VIRGINIA STUDENT COUNCILS ASSOCIATION

The Student Leader

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Convention Edition!

I loved seeing many of at the 2015 VSCA State Convention. It was such a wonderful weekend of sharing ideas, learning new skills, and networking with other student leaders from across the state.

I hope that many of you were motivated by the words of Dr. Gaines and that you have looked back on the "equation of life" and found meaning in the words that he spoke. The Board of Education Forum was insightful and the resolutions were well thought out and it was wonderful seeing so many of you as active participants.

I would like to give a special shout-out to the many advisers that helped make my first year as VSCA Director run so smoothly. The organization is a successful one because of your dedication to continuously improving our mission of supporting the student leaders of Virginia.

Thank you to all of the inspiring students leaders and advisers that always go beyond the call of duty.

Andrea Vail

VSCA Director

VSCA Knows Service

The Virginia Student Council Association supported two service projects at the VSCA State Convention. The Regional Service project was to make birthday bags for Cheerful Givers. Cheerful Givers is an organization that provides birthday presents to children in need. Overall, the VSCA donated over 300 birthday bags to children in our communities.

The VSCA State Service Project for this year was to make blankets for Project Linus. As a State Delegation, we were able to create and donate over 500 blankets to those in need. It was truly an amazing experience to have student leaders from across the Commonwealth work together to complete such a impressive project and help so many in our communities.

Adviser Spotlight

Mrs. Sue Hunter, C.D. Hylton High School

VSCA: What is your favorite part about being an SCA Adviser?

Mrs. Hunter: Working with students and seeing their Leadership growth over the years

VSCA: What is the most memorable event that you have been a part of in this role?

Mrs. Hunter: I had a young lady in our council who very rarely spoke up on anything because she was so shy. Her sophomore year she attended the state summer leadership camp and I saw her open up in her group about the loss of her father a few years prior. From that point on, her confidence grew, and she became one of my executive officers; sometimes getting up in front of everyone to run meetings

VSCA: Why do you think VSCA is important?

Mrs. Hunter: Its great to do things for and with your school; but the experiences students and advisors gain from being involved at the state level is immeasurable. Its important to see that the things we do have a broader impact than just at our own schools. I also think the networking with others is a great resource.

Do you want to highlight an adviser in your life? E-mail Mrs. Vail at avail@scaleader.org.

Do you have a question for Mrs. Hunter?

Contact her at

huntersm@pwcs.edu

Meet the New Officer Schools

President School, Woodgrove High School

Student Representative, Ryan Thomas

I am Ryan Thomas and I along with Woodgrove High School are excited to be the 2015-2016 President School. I am a native Northern Virginia resident. I currently reside in Loudoun County with my parents and two younger brothers. I will be a rising senior for the 2015-2016 school year. I have been involved in student council since the sixth grade, and have progressively worked to improve as a leader each and every year since. I have served in three vice presidential offices and one presidential office since I began my involvement in 2009. I have also served in three VSCA positions previous to president. I served on the VSCA advisory board for two years and represented Woodgrove as the Region IV Representative in the 2014-2015 school year. In addition to student council, I am an academic scholar and active member of the student body.

Outside of school, I enjoy serving my community. I am an emergency medical technician in training for Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Services and run with the Purcellville Volunteer Rescue Squad in my free time. I hope to follow a collegiate track involving medicine and/or environmental sciences. I am an avid outdoor-enthusiast who enjoys biking, hiking, and exploring the national parks, as well as an avid Washington Nationals fan.

I am excited to serve the state of Virginia for the 2015-2016 school year as President, and I look forward to working with the many other leaders of the state. In working with the other officers, I hope to be able to increase awareness about VSCA within the Commonwealth by projecting the organization's capabilities and organizing meaningful service projects directed at making a difference in people's lives.

Meet the New Officer Schools

Secretary School, C.D. Hylton High School

Student Representative, Reagan Wampler

Hello, my name is Reagan Wampler from C.D. Hylton High School and we are your new secretary school for the Virginia Student Council Association. C.D. Hylton is an extremely active and committed school, having received the VSCA Achievement Award every year since it's opening in 1991 as well as the National Council of Excellence Award Gold Level since 2008. We have been present at every VSCA convention since the school opened, and I, myself, have had the honor of attending the convention twice. We have also held several VSCA officer positions over the last 23 years, proving we have the knowledge and know-how to do the job right. I am the future executive board vice president at my school and a past VSCA appointed committee member, showing that I am very group-oriented and capable of spear-heading tasks if need be. Having attended the National Association of Student Councils Convention last year in Orlando, Florida, I had the opportunity to learn many effective and fun ways to collaborate with others and incorporate multiple ideas to complete a project. Organization, focus, and attentiveness are an essential part of being a secretary, and I've been trained in these important qualities through my experience on my own school's SCA executive board, junior officer recruiting training corps (JROTC) and captain of my schools lacrosse and volleyball team. My most important goals as your VSCA secretary are to perform all of my assigned duties to the best of my ability, and to make sure that each and every one of you is informed and up-to-date on all things VSCA. Student council means a lot to me and is one of my greatest passions. I've dedicated myself to this wonderful organization and am honored to be your VSCA secretary.