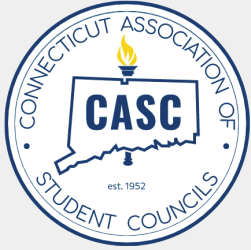


CASC Advisors Planner

Official Newsletter of the Connecticut Association of Student Councils



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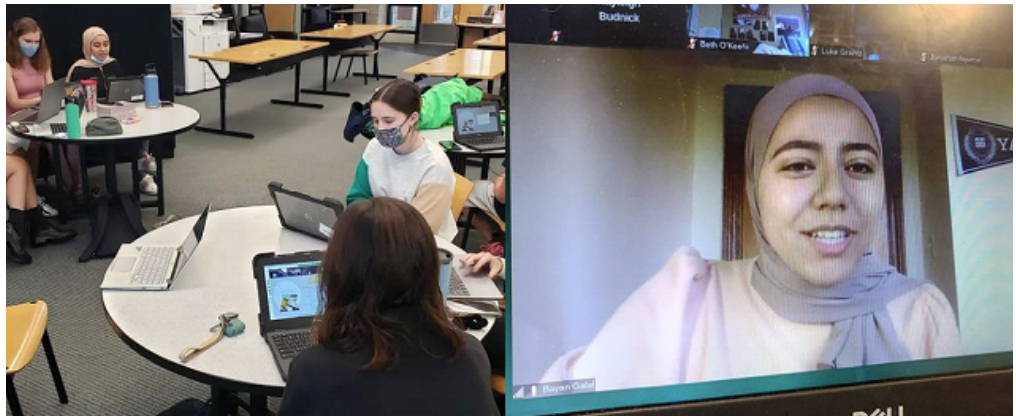
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Director's Corner

Welcome back to a new school year! This will be an amazing year full of every possibility and opportunity. You and your Council/Government students have spent the summer thinking of new and exciting projects to make a real difference in your school this year. And the best part is that the administration hasn't said no to a single one yet! (you also haven't had the opportunity to share them with them)

I hope that this newsletter finds you and your families in good health. We have two statewide events quickly approaching that I hope you can join us at, our 5th President's Symposium and 2nd annual CASC/CGA Mock Legislative Day.

First up on September 26th we have our 5th Annual CASC President's Symposium (HS/MS). With the continued bussing issues affecting most districts across the state the Board voted to move this event to a virtual setting. This year's Symposium is free and open to advisors and all Student Council/Government leadership team members. In addition to announcements about upcoming initiatives and related CASC news we will continue to feature a keynote speaker presentation with a moderated Q and A.

Our second event of the year is our Mock Legislative Session Day (HS) on October 18th. For the second year in a row we have the opportunity to participate in a Mock Legislative Session Day. This year we are adding elements such as floor caucuses, amendments, and more time to work with staff to prepare for the debates. We will also be using the capitol building proper for all of our meeting space. This event continues to be a unique opportunity for student council/ government members from across Connecticut to work with the Connecticut General Assembly staff and legislators to learn how a bill becomes a law. Students will experience the committee and public hearing process, bill analysis, fiscal analysis, and the process of putting a bills intentions into legal language, in preparation for Mock Session where students will debate their mock legislation on the House Floor.

Remember between newsletters to check our association website (<https://www.ctstuco.com/>) as well as our instagram feed @ctstuco to keep up with the latest news and opportunities CASC offers.

Be safe, and as always thank you for your continued support of student leadership in Connecticut and remember to stay above the line.

Christopher Tomlin
CASC Executive Director

Upcoming State Important Dates::

SEPTEMBER

September 26:: President's Symposium, Virtual (HS/MS)

The President's Symposium serves as a launchpad for upcoming CASC activities and opportunities. This year's Symposium will be a free virtual event and open to advisors and all student council/ government leadership team members.

Register here:: [https://www.casciac.org/scripts/registerwpcas.cgi?confid=2023 CASC PRESIDENTS SYMPOSIUM preview=1](https://www.casciac.org/scripts/registerwpcas.cgi?confid=2023%20CASC%20PRESIDENTS%20SYMPOSIUM&preview=1)

OCTOBER

October 18:: Mock Legislative Session Day (HS)

Mock Legislative Session Day is an opportunity for student council/government members from across Connecticut to work with the Connecticut General Assembly staff and legislators to learn how a bill becomes a law. Students will experience the committee and public hearing process, bill analysis, fiscal analysis, and the process of putting a bill's intentions into legal language, in preparation for Mock Session where students will debate their mock legislation on the House Floor.

Register here:: <https://www.casciac.org/scripts/registerwpcas.cgi?confid=CASCMOCKLEGDAY23&preview=1>

From the Executive Board

State President

Greetings, Connecticut!

Get ready for an exciting new school year ahead! CASC has some fantastic plans in store that are sure to captivate your interest. For an in-depth look at what's in store, I encourage you to join us at the upcoming President's Symposium. This event will be held virtually, making attendance convenient for you and your Student Council or Government. I'm thrilled to announce the return of Mock Legislative Day this year! Come October, student leaders will once again have the incredible opportunity to apply their leadership skills by addressing real-life issues at Connecticut's capitol.

Also, we no longer have open staff positions on our board; however, we have a wide selection of state-wide committees where students can get a taste of leadership at the state level. From mental health to legislative affairs, there's a committee for all skills applicable to Student Council/Government. I'm looking forward to a great year where we make a positive impact in our schools and communities!

Yasmeen Galal '24
Woodland Regional High School
President, CASC

State Committees Forming. Last Call!

High School and middle schoolers, are you interested in working with other motivated students from across Connecticut? Do you want to energize your year with new projects fulfilling causes you're passionate about? Or are you looking to get involved with CASC? Applications for students to serve on one of the CACS committees are open until October 1st. (<https://www.ctstuco.com/committees>)

Legislative Affairs Committee

The Legislative Affairs Committee is an excellent opportunity for students trying to get involved in our state's legislative process. Alongside CASC's Legislative Affairs Coordinator, this committee will work to boost civic engagement in high schools across Connecticut, spread awareness about youth-related issues and legislation, and encourage and inspire students to become more involved in local and state level government. Students involved in

this committee will have the opportunity to work directly with like-minded peers, discussing current legislative issues for teens, and developing statements on teen-related legislation on behalf of CASC.

This year's Committee project is to:

- 2 pieces of legislation to present to the Connecticut General Assembly via our Mock Legislative Day event.
- A report containing feedback on the pieces of legislation generated during Mock Legislative day as well as 2 additional pieces of legislation from the Connecticut General Assembly and their performance in the aforementioned body. This report will then be presented to both the CASC and Connecticut General Assemblies.
- Hold open sessions at the beginning and end of the CT general assembly term for students from CASC membership schools. The first will be to establish the structure of Connecticut General Assembly and legislative process, and another at the end summarizing what took place throughout the CT General Assembly session.

Student Workshops Committee

We support people wanting to present workshops by training them and certifying them to become more empathetic leaders. Our program will help develop a presenter training that will teach students how to effectively run a workshop.

This year's Committee project is to:

- Our training will consist of two training sessions a year.
- At least 10 new Certified CASC Workshop Presenters. They will be given diplomas at the convention.

Mental Health Committee

The Mental Health Committee seeks to spread awareness about the importance of mental health as well as advocate for people struggling with their Mental Health. The Mental Health Committee aspires to provide resources to people in need.

This year's Committee project is to:

- Host a Mental Health Night
- Create a list of resources as well as a handbook available on ctstuco.com

Service Committee

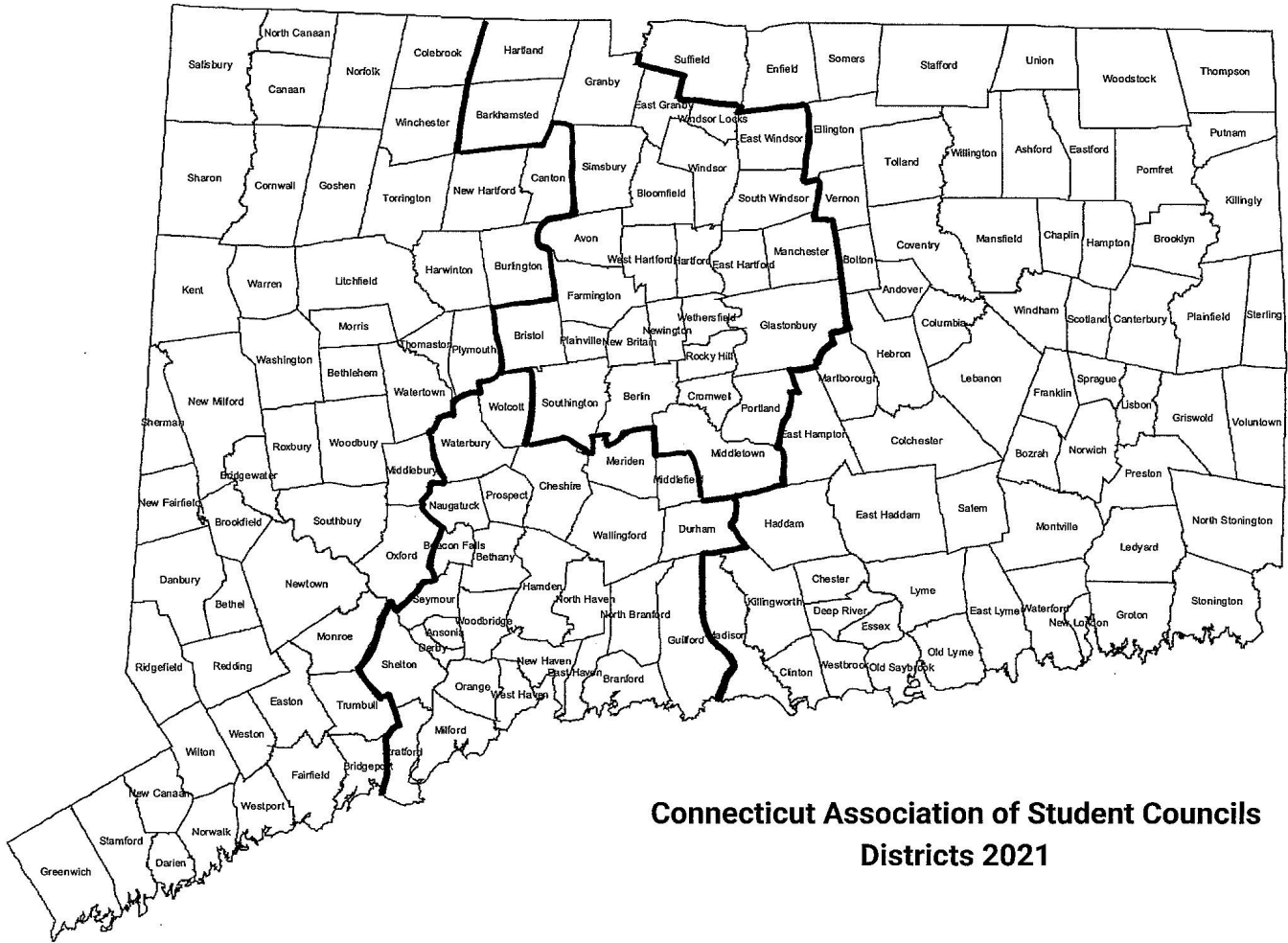
Works with the CASC Service Project Coordinator to develop and implement state wide service projects and opportunities.

Social Media Committee

Works with the CASC Historian/Archivist to develop effective social media campaigns about all of CASC's activities.

If you have any students that are interested in learning more about serving on any of these committees please have them complete [this form](https://www.ctstuco.com/committees). (<https://www.ctstuco.com/committees>)

Districts in Action



Connecticut Association of Student Councils
Districts 2021

Please check the district lists below as some schools were moved in the recent realignment of the state.

Northern District - CIBA

Naya Chae '24, Vice President;

Thierry Ofori '25, District Coordinator;

Rachel Buck, Advisor

District Members:

Achievement First, Aerospace & Engineering, Avon, Berlin, Bloomfield, Bristol Central, Bristol Eastern, Bulkeley, Cheney Tech, Classical Magnet, Conard, Connecticut IB Academy, Cromwell, East Catholic, East Granby, East Hartford, East Windsor, Farmington, Glastonbury, Goodwin Tech, Granby

Memorial, Hall, Hartford Magnet, Trinity College Academy, Hartford Public, Manchester, Mercy, Metropolitan Learning Center, Middletown, New Britain, Newington, Northwest Catholic, Plainville, Portland, Prince Tech, Rocky Hill, Science & Innovation, Simsbury, SMSA, South Windsor, Southington, St. Paul Catholic, University, Vinal Tech, Wethersfield, Windsor, Windsor Locks, Xavier

Eastern District - OPEN

Open, Vice President;

Open, District Coordinator;

Open, Advisor

District Members:

Academy of the Holy Family, Bacon Academy, Bolton, Coventry, Daniel Hand, East Hampton, East Lyme, Ellington, Ellis Tech, Enfield, EO Smith, Griswold, Grosso Tech, Haddam-Killingworth, Killingly, Ledyard, Lyman Memorial, Montville, Morgan, Nathan Hale Ray, New London, NFA, Norwich Tech, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Parish Hill, Plainfield, Public Safety Academy, Putnam, RHAM, Robert E. Fitch, Rockville, Somers, St. Bernard, Stafford, Stonington, Suffield, Tolland, Tourtellotte Memorial, Valley Regional, Waterford, Westbrook, Wheeler, Windham, Windham Tech, Woodstock Academy

Southern District - Notre Dame High School, West Haven

Mickey Dowd '24, Vice President;

Matthew Prato '24, District Coordinator;

Casey LaMonaca, Advisor

District Members:

Amity, Ansonia, Branford, Bunnell, Cheshire, Coginchaug, Cooperative Arts And Humanities, Crosby, Derby, East Haven, Eli Whitney Tech, Emmet O'Brien Tech, Engineering and Science University Magnet, Foran, Guilford, Hamden, High School In The Community, Hill Regional Career Magnet, Hillhouse, Holy Cross, John F. Kennedy,

Jonathan Law, Kaynor Tech, Luralton Hall, Lyman Hall, Maloney, Mark T. Sheehan, Metropolitan Business Academy, Naugatuck, New Haven Academy Magnet, North Branford, North Haven, Notre Dame-West Haven, Orville H. Platt, Platt Tech, Riverside Academy, Sacred Heart Academy, Seymour, Shelton, Sound School, Stratford, Waterbury Career, West Haven, Wilbur Cross, Wilby, Wilcox Tech, Wolcott, Woodland Regional

Western District - Thomaston High School

Cierra O'Sullivan '24, Vice President;

Emily Morton '25, District Coordinator;

Terri Franzi, Advisor

District Members:

Bethel, Bridgeport Central, Brien McMahon, Brookfield, Bullard Havens Tech, Canton, Danbury, Darien, Fairfield College Preparatory School, Fairfield Ludlowe, Fairfield Warde, Gilbert, Greenwich, Henry Abbott Tech, Housatonic Regional, Immaculate, Joel Barlow, Kolbe Cathedral, Lewis Mills, Litchfield, Masuk, New Canaan, New Fairfield, New Milford, Newtown, Nonnewaug, Northwestern Regional, Norwalk, Notre Dame-Fairfield, Oxford, Pomperaug, Ridgefield, Shepaug Valley, St. Joseph's, Stamford, Staples, Terryville, Thomaston, Torrington, Trinity Catholic, Trumbull, Wamogo, Watertown, Westhill, Weston, Wilton, Wolcott Tech

CT RISES:: Ideas for September and October

Remember to be focusing on your **CT**(citizenship), **R**(recognition), **I**(inspiration), **S**(service), **E**(engagement), **S**(spirit). Looking for a new project to run this month in your student council/government? Think about incorporating some of these suggestions into your calendar.

September

CITIZENSHIP

Elections

Submitted by:: Woodland Regional High School

Type:: Citizenship

Organize the election for the new freshman students. Use this as a way to prepare for elections throughout the year. Try out new methods of voting.

RECOGNITION

Welcome Back activities

Type:: Recognition

You may also want to use this opportunity to plan any first day of school activities to welcome back the students, faculty and staff.

INSPIRATION

First Meeting

Type:: Inspiration

Begin with an agenda and consider adding these items::

- Consider beginning with ice breakers, it has been a long summer.
- Remind everyone of their roles and responsibilities.
- If you don't meet over the summer the first meeting is also a great opportunity to set goals for your council.
- While setting SMART goals and establishing your calendar don't forget to discuss if you need to revisit your Constitution or by-laws.
- Set your calendar for the year, be sure to include meetings and your big projects.
- Discuss committees, which ones should you

have, how should they be structured.

Leadership Opportunities

Type:: Inspiration

A number of conferences have switched to online formats. It is never too early or too late to start thinking about leadership. Consider setting aside one meeting a month for leadership training. Determine a list of skill sets that your council needs to work on and make a checklist to track student growth. Are there any conferences will you want to attend?

SERVICE

Beautify Your School's Campus

Type:: Service

A free and fun way to help students ease their way back into the swing of school this August is to organize a campus beautification project. Gather volunteers to pick up trash or clean up weeds/debris around your school so it is ready to go when the first day rolls around! Consider other ways to help like contacting the administration to paint murals, helping teachers move/set up classrooms, or creating encouraging school-pride banners to hang up.

ENGAGEMENT

Kindness Campaign

Type:: Engagement

Start the year right with a kindness campaign. Start school culture the right way by having students and teachers perform anonymous acts of kindness every day for a week.

SPIRIT

Back to School Pep Rally

Type:: Spirit

Why wait until October? Begin the school year with a pep rally once all sports teams have been selected. Or make it an academic pep rally and introduce all of the AP students!

October

CITIZENSHIP

Get out the Vote activities

Inspiring young leaders to participate in the democratic system of our country is at the very heart of why Student Councils were first founded in the 1800's. Contact your local registrars to try and hold a voter registration day for your seniors. Pass out information about local ballot questions, candidates and the major issues. (The important part is to be unbiased in all of your materials.)

RECOGNITION

Custodian Recognition

October 2 is National Custodian Day, show your appreciation to the custodians who clean the school through either food, baskets, or student made cards of appreciation. Encourage students to take ownership of the cleanliness of their school.

INSPIRATION

Community leader guest speaker

October is a great month to bring in a speaker to keep your SCG's excitement up.

SERVICE

Trick or Treat for Canned Goods

*Submitted by:: Bolton High School
Highland Park market donated 500 paper bags, StuCo members deliver bags with a note saying they will pick up the weekend of Halloween. Students then pick up bags, we go through them*

to remove expired items, then deliver to local food shelters.

Leaf Raking

*Submitted by:: Bolton High School
Student Council rakes leaves, does yard work for those in the town who need the service.*

Pink October

*Submitted by:: Woodland Regional High School
October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. Consider running fundraising charitable projects. They can be as simple as selling pink ribbons, or more complex school wide pink spirit days. Try reading facts and figures at the morning announcements every Wednesday. You may want to work with your sports teams and advertise their 'Pink' games or cosponsor "Pink Outs"*

ENGAGEMENT

National Bullying Prevention Month

October is World Bullying Prevention Month! During this month students, schools, and communities all over the world go BLUE together against bullying.

SPIRIT

Homecoming Dance

Many high schools host their Homecoming Dance and Spirit Dress Up days this month

***We are always looking for new and exciting projects or events to highlight, if your council has a project that you would like to see highlighted in a newsletter please submit it [here](#).*

Tips and Tools

Magic word for a successful year

Adopted from "Focus" Vol 1, No 1. September 1986

What is the most important thing to know or do in order to succeed? The answer is so simple it is sometimes overlooked. The key to achievement is planning. When all the elements of planning are pulled together, your student council/government will be successful.

Planning

Prepare for a successful year by developing goals and choosing projects which will achieve Council objectives. Develop an activities calendar and put a symbol of each of the Council's goals next to the activity that will help you meet that goal.

Living and Learning

Awareness is a key element in planning for the year and getting the Council in focus. Learn from mistakes. Be persistent if something doesn't fall into place after the first try. Be aware of your limitations but don't give up pursuing your goals.

Atmosphere

Working with others in a democratic organization is a significant part of the planning process and a rewarding experience. Make the working atmosphere warm and caring. Make everyone feel wanted and needed - because they are!

Now

Don't talk about what you are going to do. Get things done! Once you have laid the groundwork for a project, with a little planning and a little work, the rest will soon fall into place. But you have to try.

Notes

Take care of all the paperwork as soon as you can. Obtain written permissions, make lists of needed materials, send out memos, and write press releases to keep track of what you have done, are doing, and need to do.

Involvement

People tend to support those projects that they create. Earn support and ensure success by involving as many people as possible. Not only will it help your project's success, it will help your council members grow.

Neutralize

Neutralize obstacles, challenges, problems, and adversity that might keep you from achieving your goals. One way of doing this is by deciding you will not argue. Compromise, cooperate, and accent the positive aspects of any unpleasant situations.

Get excited

Nothing makes things happen quicker, more positively, more completely than genuine excitement. Nothing great was ever accomplished without enthusiasm, and it is your job to share the enthusiasm with others. Pass it around.

Planning is the magic word of the month. It is the miracle that will ensure your success if you will work at it in all of its dimensions.

CASC Calendar

SEPTEMBER

September 26:: President's Symposium, Virtual (HS/MS)

The President's Symposium serves as a launchpad for upcoming CASC activities and opportunities. This year's Symposium will be a free virtual event and open to advisors and all student council/ government leadership team members. Register here::

<https://www.casciac.org/scripts/registerwpcas.cgi?confid=2023CASCPRÉSIDENTSSYMPOSIUM&preview=1>

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This is an incredible educational experience giving student council/government members the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the legislative process in a hands-on way. Register here::

<https://www.casciac.org/scripts/registerwpcas.cgi?confid=CASCMOCKLEGDAY23&preview=1>

NOVEMBER

November 10-12:: NatStuCo LEAD Conference, Washington D.C.(HS/MS)

Leadership, Experience, And Development for students and advisers—that's what LEAD conferences are all about.

The premier national conference for student leaders and the educators who support them, LEAD is a program of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP). <https://lead.nassp.org/>

November TBD:: CASC District Conference, Virtual (HS/MS)

Each of Connecticut's 4 districts holds its own conference that will allow for local students and advisors to connect, build relationships and share ideas. More details to follow.

DECEMBER

December 1-3:: NA4SA (NAWD) Annual National Conference on Student Activities (HS/MS)

Check www.nawd.com for more details as we get closer to this event.

JANUARY

January 25-28:: NatStuCo LEAD Conference, Washington D.C.(HS/MS)

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FEBRUARY

February 15:: NatStuCo Council of Excellence application award deadline. (HS/MS)

February 15:: CASC Student Executive Board applications due. CASC Award applications due. (HS/MS)

Council of Excellence, Top Ten Project, Dale Hawley Award, The Ron Nedovich Advisor of the Year Award.

<https://www.ctstuco.com/recognition>

MARCH

March 8:: CASC Convention (HS/MS)

This year being hosted by Woodland Regional High School in Beacon Falls. More details to follow as we get closer.

APRIL

April 17:: CASC's 72nd Birthday

MAY

May TBD - CASC "Adventures in Leadership," (HS/MS)

Ropes course designed to allow your newly elected leaders an opportunity to come together and begin to work as a team, while meeting leaders from across the state. More details to follow.

JUNE

June 21-23 - 2024 VISION National Student Leadership Conference (HS/MS)

<https://stucovisionconference.org/>