



The Student Leader

The newsletter of the oldest state student leadership organization in the nation.

VSCA: Lead the Change

The state theme for 2013 – 2014 is VSCA: Lead the Change. As advisers and student leaders, you are undoubtedly preparing for a new school year full of exciting opportunities. On the other hand, you must recognize that there are many challenges that face your school. Your organization can lead your school and community past these challenges and accomplish many amazing things. The VSCA Advisory Committee, noting that this is the situation for many Student Council Associations, has embraced the theme of VSCA: Lead the Change.

The Student Leader is a monthly newsletter that is to be used as a resource for student leaders and advisers. This newsletter highlights activities from student councils across the state. It is our hope that these events will give your organization fresh ideas. This month we are putting the spotlight on our student councils from Hopewell High School and Park View High School.

The Student Leader would not be successful without these shared activities. Please submit any and all great activities that your student council is involved in. We would love to include them in our next newsletter.

Upcoming Events and Dates to look forward to:

***Regional Workshops** – Late Fall – Early Winter – Varied locations

***VSCA Convention** – Late Spring, 2014

Look forward to updates on locations and dates of these events in future newsletters.

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VSCA Director

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The 2013-2014 VSCA Advisory Committee

The VSCA Advisory Committee is instrumental in planning and developing leadership activities throughout the state. The following schools have been selected to take leadership positions on the 2013- 2014 Advisory Committee.

- President School: Liberty High School
Bedford Division
Michelle Cox, Student Representative
Robin Waldron, Adviser
- Vice President School: Stafford Senior High School
Stafford Division
Katherine Brandon, Student Representative
Robert Mead, Adviser
Mossetta Stone, Adviser
- Secretary School: Prince George High School
Prince George Division
Kenneth Kidd, Student Representative
Marcia Edmundson, Adviser
- Region 1 Rep: Prince George High School
Prince George Division
Mandi Cummings, Student Representative
Marcia Edmundson, Adviser
- Region 2 Rep: Oscar Smith High School
Chesapeake Division
Jennifer Miciano, Student Representative
Tina Salmon, Adviser
- Region 3 Rep: Stafford Senior High School
Stafford Division
Chris Ashton, Student Representative
Robert Mead, Adviser
Mossetta Stone, Adviser
- Region 4 Rep: Orange County High School
Orange Division

Emmet Aylor, Student Representative
Laurie Limoge-Jamerson, Adviser

Region 5 Rep: Liberty High School
Bedford Division
Anna Barrett, Student Representative
M. Robin Waldron, Adviser

Region 7 Rep: Patrick Henry High School
Washington Division
Emma Buchanan, Student Representative
Amanda Chitwood, Adviser

Region 8 Rep: Buckingham County High School
Buckingham Division
Hannah Sprouse, Student Representative
Mary Stearrett, Adviser

Elementary Herndon Elementary School
Loudoun Division
Shelby Fullerton, Student Representative
Ginger Hornung, Adviser

Appointed Member Schools to the Advisory Committee:

Buckingham County High School

Stone Bridge High School

Prince George High School

Park View High School

Woodgrove High School

Courtland High School

Oscar Smith High School

King George High School

Liberty High School

Landstown High School

Orange County High School

Stafford Senior High School

Charlottesville High School

School Spotlight #1: Hopewell High School

Spring Into Recycling

The SCA of Hopewell High School was granted permission from the school board and school principal to coordinate the placement of a recycling bin on school property. Currently, Hopewell High School is the only school in the city that does not have a recycling program. Once funds were secured to place the bin on campus, the SCA placed recycling bins in the cafeteria, classrooms, and teacher lounges to help promote school wide recycling. SCA members are in charge of placing the bins as well as collecting the recyclables and putting them in the bin outside of the school. Intercom announcements, posters, and reminders from members serve as advertising on this project. The SCA hopes that by promoting recycling that they are showing the school as leaders, they are moving forward in a world to help save resources.

Teacher Assistance

During the week before school started, the SCA members assisted any teacher who needed help. New and experienced teachers took advantage of the assistance. SCA members inventoried books, put up bulletin boards, listed computer equipment, rearranged library shelves and readied classrooms. Those who were not assigned to specific teachers made and hung welcome back banners throughout the school. Forty-two members each donated three hours for a grand total of 126 hours of help and support before the 2013-2014 school year had officially begun.

School Spotlight #2: Park View High School

Leadership Workshop

This past school year, the Region Four Leadership Workshop was held at Park View High School. Students from Park View and seven other schools attended this workshop. The opening session was lead by the Region Four Representative followed by the keynote speaker, a graduate of Park View High School. The graduate spoke about achieving dreams, and how the students need to be proactive. After the keynote, there were three skills seminars. Two of the seminars were pre-assigned and one was the students' choice. Groups of SCA officers, teachers, and other students from the school worked together to lead the seminars. The different topics included Project Planning, Event/Goal Setting, Fundraising, Diversity Training, Student/Staff Appreciation, How to Incorporate Technology into SCA, Parliamentary Procedure, Community Involvement/Service, School Spirit, Communication, Team Building, and Roles and Recruitment of Officers. After the seminars, lunch was served followed by the Idea Swap Shops. Students from different schools shared SCA sponsored events and activities that take place at their

respective school. In the days following, we compiled a list of these ideas which was e-mailed to the advisers from each school. After the Idea Swap Shop, a Region Four Meeting was held to discuss the state projects and Convention. At the end of the day, all the schools played some games and relays which take place during Park View's popular Bermuda Day. The Region Four Workshop held at Park View High School was a great success and enjoyed by all.

Orientation of New Students:

At the end of their junior year, rising seniors applied for the position of SCA Big Brothers and Sisters. The SCA then chooses the best suited applicants to meet before the New Student Orientation takes place, in August. This informational meeting is held to instruct the SCA Big Brothers and Sisters on what their position will entail. The SCA Big Brothers and Sisters are positive role models that attend the new students' homerooms every day for the first week of the school year and at various times throughout the year. The New Student Orientation is usually held the week before the school starts. It is used to help new students prepare for the trials and tribulations of high school. At the Orientation, every homeroom is given two to three SCA Big Brothers and Sisters. The SCA Big Brothers and Sisters lead their homerooms on a tour throughout the school, while answering any questions the new students may have. The main purpose for this program is to create a bond between the new students and the upper classmen. This positive relationship can make a big difference in their success at a new school.

Quotes to Inspire

These quotes are provided with the thought of school beginning for most this month....

“Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.” Malcolm X

“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.” – W.B. Yeats

“He who opens a school door, closes a prison.” – Victor Hugo

“Intelligence plus character, that is the goal of true education.” – Martin Luther King, Jr.

And finally...

Please continue to send in great ideas so wonderful activities of great student leaders can be shared with student councils throughout the state. Please submit ideas to Mike Nelson, VSCA Director at mnelson@scaleader.org, and he will try to get as many ideas as possible in our monthly newsletters.

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This newsletter was posted on the VSCA Website at www.scaleader.org.