

# Maryland Association of Student Councils (MASC)

## Mission Statement

The mission of MASC is to foster a statewide environment for all secondary school students to express and exchange opinions and ideas, develop leadership skills, and promote student representation and involvement in all groups and organizations impacting the lives of students.

## Goals and Objectives

### I. Communication

- A. To facilitate effective communication among MASC elected officers, Executive Board, regions, member schools, and groups impacting students
  - 1. To distribute a monthly newsletter to provide information about MASC
  - 2. To maintain and update the MASC website
  - 3. To hold quarterly Executive Board meetings with representation from each of the regional organizations
  - 4. To provide member schools with the opportunity to give feedback on the policies and activities of MASC
  - 5. To serve as the liaison between the State Board of Education and the students of Maryland
  - 6. To provide student liaisons to statewide task forces and committees that address issues concerning students
- B. To create a statewide network of student leaders
  - 1. To expand the role of the Executive Board to serve as a resource to MASC member schools and regions
  - 2. To provide opportunities for student leaders to interact with their peers from across the state
  - 3. To provide opportunities for the exchange of ideas at each MASC activity
- C. To provide a positive image of Maryland's students through ongoing communication with the media and the general public
  - 1. To model and share a code of honor for student leaders
  - 2. To create positive media connections
  - 3. To increase media coverage of MASC events and programs

### II. Leadership Development

- A. To provide leadership development opportunities as a component of each MASC conference and Executive Board meeting
  - 1. To provide substantive and informative workshops for delegates that empower students to enhance their own student councils and their surroundings
- B. To provide students with the opportunity to experience public service and civic education first hand
- C. To utilize and expand the formal partnership with the Maryland Leadership Workshops (MLW)
- D. To provide member schools with resources to enhance their own organizations.
  - 1. To encourage the improvement of member schools through an awards program
  - 2. To provide informative mailings to member schools addressing the issues and concerns of individual school student councils

### III. Representation and Involvement

- A. To promote representation and involvement of all secondary schools and regions in MASC
  - 1. To have representation from each of the 21 regions at all MASC functions
  - 2. To identify new methods of improving services to regions and member schools
  - 3. To increase involvement in MASC from under represented regions
  - 4. To bolster committees
- B. To represent student viewpoints to policymakers
  - 1. To recommend and advocate for the placement of students on boards, commission, and groups that impact students.
  - 2. To present the MASC position and the student viewpoint on issues affecting students to the State Board of Education, the State Legislature, and other decision-making bodies
  - 3. To empower students to present their viewpoints to policymakers
  - 4. To provide member schools the opportunity to give input on the Constitution, MASC platform, and policies