

WASC Newsletter

March 5, 2010

Student Council Leadership: Get in the game

Dear Wyoming Student Leaders,

A fantastic spring is upon us, as are many great opportunities to implement those newly elected platforms. Safe Driving along with Global Awareness were the platforms the state delegation felt were issues that needed to be addressed in our very schools. I hope that as the new semester began, you as leaders feel refreshed and ready for challenges ahead! National Leadership Week is April 18th- 24th cast under the theme of "Step Up to Safety". Feel free to participate and let the state know by sending your news to the WASC newsletter and get those honor council points early!

Taking leave on January 29th, myself and a party of three traveled the frost-bitten streets of Minneapolis for the Region IV Meeting. We discussed a great deal of business and overall it was a very productive meeting. We also elected a new Region IV Representative to the NASC National Advisory Council, Mr. Doug Erickson. We felt that Doug was the best fit for our region and that he will make excellent decisions when it comes down to how our state and region will be represented.

Be sure to get your applications in for Summer Leadership Camp and National Conference as soon as they are available to you. Bring many friends to SLC as we are expecting this year to be as great as it has ever been before! Also, keep up with those honor council books, we all know how hard it is to rush through it at the end.

I was very excited to have met with our state board to get the year rolling, as well as the delegation selected some amazing leaders to serve this year! We are going to be a very efficient bunch and please contact your region representatives for any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Hannah Gibbs
WASC President

Hello everyone,

First, I must say that I hope all of you have had a wonderful Third Quarter in school, though I am sure many of you share my sentiments that Spring Break always arrives a little late. Now, of course, we are approaching what is often the busiest time for councils, and on that note, I urge all of you to continue working wholeheartedly within your own.

The WASC Board has been fairly busy, too, since returning from Winter Break. At the end of January we traveled to Minneapolis for the NASC Region IV meeting, at which we discussed Student Council affairs with our counterparts from other states, and elected Doug Erickson to the adult Advisory Council. The weekend presented us with a valuable opportunity to connect with the student leaders

Letter from the President

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Letter from the Vice-President

from around our region (which includes the Dakotas and the Great Lakes states), and also allowed us to better coalesce as an officer team.

In February, we held another board meeting with some of the Regional Representatives in Casper, and talked about the upcoming year. Summer is getting ever closer (thankfully), and it is time to begin thinking about SLC. SLC is a very important part of our WASC year, and is a very significant (and fun) learning experience for delegates. This year, we will probably be experiencing some changes with the program, but it is very important to attend. We also are trying to increase involvement in WASC from schools around the state, and our goal is to gain four Honor Council recipients this year. I would just like to encourage all schools to step up and either remain, or get, involved with WASC! Befittingly, our theme for the 2010 Convention is Leadership: Get in the Game. Personally, I am compiling some ideas for platforms, and hoping to have them in order soon.

Ultimately, I would like to thank and congratulate all the student leaders who have given so much to their councils, communities, and the state. But the year is not over! I hope all of you stay involved, and I know that student council will be one of your most rewarding experiences. Keep, it classy, WASC!

Sincerely,

Jordan Colman
WASC Vice-President

Dear Student Councils,

This past few months have been very productive. The executive board traveled to Minneapolis where we got to meet with other student leaders from five other states. There we participated in leadership training and we also elected a new advisor to the NASC advisory board, Doug Erickson. Collectively not only did the three of us feel that he was the best fit for the job but also the region felt that he was the person who would best represent us at the national level.

In February we had a second executive board meeting, where we decided on the theme, set goals, discussed SCL, and began the process setting up platforms. The theme that was decided on was "Leadership: Get in the Game." This theme will carry not only the state board, but the state as a whole through till the November WASC. Also at this meeting we came to the conclusion that more schools should be encouraged to attend SLC and WASC. In addition to this the board decided that the Honor Council should be promoted and encouraged, which means as many schools as possible achieving Honor Council status. SLC this year is going to likely change, but delegates will still have the chance to experience great leadership opportunities, as well as make friends. The final item that was discussed in length were the platforms, Jordan is going to need help, so if any one has ideas, tell him.

This year is going by very fast, but there is still much to be completed and the executive board is going to need help from all of the councils to end this year with a bang.

Sincerely,

Matt Bergene
WASC Secretary

Letter from the Secretary

Dear Advisers,

It's almost time for March madness which brings us to an interesting point in the student council year. It's a time when we begin to run low on energy but yet have much to accomplish. Our seniors are usually looking just for graduation and underclassmen aren't quite ready to step into those big shoes. However, with so many things happening around us it's an awesome time to do some international or local community service. If you have planned a project for Haiti, please let us know. We would like to share those details.

The officers and I had a great trip to Minneapolis to represent us at the Region IV meeting. We came home with a new community service project that we hope Big Horn HS will help us implement at convention next fall. It was a chilly 10 degrees while we were in Minneapolis but fortunately we watched the weather from inside the hotel most of the time. We ate dinner one evening at a Japanese Hibachi Grill where the chef cooked at our table and flipped morsels of food to us.

Our second board meeting on February 10 let us begin to plan for platforms for next fall. We also discussed the summit meetings and SLC. Our regional reps will be an asset to us again this year and we hope to make their position more substantial on the board.

I attended my first board meeting for the National Executive Directors association. It was the weekend after the big snow in Washington DC. Though I've lived in Wyoming my entire life, I've never seen snow like that. In places it was piled higher than the stop signs on the street corners. With many changes coming from the national level, we as executive directors feel a need to identify who we are and what direction we believe our association can take. This kind of forward thinking is always appreciated. I look forward to other opportunities to work with this group this year.

I extend my thanks again for being selected as Wyoming's adviser of the year. I learned yesterday that I will be representing our entire region for the Warren E Shull award given during the national convention. I am humbled and very grateful for the confidence you have placed in me to make Wyoming's great programs known at the national level.

Mary

**Letter from the Board
Director Mary Harshberger**

It's time to think about planning for next year's student council. Start your year off right by sending students to Summer Leadership Camp at Casper College July 12-16th. Cost will be \$300 again this year. Have your students write to their local Rotary, Kiwanis, or VFW to ask for donations to send them to Leadership Camp. Many of these organizations are happy to sponsor a student for a leadership opportunity in return for a presentation after the fact and a nice thank you letter. If you find other organizations in your community willing to support our student council members attending summer workshop, please pass that information onto me. Applications will be online soon and a hard copy will be sent to advisors. If you have any questions, please email me at kassela1@yahoo.com.

**Letter from Board
Member Amy Kassel**

Hey Everyone,

These past few months have been super busy! On February 10 I attended the first full WASC Board meeting. It was great to be involved with everything that went on. We decided on the 2010 goals, and this years WASC theme. We also discussed SLC, NASC Convention and WASC Convention. A strong topic was definitely the amount of Wyoming Councils participation in WASC and Honor Council. I went home with a list of tasks, and have enjoyed crossing them off. The Kaycee High School Student Council has also kept me on my toes. We put on Homecoming in February, and have begun planning our Make a Wish Week for March and organizing the Honor Council Application. I hope everyone is working hard and staying busy. Spring is right around the corner: don't wait for the sun to shine, make it shine!

Sincerely,

Tiana Foley
 Northeast Regional Representative
 Kaycee High School Student Council

**Letter from the
 Northeast Rep**

Attention schools and leaders in the Southeast Region, this is your Region Representative Moseh Cho. This letter will let you know exactly what went down at the board meeting in Casper, as well as what is happening in the region and what will happen in addition to platforms passed you should be working on. A big thesis of the meet in Casper was the encouragement of making Honor council as well as making Distinction, which is a big deal. Some schools do not feel this way, but I recommend you guys for striving to become honor council. I also commend those who currently are honor council and plan to maintain honor council. Please keep up the good work. Also schools that have not gone to WASC this year, please try to make it, as it is a big requirement to become honor council. Please try to work on some of the passed platforms this year, though I am not sure exactly which they are- the platforms were Mentoring, Green Schools, Literacy, Wellness, Where do you draw the line, and Safe driving. For further in depth info, check out platforms on WYASC.ORG. Schools if you could dwell upon any platform ideas to introduce at summit this year that would be cool. Seeing as all as been said, a basic overview: make honor council, work on passed platforms, make platforms. Have a nice Day!!!!

**Letter from the
 Southeast Rep**

Respectively Submitted,

Moseh Cho

Southeast Region Representative

Dear Student Councils,

In the central region great things have been happening! In February Douglas and Glenrock has a student council exchange. Both the schools came up with some great ideas such as just having the exchange half a day, so the student council members would not miss as much school. Glenrock also had some fun activities to do with Douglas when Douglas arrived, which I brought back to Natrona County. At Natrona County High School there was an exchange with Rockriver, which was amazing for NC council members to see how a smaller school works. NC cannot wait for Rockriver to come visit them!

Letter from the Central Rep

In November there were a couple of platforms that we as a group passed, so now we need to start working on bringing them into our schools. The two that were passed were Global Involvement and Safe Driving. There are many ways that you could encourage these in your schools such as: giving awards for kids driving safe, or even passing out fliers to encourage safe

driving. Some ways that you could raise awareness about having Global Involvement would be encouraging "green living" or recycling, encourage work with charities such as H.E.A.R.T. which help families in other countries, and/or raise funds for global projects.

On looking forward to the week of April 18-24, which is Student Leadership Week. As we are all student leaders this should come close to us. The theme of this week would be encouraging safety. If you go to actoutloud.org this website promotes safety and will help with Student Leadership Week. I encourage all of your schools to get involved and help promote Student Leadership during this week in April.

Sincerely,

Brigit Kelly

Central Regional Representative

Hello everyone!

Just wanted to take a few minutes and encourage your councils to work on one or both of the platforms passed at WASC this year. To remind you, they are safe driving and global awareness and involvement. If you are needing ideas of things to do contact me. Also if you have done any cool things with these platforms or any other activities and you would like to share them with other councils let me know.

If you are looking for a school to exchange with contact me and I will find one that wants to do an exchange. I encourage you if you are a very active student council to team up with a not so active student council. Student council exchanges are very fun and they bring many new ideas to your councils. Part of my job is to make sure schools in my region are communicating to do exchanges please let me know if a can help you in anyway.

Sincerly

Kaylee Burnett

Southwest Regional Rep.

The Northwest region has been busy with many activities with fundraisers such as the Make A Wish Foundation and the Haiti relief fund. Riverside High School in Basin raised money on Valentines day with their "Crush on Crush" and "Hugs/Kisses" fundraiser for Make a Wish. Powell High School recently sold Daffodils for the American Cancer Society with other contributions to cancer organizations. Cody High School is currently gearing up for the "Wish Week" for the Make a Wish foundation that will kick off on Wednesday, March 10th.

Sincerely.

Jessica Neary

Northwest Regional Rep.

Letter from the Southwest Rep

Letter from the Northwest Rep

Letters from Honor Council Applicants

Stephanie Powers
Student Body Secretary

The Lyman High School Student Council and student body have been very busy this year. In November the student council attended W.A.S.C (Wyoming Association of Student Councils) conference. There were over 60 schools in attendance and over 600 students. Derek Robinson, student body vice-president was nominated for All-State Student Council, Charolette Angle, student council advisor, was nominated as advisor of the year, and David Cockrell, student body president, acted as a student facilitator. While at the conference, the LHS Student Council was recognized as an Honor Council with Meritorious Distinction. Only sixteen schools in the state received this honor.

During the conference, all of the student councils in Wyoming agreed to promote global awareness and involvement and also to promote safe driving. As a school, LHS have been promoting global awareness by helping the University of Wyoming raise money for the ' Keep Girls in School Project.' This is for the Aarti Home in India that takes in children that aren't wanted by their families. Aarti home provides a place for the children to live, education, and food. This holiday season, Lyman High School, has been raising money for the Make-A-Wish foundation. The day before Thanksgiving, students participated in a game day. Students donated money to participate in the games, including rope climbing challenges, basketball, Wii bowling and boxing, plus many others. Over \$300 dollars was raised. This is just one of the events that student council is sponsoring to help provide the wish of a seriously ill child. It costs approximately \$7,000 to sponsor a child's wish and LHS Student Council would like to raise enough money to grant a wish.

Sub -4-Santa is another organization that LHS supports. During the first week in December, LHS students donated approximately 700 items of food and toys. The LHS cheerleaders donated \$100 to Sub-4-Santa, their prize money for participation in the Parade of Lights.

To complete the holidays, LHS continued the tradition of our Literacy Project. The literacy project involves high school students partnered to read with Urie Elementary students. Each year LHS student council raises funds to purchase and wrap books for the Urie students. The high school students signed the books with holiday greetings and their names, then went to Urie and spent an enjoyable time reading and sharing the delights of literature. Because of the generous donations of last year, student council was able to provide books for last year and also this year. Now we are looking toward next year and will be taking donations for the 2010 Literacy Project.

LHS Student Council: David Cockrell, Derek Robinson, Stephanie Powers, Parker Jackson, Halie Baker, Kasha Peterson, Lori House, Megan Wingleth, Ryan Niederer, and Kaden Legault would like to thank everyone for their generous support and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

CCHS Student Council (or the "Stu Cru" as we like to call it) has had a very busy year filled with Homecoming, canned food drives, blood drives, WASC, and fundraisers. This past January we broke our school record by getting 209 units of blood at our spring semester blood drive. Our past record was 202 units set last year. This drive was such a success thanks to our Council members' tenacious recruiting skills . . . along with the promise of a free t-shirt and homemade cookies for donating blood! Our upcoming project is a "Send and Save" fundraiser to aid the devastation in Haiti. On a set date, students will text "HAITI" to 90999 after lunch and then sign a poster. This is sponsored by the American Red Cross, and a \$10 charge on the phone bill will go towards help for Haiti. By having students sign a poster, we can track how much money CCHS collectively donated to Haiti. The "Stu Cru" has had a wonderful year and is looking forward to continue leading the way!

**Lyman High
School Student
Council**

**Campbell County
High School Student
Council**

Riverside High School (Basin) has focused on a number of fundraisers in February. Our Make a Wish committee has operated as a Good Will standing committee this year. Our largest project was the “Crush on a Crush” and “Hug/Kisses” fundraiser for the Make a Wish foundation for Valentine’s Day. Students and staff could send Crush pop or a bag of chocolate with a personal note for \$1. While Student Council paid for the chocolate, the Pamidas in Worland, Thermopolis, and Greybull donated the Crush pop. We made \$383 which brought our total for Make a Wish to \$778 for this year. In addition the members sent \$400 to the Haiti relief emergency fund and held a dance that raised another \$160. Our goal is to continue to raise money for both of these charities during Spring Fling week.

Riverside

Activities in Lingle-Fort Laramie High School’s Student Council are picking up the pace as we race into the second half of the school year. The sale of Valentines Cookies and Crushes were a big hit once again, and there are many new projects on tap for the remainder of the year. LFL Student Council is looking forward to St. Patrick’s day where students will be recognized with green root beer floats; as well as participation in Read Across America week, our annual canned food drive, and a second blood drive in mid- April. We hope to keep the good times rolling, student recognition coming, and community service flowing as we round the corner into the final stretch of the school year with a fast and furious pace.

Lingle-Fort Laramie

This is the second year that we have put on a school wide Mini Convention. Our goal is to reenact the WASC convention and give our school an insight on what Student Council does, not only for our school but our state as well.

The convention lasts a half day, starting at noon and carrying on through the rest of the school day. After lunch Jr. High and High School report to the auditorium where the convention is properly opened and platforms (that were passed at WASC) are presented to the school. After discussion, including pros and cons, the school makes a decision to accept or reject the platforms as goals for the rest of the school year. This year our school was in favor with all the platforms that were passed at WASC and all of them were passed with a large majority. Also during this time the officers took the time to commend the students for their enthusiasm with Student Council sponsored activities. Their participation in Homecoming, Make a Wish, and all other activities makes the Student Councils job much more enjoyable and rewarding.

Kaycee

Prior to the convention student council officers teamed up with volunteer students from the school to developed workshops for the Mini Convention. There were four workshops in all that were presented at our convention. Among them were SLC promotion, promoting school spirit, teamwork and communication, and trust and leadership skills. These students worked diligently to make the workshops as upbeat, fun, and informational as possible. After the opening session and platforms, the students were divided into groups of four and sent to the different workshops that were dispersed in classrooms around the school. This took up the rest of the afternoon and the students really enjoyed this exciting change in the afternoon schedule.

The Mini Convention was another great success for our school and we feel that it has given students a new and positive outlook towards student council. This gives the students an insight on what we do and the impact that we make in the lives of students around the state.

Be an Honor Council

Although you may all believe that June 15 is quite some time away, it is actually just around the corner. The Honor Council application can be found on the WASC website (www.wyasc.org). Now is the time to begin organizing it. The application itself is not too complicated, but gives such an overwhelming feeling that most council's don't even try. If you all begin working on it now, it will definitely help you to be more prepared when the time comes to turn it in. Don't forget to take lots of pictures of all activities that your council does. Yet if you miss a few events try to contact the school news paper or the year book. It's very important to not only write about what you do, but show it as well. We strongly encourage you all to work hard for Honor Council this year. Thank you and good luck.

Honor Council

National Student Leadership Week, April 18-24

This year's theme is "Step Up to Safety: Student Leaders Working for Safe Schools and Communities." There are plenty of ideas for projects being prepared for posting on the NHS/NJHS and NASC Websites in coming weeks. You can get your student activities group to be creative and think about other ways they can help improve safety for students in your school or in your community.

Remember: Safety is more than auto safety or a lack of violence; it includes students not being threatened, making the right choices about drugs and alcohol, being secure online, and being prepared for disasters, emergencies, and other circumstances that might be unsafe.

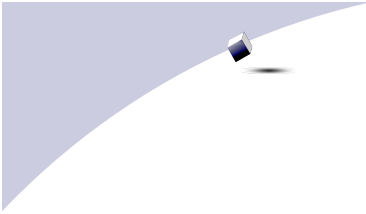
WASC is hoping every school in Wyoming will consider how this great theme fits their school and promote student council during National Student Leadership Week. Check out www.nasc.us for ideas and programs.

National Student Leadership Week

National Convention

Wyoming will have a 10 member delegation attending the National Conference at Center Grove High School just outside Indianapolis in June. The conference itself features national speakers, a significant US history lesson, student led workshops, an evening at the Speedway, and multiple opportunities to network with students from across the county. In addition we will spend a day and a half with the delegations from California and South Dakota and see the sights around Indianapolis. Conference registration will be available online at www.nasc.us in early March. The cost for registration, pre-trip, airfare, etc will be approximately \$1200. I will send details to every adviser within the next few days. Hope you will consider joining us.

National Convention



Our Challenge to Our Active Members

Challenge

The WASC board would like to broaden our membership base by contacting schools who currently have a student council but have not been an active part of WASC. We hope if you know of a school in your district who fits that description that your council will be in contact with that school and extend an invitation to them to be a part of Summit, SLC, or convention this year.

Goals '09-'10

Goals

At the last board meeting the eight elected students and the three adults met and discussed the goals that we would like to achieve during our terms in office. The first goal that we decided on was: To encourage and get more participation in WASC events, whether it be SLC, Summit, or Conference. This goal was proposed due to the fact that there were 11 schools absent at the last convention and as a state council we would like to see all of the schools attend. The second goal that we decided on was: To encourage the honor council program through contact with the schools and their principals, to provide hits and help with the application through partner schools and the newsletter, and to have four more schools achieve honor council this year. We would appreciate help with these goals from the councils and if anyone needs help with these don't hesitate to contact the regional reps or the state officers.

Wish Week

Make-A-Wish

Many schools are about to start their wish weeks for Make-A-Wish Foundation. Although the weeks will largely go off with out a hitch it is VERY important that before the week starts the schools go to www.wyasc.org, print off the licensing agreement, and fill it out. This agreement allows you to use the Male-A-Wish logo with the consent of the foundation. With out this agreement the foundation will have no record of the fundraiser other then the money raised.

Calendar

April 18-24	National Student Leadership Week	
April 25	Articles due to the newsletter	
June	Board Meeting	Big Horn/Sheridan
June 15	Honor Council books due	
June 24-25	NASC pre-trip	Indianapolis
June 26-29	NASC	Indianapolis
July 12-'6	SLC	Casper
September 12	Board Meeting	Riverton
September 13	WASC Summit	Riverton
September 14	WASC Summit	Casper
November 8-9	55 th Annual Convention	Big Horn/Sheridan

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