



PASC NEWS

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PASC Selects New Student Representative for the Pennsylvania Board of Education

In April, the PASC Selection Committee reviewed 11 applications for the position of Junior Student Member on the State Board of Education. On Saturday, May 1, SBE Member, Dr. Frances Michelini joined the committee to interview six finalists. These students demonstrated a great desire to serve the public school students of Pennsylvania and presented excellent resumes, letters, or recommendations and essays. Each student who was interviewed expressed the need for SBE Student Members to find active ways to communicate with student council leaders and with other Pennsylvania students about the actions of the State Board of Education.

They also suggested ways to gather student opinion for Pennsylvania students.

Shannon Sullivan, a sophomore at North Allegheny Intermediate HS (District 3) was named as the Junior Student Member on the State Board of Education for the 2010–2011 school year. Shannon will join junior Travis Gilbert from Big Spring HS on the State Board of Education. Travis is completing the first year of his two-year term. Gardiner Kreglow, Senior Member of the SBE, will conclude his term as the first two-year Student Member of the State Board of Education at the SBE meeting in



Finalists for the student representative position on the State Board of Education will serve on an advisory board to the student SBE members next year.

Harrisburg on May 5–6. Shannon will join Travis and Gardiner at this meeting, representing the 1.8 million public school students of the Commonwealth.

We thank and congratulate the following SBE Member finalists who will serve on an Advisory Board to the Student Members of the State Board of Education: Will Foos, East Pennsboro HS; Emma Lueschen, East Pennsboro HS; Devon Malone, North Allegheny IHS; Ellery Spahr, Camp Hill HS; and Brooke Troutman, Parkland HS.

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2010 State Conference Features Keynote Speakers Who Have Overcome Adversity

Thursday evening, October 7th's First General Session, provides delegates with an inspiring and entertaining speaker who has overcome physical challenges of birth and shares his "5 Steps to Successfully Overcome Anything". Alvin Law comes to PASC from

Calgary, Alberta. Read more on page 7 about this amazing conference speaker.

The Second General Session on Friday morning provides a second opportunity for student and advisor delegates to take home lessons of hope and determination that they can

apply to their lives and to their leadership roles in school. Bobby Petrocelli's life changed in just 10 seconds when a drunk driver crashed his car through the bedroom of his house, killing his wife. Through Bobby's message learn the power of one decision. Learn how each *continued on page 7*



News & Notes

PASC Executive Board Position Openings Announced

Several individuals on the PASC Executive Board serve three-year terms of office. The terms for two of these positions come due in 2010. These positions are for PASC Treasurer and for Membership Coordinator.

Presently, Bill Sebastian, retired advisor at Northgate HS (Pittsburgh), serves as the acting Treasurer, and Carole Kustafik, retired advisor at Downingtown East HS, serves as Membership Coordinator.

All PASC Executive Board positions are open to any applicants. Applications and job descriptions for these positions are available by contacting PASC Executive Director Jim Finnemeyer at PASCInfo@aol.com.

The applicant deadline for these positions is July 1, 2010. Interviews will be held on July 30 at Altoona HS and decisions will be made by the PASC Executive Board by August 1, 2010.

New STAR Leaders Conference to Replace NASC Conference

The NASC Conference in June 2010 will end the 74 years of national student council conferences. In 2011, NASC will join with National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society for the first Students Taking Active Roles as Leaders Conference. This conference will be held in late June 2011 in downtown St. Louis, Missouri.

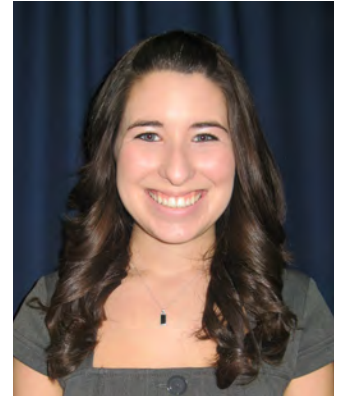
The new conference format will allow both the student council leaders and NHS leaders to have combined general session speakers. Other aspects of the program will allow for separate general sessions designed specifically for each group, allow for separate workshops on topics focusing on different needs and interests, and provide opportunities to recognize accomplishments of advisors and student leaders in both organizations. Future PASC NEWS issues will present details on the 2011 conference as they become available.

Dues for 2010-11 Are Due This Spring

Invoices, member school passwords and user names, and membership benefits brochures were mailed to PASC schools in late April. If you have not received your dues packet, please contact Membership Coordinator Carole Kustafik at captkski@comcast.net. Please update all information on the invoice and return it with your school's payment before the end of this school year to Membership Coordinator Carole Kustafik. Your prompt payment will be greatly appreciated. Please note that the \$75 PASC dues are different from the \$95 dues that are paid to NASC located in Reston, Virginia.

New Student SBE Member (cont'd from pg. 1)

The June issue of PASC News will feature a final report from Gardiner. In September 2010, Shannon and Travis will begin writing a series of articles for PASC NEWS. Student SBE Members also report to the PASC Executive Board, and will develop surveys and other communicational links as they move forward in this unique opportunity of civic engagement. For additional information on Gardiner, Travis, and Shannon, the selection process, and the role that the State Board of Education plays in the long-term improvement of education in Pennsylvania, go to www.pasc.net/board_of_educ/board_of_ed.html.



Shannon Sullivan

Recruiting Workshop Presenters for State Conference

PASC is looking for student leaders who are interested in sharing what they know with their peers at the state conference in Scranton this fall. Consider applying to present a workshop on Friday, October 8.

Information on applying to present workshops and a copy of the rubric that will be used to select workshops were included in the spring mailing about the state conference. Copies of these materials and suggestions for how to put together a creative and excellent workshop for states are also posted at www.pascshock2010.com and at www.pasc.net.

PASC has worked for the past two years in preparing workshop presenters to submit a video of the workshop to be used in the selection process. The submission of a video is again encouraged in 2010. The video can be made during a workshop presentation at the spring district or regional conference, or a video can be made during a practice presentation with students from the presenter's school.

Deadline for submission of applications to present workshops is June 15

Workshop presenters will be notified of their acceptance by August 1

Show what you know! Present a workshop at states.



NASC Region 2 Leaders Meet in Ocean City, New Jersey

State Student Council officers and representatives from Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania met at Ocean City HS in New Jersey for the weekend of April 23–25 to participate in idea exchanges, workshops designed for state leaders, roundtable presentations, and team-building activities.

These Middle Atlantic state leaders discussed national student council issues, how to improve communications among the state organizations, and what steps to take to improve leadership programs and idea exchanges among the states.

They developed a mission statement for NASC Region 2, selected Lou Miller of New Jersey to serve a two-year term on the NASC Advisory Council, and selected Sara Rudasill of Pennsylvania to serve as the first NASC Region 2 student liaison. Pennsylvania's Mike White and New York's Stephen DeSalvo will leave the NASC Advisory Council on June 30. Region 2 leaders will meet again next spring in New York.

The Student Council of Ocean City is commended for planning an excellent program and being superb host at the Jersey Shore.



Sara Rudasill (left) was selected to serve as the first NASC Region 2 liaison, and Lou Miller (right) was selected as the new Region 2 NASC advisory council member at a recent Region 2 leaders meeting. Stephen DeSalvo and Mike White (center) are currently serving terms on the advisory council.

The Case for Student Activities

By Jim Finnemeyer, PASC Executive Director

We live in one of the most challenging times for student activities in our schools. Academic accountability and testing require a tremendous amount of focus by administrators and faculty members. The economic impact of the "Great Recession" strains school budgets and raises questions about what is essential in the secondary schools of our state. These are the realities of education in our time.

However, we who understand the value of co-curricular activities must be armed with data that supports what we feel in our hearts is the value of what we do with students outside of the classroom. We have an important role to play in these difficult times to help our overburdened administrators, anxious faculty members, confused parents, and frustrated taxpayers to understand

that tangible learning takes place in the co-curricular arena as well. Activities are not just frills of the school system. They provide the educational laboratory that makes reading, writing, math, and other school subjects come alive.

The organizational skills, interpersonal skills, communication skills, and team building developed through co-curricular activities are essential to a functioning democracy, vital to sustain a free enterprise system, critical to civil discourse, and lay the foundations for a productive, creative, and critically thinking society.

The Pennsylvania State Board of Education is developing goals for improving school climate in the schools of our state. The role of student activities is critical to the success of that goal. It affects the academic success of our students, promotes a positive school environment leading to

better PSSA test scores, and promotes inclusion for ALL students, thus contributing to school safety and personal success for "at risk" students. It is about students feeling good about what they create. It is about pride in school and community. It is about students wanting to come to school because it is a place where good things happen to ALL students and staff.

Advisors, YOU Are the Key to this Effort. Speak out for the value of what you do. Build a case by reading *Student Activities: The Third Curriculum* by Dr. Ed Klesse, available from NASC. Download the article on the PASC website (under publications and forms) by Dr. Bryan Shelly, PASC alum and professor of political science at Wake Forest University. You can also contact Dr. Shelly (shellybt@wfu.edu) to obtain more facts to back up your beliefs. **Keep Doing What You Do Best...Care about Kids.**

Seeking Roundtable Presenters

Advisors, if you have never presented a state conference roundtable, we need you in 2010. PASC is seeking new ideas. Advisors planning to attend the state conference in Scranton are invited to present a 10-minute roundtable to other advisors. Roundtables are presented three or four times on Friday, October 8.

Presenters are asked to duplicate 75 copies of a one-page handout to be distributed to those who come to each 10-minute presentation. As a thank-you to the advisors who present a roundtable idea, presenters are given a complete set of all the handouts from all the presenters.

Advisors, please indicate your interest in volunteering to present a topic by sending an e-mail to Kathy Coll at kcoll1@comcast.net by June 15th. In that email, indicate a topic title and a one or two sentence summary of the topic.

Sara Rudasill Named NASC Region 2 Student Liaison

Sara Rudasill, New Oxford HS (District 8) freshman, was selected on April 24th as the first NASC Student Liaison for Region 2. She was chosen by the state presidents and executive directors in the Middle Atlantic states, which comprise Region 2.



the NASC Advisory Committee and with the adult NASC Region 2 Representative.

♦ Assist with planning the annual spring meeting of NASC

Region 2 state officers

and executive directors.

♦ Foster the sharing of ideas and projects among the state organizations of Region 2.

Sara is an active leader in her high school, where she serves as the freshman class president. Previously, Sara served as middle school president, attended PASC Blue Workshops, and created a principal's advisory council with bi-weekly meetings. Sara is the top player on the varsity tennis team, is a state-level participant in speech in FBLA, and serves as editor of the school newspaper. Sara's experiences and talents will serve her well as she represents students in the Middle Atlantic states.

Congratulations to Sara in her new leadership role.

In a related decision, Lou Miller, executive director of the New Jersey Association of Student Councils and advisor at Brooklawn MS, was selected to succeed Mike White (Pennridge HS advisor) on the NASC Advisory Council as an adult representative from Region 2.

In the past, the NASC Advisory Council had one student representative from each of the eight NASC regions. In a cost-saving effort, NASC begins in 2010 to narrow its NASC Advisory Council membership to four students and four advisors down from a total of 16 members.

The state organizations of Region 2 (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania) felt that when the term of NASC Region 2 Representative Stephen DeSalvo of New York comes to an end in June 2010, one student should be selected to serve the region. This student will:

- ♦ Serve from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2012.
- ♦ Foster communication between the state presidents and executive directors of the Middle Atlantic states.
- ♦ Communicate student ideas and concerns from the states of Region 2 with student representatives serving on

The Value of Service to Others; Not Measured by Standardized Tests

The following are excerpts from an editorial written by Dr. Gerald N. Tirozzi, executive director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals, in the February 2010 issue of the newsletter *NewsLeader* for principals distributed monthly by NASSP.

"How can we measure the intangible benefits that come out of schools? Sure, we get an educated citizenry and a productive workforce. But it seems that everyone wants more." Statistics gathered last year from student councils, National Honor Societies, and National Junior Honor Societies show that students in those organizations performed nearly two million hours of service, which amounted to about \$22 million in labor and money raised for various causes. "That is millions of hours of blood drives, environmental clean-ups, fund raisers, and scores of other activities that go directly back into the community."

"Of course, the effects of that service ripple well beyond the dollar assigned to the time that is volunteered. For school leaders, such service pays invaluable dividends in community relations and disposes community members to support school initiatives and referenda. Student activities programs provide a context for service, and that leads students to have a meaningful volunteer experience. Combine that meaningfulness with the feeling of satisfaction that accompanies service well-performed, and you end up with students who develop lifelong habits of giving back to their communities—the hours and dollars of which are incalculable and not measureable by any true-false or multiple choice test."

"Involvement in service activities is also a positive reflection on today's students because they are typically the ones who identify the need, research the problem, consider the solutions, and most importantly, mobilize their peers to address the problem."

Congratulations to our student leaders and to the students who follow their lead in reaching out to fill the needs of their local community and rise to the occasion when disaster strikes others in our nation and the world. Many PASC schools reached out to help the victims of the earthquake in Haiti. PASC schools continue to support the Ivory Park community center project in South Africa championed by our Advanced Gold delegates. More than \$833,000 was raised this year for the Four Diamond Fund, and now work is being done to support our state charity project for Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

Dr. Tirozzi concluded his editorial to principals by writing, "the next time you hear someone bemoan the cost of schools, remind them of how much the community receives back from the students they serve."

PASC NEWS

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PASC Middle Level Blue Workshop: What will students learn? What will they do there?

For many PASC Blue Summer Leadership workshop delegates the programs at Grove City College and Lebanon Valley College are their first experience at “camp” away from home. Delegates check into the residence halls on a Sunday afternoon. Staff members help them move in. These same staff members are housed on the floors of the dorms to provide for evening supervision. The program begins quickly, with all delegates and staff attending an afternoon “Community Meeting” filled with fun activities and information. A sample one-day Blue Workshop schedule can be found at www.pasc.net.

Project planning is one of the key curriculum components of the workshop and thus a planning model is introduced to the delegates on opening night. Delegates will use this model to plan many of the workshop activities throughout the week as they learn to “live” the curriculum. This Project planning model will be sent home with delegates so that they can implement it in their council activities. Sunday night’s program includes the first meeting of Council Groups, where officers are elected and every delegate joins one of seven workshop planning committees. At PASC Blue, **everyone** has a role to play.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings begin with a program of songs and announcements followed by breakfast. Delegates meet a new group of peers as they

attend the first of the five major learning unit sessions that are woven into the program. These interactive sessions are led by a combination of student council advisors and college students who have been trained at PASC workshops they attended during their middle school and high school years. Sessions include: Communication Skills, Leadership Skills, Meeting Skills, Personal Skills, and Public Speaking. (See the



Blue Workshop benchmarks article for details on the curriculum.)

In addition to the learning units, delegates meet each day with their Council Groups, work on projects, and attend special officer and representative training sessions. Delegates also participate in programs on civic engagement, calendar planning, etiquette, and special interest seminars. Every day is different but each afternoon has a block of time for recreation and each evening includes an activity planned by

delegate committees and coordinated by staff. These include: Junior Olympics Games and Skits, Talent Show, Closing Dinner and Dance.

Each workshop designs its own community service activity that varies by site and year. PASC Blue Workshops pride themselves in actively involving delegates in learning sessions as well as in all aspects of the program. Our experiential philosophy expects that students will learn best by “doing” and applying what they learn through instruction as they execute projects and activities. Our goal is to send students home on Thursday morning with a large notebook filled with “How to Do” information, ideas for new projects and programs to implement, and the resources to turn to when they are back home working with school, community, or religious groups. Most importantly, it is our goal to send students home enthused as student leaders; confident in their abilities to lead a large or small group of their peers and able to communicate effectively with both adults and peers.

We hope that the PASC Blue experience will be so much fun for delegates that they will look forward to coming to the State Conference in October for a reunion with their new friends. They may even make plans to attend another Middle Level Blue or High School Gold Workshop in 2011. If you have workshop questions please call 215-280-9299 or e-mail PASCworkshops@aol.com.

PASC Blue Level Workshop Curriculum Benchmarks

LEARNING UNITS: Upon successful completion the delegates will be able to:

Communication

- Monitor and improve listening skills
- Convey ideas and information effectively in written and oral communications
- Recognize communication barriers and overcome challenges created by those barriers
- Address individuals and groups utilizing public speaking techniques

Leadership

- Identify characteristics of good leaders (confidence, poise, etc.)
- Set and achieve measurable personal and organizational goals
- Demonstrate an ability to delegate, oversee processes and monitor follow through
- Exercise good decision making
- Prioritize the needs and actions of the organization

Project Planning

- Initiate plans for projects of value to the organization
- Effectively brainstorm ideas and filter to the ideas that are most suited to the reason for the project and/or the theme of the project
- Determine necessary means to accomplish set goals
- Develop written plans for administration approval and present those plans

Personal Skills (The topic formerly known as Self-Esteem)

- Recognize strengths/weaknesses of self and others for appropriate use in the

organization

- Motivate others to participate in programs and achieve success of set goals
- Act as a role model with good character and responsibility
- Demonstrate proper social etiquette

Other Topics To Be Covered

Throughout The Week

Meeting Skills

- Create an agenda
- Keep appropriate records
- Use the basics of parliamentary procedure
- Evaluate the success of a meeting and make necessary adjustments

Role of Officers

- Recognize specific responsibilities
- Discuss problems and issues of offices
- Examine an overview of all positions as a team perspective
- Communicate with advisor in a consistent and positive manner

Publicity

- Create a calendar of events
- Design and use effective publicity tools

Climbing the PASC Ladder

- Define positions, roles, terms, history, and regions
- Explain opportunities available

**PASC Summer Workshops:
The Best Part of Summer
Begins with YOU!**

2010 State Conference Keynote Speakers (cont'd from pg 1)

choice either strengthens or weakens your foundation. Things just don't happen and decisions of everyone impact our entire world. Learn how to build a strong foundation, one brick, one decision, at a time. Read more about Bobby Petrocelli in his biography.

Bobby Petrocelli



Bobby Petrocelli's story is one of personal triumph and hope following a devastating tragedy in his life. One night he went

to bed in suburban America, a happy man with a loving wife. But when he woke up dazed in his kitchen, his wife was dead and his life forever changed. The pickup truck that crashed through his bedroom wall was driven by a man who was more than twice legally drunk.

Bobby often shares how he fought through the darkness to triumph; how he drew upon his faith and friends; and how he came to love again. As a high school teacher and coach, his love for youth inspired him to take his dramatic story to audi-

ences nationwide.

Now, as a motivational speaker, he shares with youth the power of their decisions and how to build a strong foundation for their lives. He emphasizes making positive choices at all times, even under pressure. Those who experience Bobby leave motivated by his awesome story, refreshed by his charismatic personality and warmth, and empowered to face their personal challenges. His coaching background and expertise with youth have made him one of the top communica-

tors in his field.

Bobby's professional experience includes 11 years as an educator, counselor, and coach. He holds a Masters degree in counseling. He is author and co-author of eight different motivational books, including [*10 Seconds Can Change Your Life Forever*](#). His powerful story is presented in *Triumph Over Tragedy*. His latest book is *10 Seconds IS Changing Lives Forever: Letters of Hope*. His story has been featured on *Geraldo*, *Sally Jesse Raphael*, *The Hour of Power* and *The Family Channel*.

Alvin Law

More than 13,000 babies around the world were deformed in the early 1960s because of a morning sickness drug, Thalidomide. Alvin Law was born without arms after his birth mother, thinking it was completely safe, used just a couple of the tiny pills and their lives were forever altered. Yet, what may have become a tragic life-story did not turn out that way. Today, Alvin is not only a completely independent, remarkably successful professional speaker, but proof that out of nothing can arise one of the most inspiring stories you will ever witness.

Faced with no hope in their minds, Alvin's birth family courageously gave him up for adoption, hoping and praying that someone else might be more prepared for the welfare of this pitiful newborn. Their prayers were answered. One day in 1960, Hilda Law was a 55-year-old foster mother, who, along with her husband, Jack, took in a sickly, deformed baby whose future seemed certain. Not only did Hilda nurse him back to health, but her intuition said lurking inside this impossible scenario was hope.

Alvin attended regular schools in a day when handicapped children were relegated to institutions or, at best, schools that segregated them from the normal students. Remarkable teachers saw his potential and worked with the family to encourage that potential. Then, like a genie in a bottle, Alvin was recognized for his musical ability and he joined the band. Within an impossibly short time, he became an award-winning musician and graduated from high school with honors. He then graduated, again with honors, from college and embarked on a career in broadcasting. In 1981 he began conducting awareness seminars in hundreds of schools across the province of Alberta, Canada. Thus began his

adventures in the field of motivational speaking.

Since 1976, Alvin has played a direct role in raising more than \$165,000,000 for charity. He has also dabbled in acting, playing a role in a quirky creative film, *Julien: Donkey Boy* and in a life highlight, played an armless preacher in an episode of the hit television series, *The X-Files*. Alvin has appeared on countless telethons, media features, and has been the subject of two award-winning television documentaries. The first, *Alvin, His Best Foot Forward* was shown across Canada in 1978. The second, *Broken Promises*, focused on the plight of Canada's Thalidomide victims and after its Canadian showing was seen on American Public Broadcasting's *Frontline*. Re-named *Extraordinary People*, it was nominated for an Emmy Award. Alvin has appeared on *The Joan Rivers Show*, *How'd They Do That* on CBS, CBC's *What On Earth* and ABC's *Front-runners*. This segment about Alvin received an Emmy Award.

Alvin often says, he always knew angels existed. In 1991, he met one and in 1993, he married Darlene. In 1995, his son Vance came to live with them, and in 2000, they moved to Calgary, Alberta, where they now reside with Jazper, Ray, and Dexter the dogs and Trixie, the cat.

