



# PASC District 4 News

Fayette, Greene, Washington and Westmoreland Counties

February, 2010

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## Contact Us

### QUESTIONS about anything, contact:

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## Link to these sites

[www.pasc.net](http://www.pasc.net)

PA Assoc. of Student Councils – website

[www.nasc.us](http://www.nasc.us)

National Assoc of Student Councils website

## Don't miss out! The District 4 Conference is coming soon!

On Friday, March 5, 2010, schools from Fayette, Greene, Washington and Westmoreland Counties will gather at Norwin High School for the annual District 4 Conference. The theme of the conference is B.O.S.S. (Bringing Out Success in Students). Advisor Mrs. Lynn Clark and co-chairpersons Alex Cartwright, Tyler Ball and Forrest Mance are planning an event you won't want to miss!

The conference will feature keynote speaker Chad Hymus as well as roundtable sessions for delegates. Students will have the opportunity to visit three different discussion groups to learn about new ideas, projects and activities that they can take back to their schools. We all know how this time of the year seems to drag. Perhaps your students will learn of a new idea that is just what you need to motivate the students and staff in your school.

Advisors will have the opportunity to attend the advisors' meeting to learn about the latest District 4 and PASC news and upcoming events. This meeting will give you all the details you need to provide your council members with the best PASC has to offer.

If you have not yet registered, do so quickly!! Time is running out. Remember: you must be a paid member of PASC to attend the conference. If you are interested in attending, please contact Mrs. Clark at [lclark@norwinsd.org](mailto:lclark@norwinsd.org). For information about becoming a member of PASC, you may contact me at [rschwart@wiu.k12.pa.us](mailto:rschwart@wiu.k12.pa.us) or visit the PASC web site at [www.pasc.net](http://www.pasc.net).

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## Looking forward to next year . . .

A critical component of the advisors' meeting is the selection of the host school for the 2010 – 2011 District 4 Conference. Some of you may be thinking that you've been advising for many years and that you no longer have the energy to take on a conference. Some of you may be thinking you've been advising only a few years and you don't have enough experience to plan a conference. If that's what you're thinking...you're wrong!! A conference is, by far, the best way to bring your council together and to truly develop leadership skills for everyone involved. I can guarantee that I and many other District 4 advisors who have hosted conferences in the past will do whatever you need to make this a pleasant experience. Please talk to your council members and offer them the chance to host a conference. You will be glad you did.

If you are interested in hosting the 2011 conference, please notify me of your intentions before the conference. You may contact me at the email address given above.

## Are you looking forward to retirement soon?

One of the greatest obstacles in keeping in touch with District 4 advisors is determining who the current advisor is if the former has retired or resigned the position. If you will no longer be the advisor or if you are one of the lucky ones who will be retiring soon, please be sure to forward contact information for the new advisor to me at [rschwart@wiu.k12.pa.us](mailto:rschwart@wiu.k12.pa.us) and to our Membership Chairperson Carole Kustafik at [captski@comcast.net](mailto:captski@comcast.net). This will assure that we can continue to stay in touch and provide updates on PASC and District 4 news. This will take only a minute or two but is a vital part of keeping your students, your council and your school "in the know."

## Give your middle level leaders a chance to be a part of the State Board

Each fall at the State Conference two students and their advisors are elected to serve as part of the State Board for a one-year term. The student must be a sixth grader for the 2010 – 2011 school year to serve a term from January 1, 2011 – January 21, 2012. The selected student and his/her advisor will attend four meetings during the year as well as the LEAD Conference. They will also serve on Board committees and will have an active role in Board business. If you have a student who you think would serve well in this capacity, I encourage you to watch PASCNews for more information and to apply to be a part of the PASC State Executive Board.

## Act fast! Don't let your students miss out on upcoming events!

We often think of spring and early summer as time to “wind down” from the busy school year. Not true for PASC. A number of activities are planned, but you must act soon if your students are interested in participating. Mark your calendars for these events and deadlines:

- A. Reservations are now being taken for the NASC National Conference “Start the Engines of Leadership” in Indianapolis June 26 – 29, 2010. As they do every year, PASC will begin with a pre-trip for delegates and advisors in the PA delegation. However, reservations and a deposit of \$500.00 are due to Trip Coordinator Kathy Coll by February 22. A second payment is due March 15 and the final payment is due by May 1. For more information visit [pasc.net](http://pasc.net).
- B. By now you have the flyer and application for Summer Workshops. Those of you who have had students attend these programs realize their value, not only for your students who attend, but also for your council and your school. The Blue and Gold programs stress the importance of such topics as time management, officer and representative responsibilities and leadership principles. The Advanced Gold program offers unique aspects such as the Outdoor Odyssey team-building experience, mentoring groups and diversity within your schools and councils. According to Ms. Lindsay Nemec, Admissions Counselor for Cameron University, “A PASC delegate possesses not only leadership skills, but time-management, communication, teamwork, and self-awareness – all elements of a well-rounded college applicant.” Be sure to have applications postmarked by May 14, 2010 to take advantage of the Early Bird Discount.

Once again this year, District 4 will offer scholarships for both the Blue and Gold/Advanced Gold workshops. Be sure to watch for applications in the mail soon and apply. You may win a scholarship to help defray the cost of your students to attend.

- C. The 2010 PASC State Conference will have a unique format from most conferences. Hosted by several school districts in PASC District 9, the conference will take place at the University of Scranton and Old Forge High School. The theme of the conference is “Enlightening Student Councils...SHOCK Your School.” Delegates will be housed in hotels rather than in host homes for easier access to the conference sites.

**Please note that the dates of this year's conference are October 7, 8, 9, 2010.** This earlier date is necessary to correspond to the university's fall break schedule. As a result, it is very, very important that you request approval to attend the conference from your School Board **prior to the end of this school year** so that you may meet the earlier registration deadlines.

As in the past few years, Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4 will provide busing to Scranton. I realize this is a long journey across the state, but I urge you to not allow the distance to stop you from attending the conference! Several different schools will travel on the buses, giving advisors and students the opportunity to reconnect with PASC friends, share ideas and relax without worrying about driving several hours.

For more information, visit their web site at [www.pascshock2010.com](http://www.pascshock2010.com) or email them at [info@pascshock2010.com](mailto:info@pascshock2010.com). Prepare yourself – and your students – for a SHOCKing experience!