

February 2024

Hello Students,

February has been quite eventful for myself and the State Board!

At the end of the month, I attended the MASC Annual Convention hosted in Ocean City. Over the three days, I engaged with middle school students, hosted two workshops with the Prince George's County SMOB, Rayne Rivera Forbes, and spoke to over 700 delegates encouraging them to pursue the position of State SMOB. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting the students and watching the State SMOB candidates give their speeches and answer questions. In the coming months, the Governor will appoint my successor, and although my term does not end until July 1st, I look forward to a smooth transition.

At the start of this month, I, along with other student leaders across the state, went to Annapolis to testify on SB0386/HB0456, a bill that would give student members across Maryland the same voting rights as the State SMOB. I testified favorable with amendments in order to protect the voting rights in Montgomery and Anne Arundel, which are more expensive than my current voting rights. I look forward to working with our legislators to ensure voting rights for all SMOBs.

This month, I visited the **Prince George's Regional Association of Student Governments** (PGRASG) to speak at their General Assembly. I shared updates from the State Board on College and Career Readiness and provided students with insights leading up to the Convention. Thank you to the PGRASG executive board for inviting me! I had an excellent time and look forward to future regional visits.

Thank you so much for reading my monthly newsletter! For more updates on the State Board and my work as the Student Member, follow [@statesmob](#) on Instagram, TikTok, and Threads.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alusha Alyaah". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Maryland State Student Member of the Board