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A Message from the HSSC Sergeant-at-Arms

Hau'oli Makahiki Hou!

Words cannot describe how honored I am to be an executive member for this year's Hawaii State Student Council. I was appointed into this position through demonstration of great leadership, maturity, and having a knack of doing more than what is asked of me. I've taken on this position with the intention of acting as a role-model and a mentor for students with similar ethics and aspirations. It's been such a pleasure working with peers from across the state and I especially value the fresh perspectives the newer HSSC members bring to the table. It reminds me that what all of us are doing is bigger than any one individual and that inspires me to step up to demonstrate ways in how effective leadership can be accomplished.

The executive group we have this year is a family, a close knit group of friends who share the same idea and implement it in our own personally unique ways. We have the brain, the brawn, and the creativity to overcome any obstacle. If one person comes up with an idea, another is building off that idea while someone is providing realistic feedback and one of us is writing it all down, it happens automatically. Everyone understands one another and the dynamic fits. But no family is perfect, and when the going get a little rough we have the ability to unite under one banner, one concept, one philosophy that we all hold dear to ourselves. Then we get to work.

Being on the executive team, you learn that one critical philosophy, "The future of the council rests in the delegates." It's a tricky matter, but we have to take every minute we have with the delegates like it's our last, because our time to pass the mantle is quickly approaching.

The students that join us are already outstanding leaders in their own unique ways, we are here to push their goals and leadership ability even higher and get them to strive for something they didn't think was possible. Being on this council has its fair amount of work. But when you come to the realization that the work you're doing has a lasting positive feedback, you'd do anything to make sure it gets done. I couldn't be happier with the path our council is on and I look forward to witnessing the growth of leadership potential in the members.

At your service,

Matthew Darrah
 Hawaii State Student Council
 Sergeant-at-Arms



@HSSC_Council

Visit our new official HSSC website:

hssc808.weebly.com

IMPORTANT EVENTS FOR HSSC JANUARY - JUNE 2017

Secondary Student Conference (SSC) 2017 – February 13, 2017

Student Leadership Conference (SLC) 2017 – June 22-24 2017, University of Hawaii at Manoa

A Message from your HSSC Executive Council

Aloha HSSC Members,

On January 14, 2017, we attended the 3rd Annual School Empowerment Conference held at the Hawaii Convention Center. There, we advocated for YOU, the Hawaii Student Council. We were able to extend the purpose of our council to many distinguished officials, such as the First Lady of the Honorable David Ige, and various principals & dedicated teachers of many schools across the state. As guest speakers with our own concurrent session, we held energizers, we discussed the purpose of focus groups & even simulated how to manage a focus group session, as well as talked about the Secondary Student Conference (SSC) and the Student Leadership Conference (SLC).

Speaking of SLC, we hope that you received your SLC Facilitator Application details through your emails! We highly encourage you to apply, as we all believe in your potential to lead the next generation of leaders within Hawaii's public schools. We will be with you every step of the way.

As we approach our final semester together, we would like to thank you for the continuous efforts that you provide towards our council and your respective schools. We are extremely humbled by the opportunity you have all given us to encourage you, and to serve you. We will never stop listening to the voice of Hawaii's students.

Yours truly,

Jessica, Neil, Victoria, Andrea, Kari, and Matthew



IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR HSSC MEMBERS

Student Leadership Conference 2017 Facilitator Application due **February 4, 2017**.
Please check your HSSC emails for all the forms; make sure it is signed by you AND your SAC

Secondary Student Conference Volunteers Needed on **February 13, 2017**.
Please sign up with the HSSC Exec by February 6, 2017.

The NASC National Council of Excellence Awards Application deadline is on
February 15, 2017.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 15, 2017



The National Association of Student Councils (NASC)

The National Association of Student Councils, or NASC, is a national organization that unites over 9,000 student councils to share different ideas and experiences, ultimately improving the schools and communities around the country.

NASC National Council of Excellence Awards

(All the information below is from the National Association of Student Councils website:
<https://www.nasc.us/national-councils-of-excellence>)

"Middle level and high school student councils that consistently provide quality leadership activities and service to their schools and communities can earn national recognition through NASC's National Council of Excellence (NCOE) program.

There are two levels of recognition: A student council achieves a National Council of Excellence Award when it has demonstrated that it meets all the NASC requirements, and the National Gold Council of Excellence award is awarded to those councils that demonstrate the highest levels of leadership as well as meet additional standards as set by NASC.

These awards distinguish outstanding student councils by guiding student leaders and their faculty advisers through a process featuring standards-based criteria and demonstration-based outcomes, reflecting more than 80 years of expertise in student council and leadership programming."

Find more information on their website: <https://www.nasc.us/>