## Howard County Principal Promotes Student Council April 2016

Mr. Drew Cockley is the current principal of Mount Hebron High School in Howard County and the former principal of Century High School in Carroll County. Previously, he was



an assistant principal at North Carroll High School, where he co-advised the Carroll County Student Government Association.

Mr. Cockley recently shared his opinions on the importance of student council in promoting student efficacy and leadership at the school, county, and state levels. He believes perhaps the greatest benefit of state and national conferences for young leaders is the exposure to a high standard of leadership that is then applied by delegates at the local level. Mr. Cockley encourages as many interested students as possible to seek involvement in MASC and carry with them the lessons taught at the state level to improve regional and school student government boards. He went on to explain that the state executive board is a diverse group of students similarly driven to productively initiate change. At the state level, an ideology to improve education and student voice is the norm, creating a culture of leaders invested in their state's



education policy. Mr. Cockley recommends for students to "take advantage of the opportunities in these organizations, build a network, and actively keep in touch," emphasizing the value of the connections many students will make through their time in student council. He concluded by encouraging members of student council to actively communicate their goals and ongoing actions to faculty and administrators.

Article written by Mahek Mehta, MASC 2015-2016 Parliamentarian