

MAHS/MASC Newsletter

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

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Our First Newsletter!

On behalf of the MAHS/MASC Executive board, our wonderful advisors and co-coordinators, we are so excited to release our first newsletter (hopefully of many!) for the year. We all hope you are staying safe and healthy in this unpredictable time.

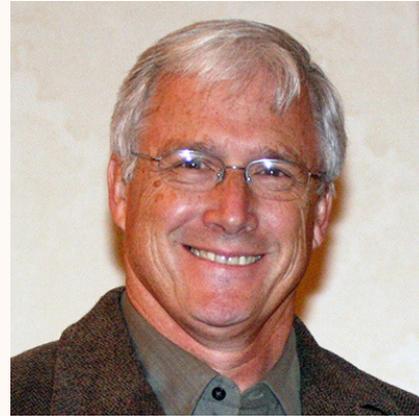
Enjoy the newsletter!



Follow our socials!
@masc_mahsmn

Executive Director's Report

Presented by Doug Erickson



Happy Thanksgiving!

It takes a little creativity to find the "thanks" in this year's Thanksgiving. That being said, I am thankful to the strong start to a year with a whole new set of rules. We had our first virtual election and the result is an incredibly strong and creative MAHS/MASC Executive Committee. You will meet all of them in this newsletter edition. Sartell will host the 20-21 MAHS/MASC state convention on April 17-19. The convention coordinators are planning a strong convention. Ted Wiese, Ted Talks, will be our keynote speaker. Ted was set to keynote The Forum this November but Covid took that out. At this time I hope to have this be an "in person" convention.

The Executive Committee has decided on a state service project that will recognize the needs that have been created by the pandemic. A more complete explanation will be forthcoming.

On Tuesday, November 17 we held the first virtual student issues Summit. Over 50 students from International Falls to Rochester, Redwood Valley to Forest Lake discussed the impact of virtual learning on students' mental health. The next Summit will be held on January 11th. Your division presidents and advisors will get the link to you.

Capitol and Hennepin divisions held their fall meetings in November. Capitol Division had Gary McGuey from "Leader in Me" as their keynote speaker. I spoke at the Hennepin Division using the YouTube Live format. Word on the street was the student leaders were impressed that I not only knew what a VSCO Girl was but I also worked it into my presentation. Hopefully your division will find a way to meet. Let me know if I can help in any way.

I know you are facing a bleak winter with not knowing when extra curricular activities will resume. This is the time for your leadership to help your classmates get to the inevitable end to this pandemic.

Be safe. Be strong.
Doug

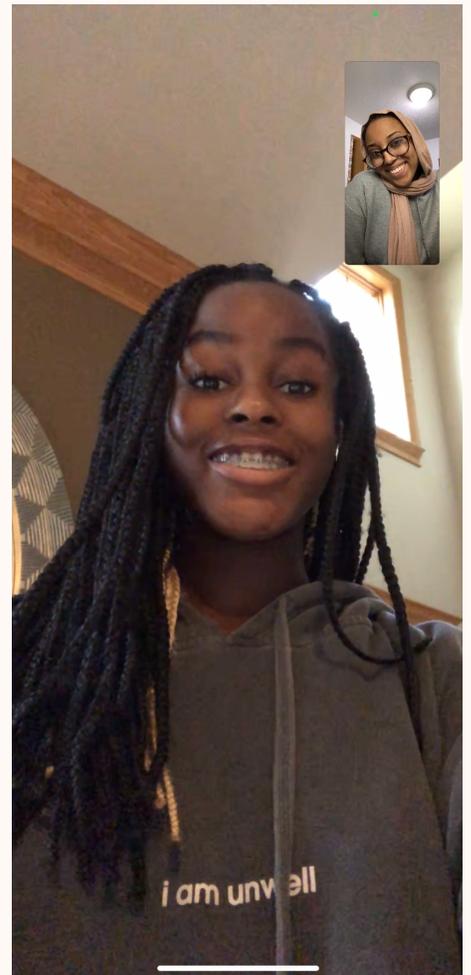
ON BEHALF OF SALMA CAAMIR AND I, DEBORAH UFEARO, WE ARE ABSOLUTELY DELIGHTED TO HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR THESE POSITIONS. WE ARE EXCITED TO TACKLE WHAT THIS YEAR IS GOING TO BRING US, AND WE ARE CONFIDENT WE WILL BE A PART OF SOMETHING WE CAN ALL BE PROUD OF.

AS YOU HAVE HEARD SEVERAL TIMES OVER, WE ARE ALL FACING DIFFERENT CHALLENGES WITH THE PANDEMIC. NEVERTHELESS, I INVITE YOU TO HOLD TO YOUR SANGUINE EXPECTATIONS FOR THE FUTURE, BECAUSE I KNOW WE CAN DO SOME FANTASTIC THINGS REGARDLESS.

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE STATE LEADERSHIP CONVENTION THIS YEAR AT SARTELL HIGH SCHOOL. THE CONVENTION WILL TAKE PLACE THROUGH APRIL 17TH AND 18TH. WE ARE HOPING TO BRING TOGETHER A MYRIAD OF STUDENTS AND ADVISORS FROM AROUND MINNESOTA TO JOIN US FOR THE CONVENTION WHOSE THEME IS "LEADERSHIP IS THE GAME OF LIFE". IT WILL CAPTURE LIFESIZED GAME PIECES TO MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE TRULY A PART OF THE GAME. WE TRULY BELIEVE EVERY ATTENDEE WILL TAKE SOMETHING FRUITFUL AWAY FROM THE EXPERIENCE.

I ANTICIPATE THAT YOU ALL ARE JUST AS EXCITED AS I AM FOR THIS YEAR, OR EVEN MORE SO. TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH SUMMITS, ACTIVITIES, UPDATES, OR EVEN TO GET TO KNOW THE BOARD, I IMPLORE YOU TO FOLLOW OUR ACCOUNT ON INSTAGRAM, @MASC_MAHSMN, AND TO LOOK OUT FOR NEWSLETTERS.

MAHS/MASC Presidential Welcome Letter



**Deborah Ufearo
and Salma Caamir**

MAHS Executive Committee



Deborah Ufearo **MAHS President**

Hello! I'm currently a senior and I couldn't be more excited to be this year's MAHS president where I am the NHS president and an active member of student council at Sartell High School. I've been dedicated to soccer and track & field for as long as I can remember, but when I'm not doing that I'm taking part in YPC, SAFE Club, and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Zodiac Sign: Gemini ;)

Role Model: Michelle Obama

Fave Breakfast Cereal: Lucky Charms

Zodiac Sign: Capricorn

Favorite Cereal: Lucky Charms

Netflix Binge: Selling Sunset

Ella Nordlie **MAHS Vice President**

Hey Everyone! I'm Ella and I am a senior at Orono High School! I'm super excited to serve as your MAHS Vice President this year! Aside from being a member of NHS, I am also an active member of my school's Student Senate, Unified Club, Youth in Action Club, and Youth in Government. I also do Cross Country in the fall and track in the spring (don't ask me why I run for fun haha).



Sydney Rhodes **MAHS Secretary**

Hey everyone!! My name is Sydney Rhodes and I am a junior this year at Buffalo High School! I'm beyond excited to serve as your MAHS Secretary this year! :) At my high school, I am a part of Student Council, NHS, Yearbook, Hoofprint, Mock Trial, Concert, Jazz and Marching Band, and am the student representative for our school board. For the past two years I have been on our Girls Swim & Dive Team, but this past year I decided to take a year off.

Zodiac Sign: Sagittarius

Karaoke Song of Choice: Love On Top by Beyonce

Favorite Scent: Rose Water & Ivy (my favorite candle scent it's so good!)



MASC Executive Committee



Salma Caamir **MASC President**

Hey everyone!! My name is Salma Caamir, and I am so hyped to be your MASC president for the 2020-2021 year! I am currently a senior at Century High School in Rochester. Outside of student council, I am the captain of the Century Speech Team, active columnist for Rochester Women's Magazine, and vocal member of the district's student school board.

Spirit animal: **Tiger**

Favorite pop-tart flavor:
Cookies and Cream

Karaoke song of choice: **No Role Modelz by J. Cole**

If I was a pizza topping, I would be: **anchovies**

Pop Tart Flavor: **anything but strawberry**

Karaoke Song: **Downtown by Macklemore**

Hadley Stephenson **MASC Vice President**

Hello All! I am a senior at Orono High School and excited to be this year's MASC VP! Since freshman year I have been a member of Orono Student Senate (Yes, we call it Senate, not Stuco). Other than Soccer, Hockey, and Golf, I am involved in DECA, Unified Sports, National Honor Society, Chinese Club, and charitable organizations Letters of Love and MoveFWD.



Zayda Thalacker **MASC Secretary**

Hello everybody! My name is Zayda Thalacker and I'm a senior at Sartell High School. I am super pumped to be serving as your MASC Secretary this year :) Besides my heavy involvement in Student Council, I am also involved in the Youth Chorale of Central Minnesota, and I compete in discussion on my speech team! I have been working at Holiday Gas Station (gross, but good pay) for the past two years of my life as well.

Zodiac Sign: **Pisces**

Netflix Binge: **Black Mirror & Criminal Minds**

Favorite Scent:
Lavender



Members at Large and State Co-Coordinator



Favorite Netflix Binge: **Stranger Things**
 Spirit Animal: **Dolphin**

Braden Bourland Member at Large

Hello everyone! My name is Braden Bourland and I am a member at large this year on the state executive board! Currently I am a senior at Wayzata High School and there I am our Student Body President. Outside of school I participate in choir and theatre as well as NHS. I can't wait for a great year with MASC/MAHS and hope to meet everyone someday soon!



Zodiac sign: **Scorpio**
 Go to binge show: **FRIENDS**
 Dream Job: **Criminologist**

Reegan Lindholm Member at Large

Hey everyone!! I'm Reegan Lindholm and I am a sophomore at Owatonna High School. I am so excited to be serving as one of the three members at large!! I am involved in cross country, manage girls hockey and boys track, dance with just for kix, and am a member of girls united. I also work at The Blast here in town for 2 years.



Spirit Animal: **Butterfly**
 Dream Job: **Environmental Justice Lawyer**
 Karaoke Song: **Hips Don't Lie by Shakira**

Kobe Knettel Member at Large

Hello MASC!! I'm Kobe Knettel and I am beyond thrilled to serve as one of three members at large for the 2020-2021 school year! I am a current senior at Sauk Rapids-Rice High School (GO STORM!) and besides Student Council, I am a swimmer and lacrosse player. I also participate in DECA, BBBS, Upward Bound and I serve as Student Rep on the board of directors at Kids Fighting Hunger. Let's make this year an awesome one!! :))

Karaoke song of choice: **Party in the USA**

Favorite Netflix binge: **The Office**

If I was a pizza topping I would be: **Pineapple**



Rachel Wieland Co-Coordinator

My name is Rachel Wieland and I am a senior at Sartell High School. I am looking forward to being a co co-coordinator for the MASC/MAHS state convention this year! I love being involved throughout our community and school. I am a member of the National Honor Society at Sartelland this year I am the vice president. I enjoy volunteering for organizations like Big Brothers BigSisters, Minnesota Wild Special hockey, and Sunday school at my local church. In my free time, I am usually playing hockey or soccer. I enjoy spending time with my family, friends, and especially my dog.

Favorite Breakfast Cereal: **Honey Bunches of Oats**

Favorite Netflix Binge: **Grace and Frankie!**

Dream Job: **Environmental Engineer**



Emily Bakken Co-Coordinator

Hello everyone! I'm Emily and I am a senior this year at Sartell High School! I'm happy to be a co-coordinator for the MASC/MAHS state convention this year! At my school I am the vice president of our student council. Aside from the council, I am a member of NHS, and SAFE club at our school. I love to run and have been in cross country and track for six years, and a captain for 2 of those years! Can't wait for the rest of this year!

Spirit Animal: **Puppy - specifically a corgi:)**

Dream Job: **Psychologist/Child Life Specialist**

Netflix Binge: **Gilmore Girls**



Courtney Snoberger Co-Coordinator

Hello! My name is Courtney Snoberger and I am a senior at Sartell High School. I am so glad to be one of the state co-coordinators for this year's state MASC/MAHS convention! I am currently Student Council president and also a member of our honors society. I am a captain on my volleyball and basketball team, participate in Big Brothers Big Sisters, and am also a student representative on our school board.

Statewide Division Spotlights

Central Division

Hello everyone!

My name is Maxwell Lurken-Tvrdik. I attend Melrose Area High School and am Co-President of Central Division. I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy during these exigent times. Akin to many division boards, it is easy for us to see the many difficulties we could encounter throughout the year. Instead of worrying about everything that could go wrong, we must emphasize what we can do. Currently, the Central Division Board has prioritized planning our division conference. We wanted to focus on maximizing the amount of contact with other division members. To do this, we intend to spend as much time as possible in breakout rooms, so we can explore different issues. These rooms will cover the topics of COVID school activities in the past and future, mental health resources, student engagement, council jurisdiction, and fundraising. Even though the division meeting is all about student council and ideas, we still want to incorporate some fun. Kahoot is an interesting and notable way to engage with others. Therefore, we also plan to utilize Kahoot to help everyone stay involved. In the coming weeks, we will experience more change and more strife. Yet, as leaders in our respective communities, we must continue to set an example and reach out to those who are suffering. I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving break!



Maxwell Lurken-Tvrdik
Central Co-President



Annie Wu
South Eastern President

South Eastern Division

Our new executive board for SED has been very busy this fall! We spent a lot of time this past summer planning a conference, but as we neared the possibility of not being able to hold an in-person conference, we looked to alternatives. In two weeks, we will be holding our first ever Presidents Forum. Despite the misleading name, each school gets a delegation of 6—aiming for the council's executive board plus a couple other council representatives! The forum is essentially a mini fall conference, highlighting round table topics like mental health and leading a council amidst a pandemic, along with focusing on connecting with other councils in our division to gain and share ideas. A benefit to virtual conferences that we've found is that especially in such a large conference, attendance at previous conferences have mostly consisted of bigger and closer schools. Through virtual events, it's much more accessible for the smaller schools to attend, both cost/transportation wise and the allowance of easing into our conference! We hope to run these forums on a regular basis, rotating the students in each school's delegation so that both our schools and students feel more connected as a division.

State Service Project

With the toll of COVID-19 weighing heavy on our minds recently, we decided to dedicate our state service project to raising money for COVID relief in Minnesota through the United Way. Here is a statement from their website:

"As the situation with Coronavirus continues to evolve, we have the safety of our staff, community partners, and the general public as our top priority... We have launched the COVID-19 Relief Fund to provide urgent and necessary funds for the emerging and critical needs of our community due to the Coronavirus pandemic."

COVID-19 RELIEF FUND



2021 State Convention Updates



Sartell High School in Sartell, Minnesota

Sartell-St. Stephen is so excited to get the opportunity to host the MASC-MAHS State Convention this April! We spent all last year anticipating and planning for a productive and fun weekend for representatives from councils throughout the state. Our theme is Leadership is the Game of Life because we are focused on becoming better leaders and having as much fun as possible along the way. We are grateful for another chance to host this year and are continuing to plan for great speakers, activities, and chances to network with other schools. We can't wait to connect with all our councils throughout the state!!!