang the national anthem in major sports stadiums. Finally, I have seen illusionist Russ Peak seven times and I still cannot figure out how he does what he does. Your weekend continues with idea exchanges at the roundtables and discussions during the hot topic sessions. I will take your statements from the hot topic sessions to the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals board of directors meeting on April 16. Your thoughts and ideas on the pressing issues facing high school students will be heard. Did I mention fun? Saturday night will start with illusionist Russ Peak and move to many different activities throughout the school. On Sunday night we will see Minnesota's leaders at their finest as we honor the scholarship winners at the convention center banquet. Afterwards, the delegates will dance to the sound and light show that is Northern Lights. Monday, while your classmates are sleeping through first hour, you will be having breakfast and then attending the final general session. Election results will be announced. The conference video will be shown. Derek and Gopi will bang the gavel for the final time. You will thank your advisor for allowing you to experience "Oh the places you will go" and one place was Sauk Rapids/Rice. On a final personal note, I want to express by gratitude to the 2015-16 executive board. From our first meeting last May to the 23-hour bus rides to and from Albuquerque, the Leadership Forum, the meetings at the office, to finally this convention, they have exemplified leadership at the highest level. Luke, Sydney, Michelle, Grace, Madison, Kalley, Gopi and Derek were each unique personalities that found a way to blend their strengths to make MAHS/MASC a better organization. They are just at the beginning of the "places they will go," but I know I will be amazed at watching their journey. Have a great convention. Meet as many new people as possible. Thank your host families for their generosity. Go back to your schools and make a difference.

Doug Erickson
Coordinator of Student Activities
Minnesota Association of Honor Societies
Minnesota Association of Student Councils

MASC Candidates

Running For President



Brooke Chesley

My name is Brooke Chesley and I am a junior at Marshall Senior High School. I've been in student council for seven years. My leadership qualities include: staying organized, listening to everyone's ideas, and acting upon my position to benefit everyone as a whole. I have attended many conventions throughout my time in student council including the 2015 and 2016 Leadership Forum, last year's State Convention, and the 2015 NASC Convention. Outside of Student Council I am involved in H.E.A.R.T, ACTS, Link Crew, HOSA, Figure Skating, and Speech. In the Southwest division I served positions for the past 2 years and this year I have been elected Division President. If elected as your next MASC State President my goals will be to reduce stress in High School, improve student life on and off campus, be the voice needed for our peers, and increase involvement in MASC.

Luke Vannurden



My name is Luke Vannurden, I'm a junior at Sauk Rapids-Rice. I'm running for President of MASC. I've been in student council 8 years! I've had the opportunity to be a part of the 2015-2016 MASC Executive Board as Convention Co-Coordinator. While on the MASC Executive Board, I was elected Region 4 Student Chair! I'm thrilled to represent Minnesota and 5 surrounding states! I've attended two NASC Conventions. These were great opportunities for me to network with students from across the country to gather ideas for improved communication between our state and others. I'm also involved in Choir, FFA, and 4H. If elected, my goals are to increase participation in MASC, communicate more with our state and national councils and make a lasting impact on our communities and state! I hope to meet all of you at the state convention and serve you as your MASC President.

Whitney Holm



Hello MASC-MAHS, I hope you're having a great school year! I'm a junior at Technical High School in Central division. I have gone to school and lived in four of our state divisions. I believe this helps to make the right person to be MASC president this year and speaks to my experience with a diverse range of schools across Minnesota. My experience in leadership started in elementary school and my passion and drive has continued ever since. I'm on my districts core planning team, President of our Spanish club, a leader within Tech's WE-Act chapter, an active member of our NHS chapter, and of course am an active leader in my schools student council. These activities have taught me the importance of community. Help me create a community throughout our state next year! Let's make something unparalleled. Let's be uniquely diverse and different. Vote Holm for president.

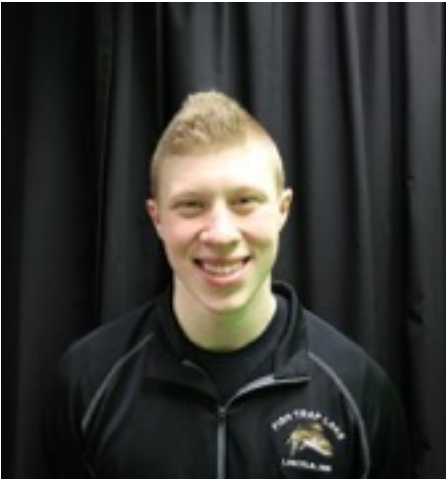


Zeke Peters

Hello MASC! My name is Zeke Peters, and I am from Austin in SED. I am the current president of SED, and am in many other groups including DECA, NHS, Jazz band, Special Olympics, Vision 2020, and even in my own jazz improv/cover band. I am a barista by day and a mortician's assistant by night. I have always had student government as a large part of my life, and I hope it will continue to be. I have many big plans and specific things I want done in MASC. Follow my campaign twitter @ZekeForPres, or just ask me any questions! Cannot wait to see you all at MASC State this year!

Running For Vice-President

Cy Flick



My name is Cy Flick. I am currently a junior at Dassel-Cokato HS. I play varsity football and varsity baseball. I am also a Student Council member, volunteer for unified basketball, and play trombone in the symphonic band. I believe I fit the role of the MASC Vice President because of my dedication and ability to get work done at the highest of standards. I was raised to follow the quote by famous basketball coach John Wooden, "If you don't have time to do it right, when will you have time to do it over?" I have been a member of our Student Council program for two years now, and I aim to take the role as president next year.

Henry Drewes



I'm Henry Drewes and I will be running for MASC Vice President. I attend Prior Lake High School and served as the Student Council Vice President this year. Council is by far the most important and most enjoyable part of my high school experience thus far. If elected, I will bring my passion for council to the state level, planning the best conventions and service projects yet. Besides student council, I compete on our school's speech team, love watching election year politics, and I am currently working with the district school board planning and strategizing our upcoming referendum.

Running For Secretary



Grace Valen

Hi friends! I'm Grace Valen and I'm super excited to be running for MASC Secretary. I'm from Owatonna High School and my love for student council was first born in 3rd grade and I've loved it ever since. Aside from student council I enjoy lacrosse, orchestra, choir, church council, Big Brothers Big Sisters, teaching Sunday school, and working at Owatonna's local coffee shop. On the occasion that I have free time, I enjoy being with my friends, hiking, experimenting with coffee creations, and buying things I don't need from Target. I have always loved being part of something as great as Student Council and all the things that we do. I'm passionate about this and I look forward to each student council convention and meeting other incredible leaders! I hope to represent Minnesota and help make these experiences fantastic for everyone as your 2016-17 MASC Secretary.



Mattea Rice

Hi everyone! I'm Mattea Rice and I'm running for MASC Secretary. I'm a junior at Orono, and have been on student council since freshman year. As cliché as it sounds, student council has influenced my life more than just about anything. I'm going to my third national conference this summer, and have attended all state and division conferences for the past three years. Aside from stucco, I'm on the speech and debate teams for Orono, and Orono's volunteer group, Youth in Action. Outside of school, I enjoy music, traveling, exploring, and meeting new people. If you learn one thing about me over the course of this weekend, it should be that I love meeting new people. I want to know more about everyone in MASC; talk to me about who you are. As MASC Secretary, I want to represent the ideas and dreams you have for the future of MASC.

MAHS Candidates

Running For President



Allie Hemmesch

Hi everyone! My name is Allie Hemmesch and I'm a junior at Sartell. I'm passionate towards everything that I do whether its playing soccer or hockey, leading in student council, volunteering for NHS, shadowing Doctors and Physical Therapists or spending time with my Little from Big Brothers Big Sisters. I enjoy meeting new people and being inspired by them, which I get to do by attending conventions. I've been in Student Council for three years and NHS for one. I would be honored to be next year's NHS State President. Leading is something that comes naturally to me because I care about everyone. Selflessness and compassion as well as dedication are things that I value, and I feel that those are essential for this position. As President of NHS it would be my goal to connect Honor's Societies by creating divisions of NHS, much like there are in Student Council.



Ivana Kamenchouk

Hello! My name is Ivana Kamenchouk. I am the Vice President for National Honor Society at Chisago Lakes High School. I am honored to be a part of an organization that does valuable work in several communities. I am involved in DECA, BPA, Math League, and Link Crew at my school. I enjoy being involved because I get to build relationships with great individuals. I love working hard in order to achieve my goals. I believe I can bring a strong voice and be a dedicated leader for the NHS student body.



Kami Ziebarth

Hello everyone! I'm Kami from Becker High School, and I'm excited to partake in the 2k16 State Convention. NHS has been a huge part of my high school career thus far. I have assisted and managed numerous service projects. I am the Blood Drive Coordinator for my school and have met each goal, and set a new record for the number of donations since my involvement. Relay for Life, another project, is an event in my community I aid in planning. Outside of NHS, I am the student council vice president, dance DJ, student news anchor, varsity soccer player, robotics captain, and concert band performer (with all the trimmings). I have been able to grow as a leader through my involvement in my school. For the upcoming year, I hope to influence NHS at a state level through service, passion, and hard work. Also, cream cheese wontons are top-notch.



Katelyn Schmidt

Hi MAHS! I'm Katelyn. Within NHS, I've aided in blood drives, trick-or-treating for canned good donations, collecting jeans for impoverished teens, and I chaired our annual Man Pageant, raising over \$1,000 for UN Humanitarian Fund. Outside NHS, I'm a varsity-level figure skater. I spend summers leading equine education and activities for kids at the YMCA, receiving two staff awards for excellent leadership. I attended the National Student Leadership Conference at UC-Berkeley, and this summer I will attend at Harvard. As President, I would perform my duties with maximum effort and enthusiasm and most importantly care about the work I'm doing!



Megan Bemboom

Hello, my name is Megan Bemboom! I am a junior at Sauk Rapids-Rice. I am very excited to be running for your MAHS president and also excited to be welcoming you to our school for the MASC/MAHS State convention! A little bit about myself; I'm heavily involved in student council, captain for the Sauk Rapids tennis team, in dance, and I am a Link Leader. I work at a local coffee shop in Sauk Rapids, enjoy photography, traveling, and being outside. I'm very passionate about leadership, and making a positive impact on my school and on the people around me. I can't wait to meet you at the state conference and I look forward to serving you on the MAHS board!

Running For Secretary



Sophia Peterson

My name is Sophia Peterson, a junior at Orono, and I'm delighted by the opportunity to be running for MAHS secretary. I'm passionate about what Honor Society has to offer, and along with my involvement in this, I've also been involved on the student council side, holding an executive position both at Orono and for Hennepin Division. My other school activities include prom chairman, math team, debate team, blood drive committee, and many other organizations and clubs at Orono. Along with these, I've been on the Tennis and Hockey teams for 3 years and am voted for next year's tennis captain. Throughout the past few years, I've invested much of my time into these conventions, including on the state and national level, and from the experiences I've gained and the ideas I've learned, I'm excited to share everything that I have to offer along with expanding my involvement in MAHS!

Farewells From the Exec Board and Convention Coordinators

Derek Frank - MAHS President

I apologize in advance for the inherent sappiness of this farewell, despite my best efforts, it simply could not be avoided. Nonetheless, it has been a long year. It has been an unforgettable year. The friends I've met, the lessons I've learned, the memories I've made. I wouldn't trade this experience for the world, as I am so grateful to have had this opportunity. I will try my best to keep up with all of the friends I've made, though I profess it will be difficult. I will never forget the lessons MASC-MAHS has taught me, and I will try my hardest to live my life true to them. The memories I've made will always be close to my heart. I am positive I will look back on them with hopefully not quite the fondness of 'the Glory Days' but something akin. As I take these friendships, these lessons, and these memories into my future, I know I will be forever the better for them.

Kalley Anderson - MAHS Vice President

As the end of the my senior year is quickly approaching, so does my time being the vice-president for MAHS. It has been an amazing experience that has helped me grow as a leader and as a person. I want to thank all of the people I had a chance to meet this year. I am so thankful for the new friends that I met through this experience. Also, I would like to thank my advisor for all that she has done to help me. This year has been an incredible experience and I couldn't be luckier to have had the opportunity. I look forward for my future and to what incredible things I know MASC/MAHS will accomplish.

Michelle Lensing - MAHS Secretary

It has been such a great opportunity to be a part of the MAHS executive board this past year! The time really flew by, and I was lucky to get to work with such an amazing group of people from MAHS and MASC. The meetings were always interesting and fun to get to see everyone and hear their viewpoints on everything. I really enjoyed learning even more about these organizations and had a lot of fun getting to help plan the 2016 State Convention as well. I am very thankful for having the chance to serve as your MAHS Secretary this past year. Good luck to the upcoming executive board for next year! You can definitely look forward to a great time and a lot of learning. Also, thank you to everyone who came out to the State Convention, our co-coordinators have worked extremely hard to make sure everyone has a great time!

Gopi Ramanathan - MASC President

Hello everyone! This year has been an absolute blast; from going to Nationals with 50 wonderful people, to attending both the Leadership Academy and Leadership Forum, to visiting six Divisions throughout the year! Above all, I got the chance to meet wonderful student leaders just like you. It has been a wonderful journey getting to know all of you, learning about what you guys do to lead your schools and communities, and hearing about what awesome impacts you are making as student leaders in our great state. Unfortunately, this is my last year in MASC, but I hope all of you spread the word about the awesome things that happen here and bring your friends to future conventions! As for my future plans, I plan to go to college outside of Minnesota, but I am not sure what I will be majoring in. It will just have to be another great journey, just as I have

had with all of you! Thank you for making my four years of high school totally awesome, and I cannot wait to hear about the great things you all will do!

Maddie Theisen - MASC Vice President

My experience on MASC/MAHS executive board has been one I will never forget! Student council has had the biggest impact on my life in many aspects, and I believe that is true for many of us. I want to thank everyone who encouraged me to run and helped me throughout the way. I also would like to thank everyone who works so hard to make these amazing conventions happen every year. I know MASC/MAHS will only get better in years to come and I am excited to see what it becomes. Thanks for a great year!

Grace McClintock - MASC Secretary

Hello MASC! It has been my pleasure to serve as the Secretary this past year. There have been challenges and triumphs and I am very grateful I got to be a part of this amazing executive board. Student council has been a huge part of my life and shaped me in to who I am today. It's crazy to think I'll no longer be a regular attendee of MASC/MAHS conventions. I am glad I've gotten to meet so many of you through the years and I wish everyone the best whether you're graduating as well or continuing on being a leader in high school. Thank you again and I will miss you all!

Sydney Bitz - State Convention Co-Coordinator

Hey Minnesota, I don't want to write this. Maybe if I don't write this I won't have to give up my spot on your Executive Board. That would be ideal. This year has been amazing, you guys. If any of you younger students are thinking about running for a position or looking into attending state, do it. I am so grateful for the time I spent on this board because it gave me an opportunity to get closer to the other seven wonderful members of the board, meet so many of you great people, and put together our state convention. This year has taught me so many valuable life skills like how to be flexible when working with a group, effective communication, and most importantly how to step outside my comfort zone. My experience was the perfect way to finish off my high school career, and I have made memories that will last a lifetime. Thank you all so much for the last year, and whether the next brings college or work or more high school for you, I hope it is everything you want it to be and that you all continue being great leaders!

Luke Vannurden - State Convention Co-Coordinator

Hey MASC it's Luke, one of your Convention Co-Coordinators. This year has definitely been one that I will never forget! Serving on the 2015-2016 board has meant so much to me and it has taught me so much. From the end of State last year to our "first" meeting at Gopi's house, our board has clicked with our thoughts and opinions. Because of this, I think this year's board is one of the strongest and most motivated executive boards Minnesota has seen!

Being the only junior has been a weird yet very honorable experience. Although I am the youngest, this opportunity has given me the chance to listen in on and hear what goes into making a great board like we have had this year. Best of luck to some of the kindest, most generous people I have ever met. Gopi, Derek, Maddie, Kalley, Grace, Michelle, and Sydney- I can't wait to see what the future has in store for you guys! Thank you for the great year!

2015/2016 Goals

- Updating of State Website
- Successful Service Project
- Attendance of Division Meetings by State Executive Board Members
- Amending the Constitutions (MASC and MAHS)
- Less usage of paper and more usage of technology
- Streamlining Registration
- Increasing Communication between State Board and Division Presidents
- Budget Resolution (including scholarships and other expenses with MASC-MAHS)
- Better Executive Board Turnover

Upcoming Events

June 21-25, 2016

NASC Conference - Portland, Oregon

August 7-8, 2016

Summer Leadership - Sauk Rapids-Rice