

March 2024

Hello Students,

March has been a great month for education in Maryland! Firstly, seeing that March is **Women's History Month**, I'd like to take a moment to appreciate some amazing women from both MASC and MSDE. Shout out to our amazing president Angelina Xu, Interim Superintendent Dr. Carey Wright, and of course, Ms. Moodie and Ms. Crawford for their unwavering support of students throughout the state.

At the start of the month, Governor Moore made his appointment for the 39th Student Member of the Maryland State Board of Education. Congratulations to **Abhiram (Abhi) Gaddam** from Wicomico County on his appointment! He will take over the position starting July 1st, but until then I look forward to continuing the great work and facilitating a smooth transition.

During the March State Board meeting, the **Free State PTA** presented an overview of their work and announced that they were creating two student positions on their executive board. This is an amazing state-level opportunity that students can start to think about for next school year. Additionally, following a review of our graduation rate data, the State Board came to a consensus that we need to investigate and mitigate the issue. MSDE is starting an "**Educate to Stop the Hate**" committee that is tasked with ensuring that our social studies curriculums are conscious of current events and enable students to engage with sensitive topics through inquiry and productive discussion.

I am excited to share that I have several visits planned for next month. On the 20th, I will be at Crofton High School for the **Maryland Civic Education & Engagement Leadership Summit**, and on the 27th, I will be in Salisbury for the **Eastern Shore Student Leadership Conference**. I am super excited to be a part of these amazing events and I look forward to engaging with more students.

Thank you so much for reading my monthly newsletter! As always, updates on the State Board and my work as the Student Member can be found on my Instagram, TikTok, and Threads, all of which are **@statesmob**.



Maryland State Student Member of the Board