

VIRGINIA STUDENT COUNCILS ASSOCIATION

THE STUDENT LEADER

SEPTEMBER 2016

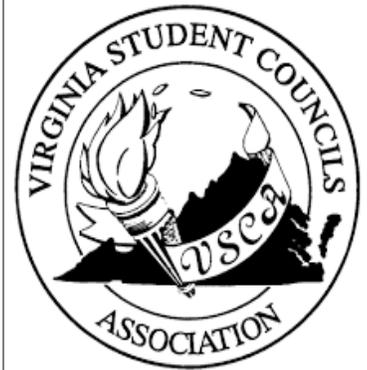
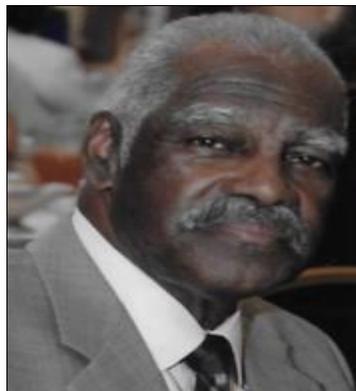
REMEMBERING DR. ROBERT BRACEY, III

Dr. Robert Bracey, III was a one of a kind man. If you ever had the pleasure of having a conversation with him, you quickly learned that he loved his family and he loved working with kids. I have spent many weekends with Dr. Bracey. When most retired principals have put these days behind them, Dr. Bracey was traveling all over the state attending meetings to support both VASSP and VSCA. He would brainstorm ideas with me, as well as student leaders and advisors to improve VSCA. He loved this organization and knew the impact that student leadership can have on a school.

Thank you, Dr. Bracey for being such a positive example of a life well lived. I know that the legacy of high standards, strong work ethic, and modeling the way for others will remain with us.

Andrea Vail

VSCA Director



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NASC CONFERENCE 2016 BY: DAULTON ROACH, PARK VIEW H.S., VICE PRESIDENT SCHOOL

NASC in Portland, Oregon truly allowed us to explore our leadership potential. These three enriching days at Century High School were filled with people all across the United States and even U.S. Territories. Trading pins and T-shirts with other states was one of my favorite activities at NASC because it allowed me to bring home something to help remember the good times I had in Oregon. With so many people from various backgrounds, so many new ideas were exchanged and we were put in touch with other NASC participants. With so many new contacts, NASC didn't end at the closing ceremonies, but instead, is still continuing throughout 2016. One of our favorite activities was the officer workshop. The state officers went and did drills with other state officers and learned about things that worked for them back at home. We also loved the fun new energizers and the constant dancing that went on during our general assemblies. We also heard from speakers, many of which were also NASC members, who've used their leadership abilities to start beneficial businesses and make change in their communities. One of our personal favorites was Kaitlin M. Roig DeBellis who, after the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School, used that experience to organize Classes4Classes for any school in need of supplies. NASC is something every SCA member should get to experience.



STUDENT EXCHANGE BY: MARQUISE COOK, LANDSTOWN H.S., SECRETARY SCHOOL

This year at the annual Virginia Beach Leadership Workshop (VBLW) things couldn't have been any more exciting. It was such a splendid sight to see all the new, inspiring, young leaders all together at Virginia Wesleyan to share ideas and learn about a variety of topics relevant to young leaders of today. One of the most pivotal subjects included an important discussion on 4D. 4D is a decision making process that includes three stages that makes it easier to come to a consensus when working in a group. The Four steps included are defining, deciding, doing, and done. Each student at VBLW sat in on many exciting, interactive instructional that were taught by college student mentors throughout the week. Several important principles of leadership were taught to enhance the young minds of tomorrow's future leaders, such as how to conduct icebreakers, effective time and stress management skills, using publicity wisely and many more. Students from all over Virginia Beach schools learned about new ideas that will be able to take and use within their own schools and make it their own.

I went to Virginia Beach Leadership Workshop with my own preconceived notions about what it should be about. Instead my friends and I learned so many valuable tools that we plan on utilizing in our own SCA. The lessons learned at VBLW also taught each individual student more about themselves. Participating during this week helped students realize how much more effective they can be if they explore the variety of ways of doing things within their work environment. Through playful songs, and skits we learned about the positive effects of having an upbeat attitude in every challenge that we might face. Simply being at VBLW, imparted different ways to communicate with each other in a more mature fashion. In fact being at camp and out of your comfort zone when placed inside councils with people you may not have met before, challenges the mind of a young leader to break out of their shell and become more social with others.

Creative activities were augmented to fit the things we as leaders already should know about working together and cooperating as a group. Working with new friends helped develop unbreakable bonds between students and other schools as a whole. Exchanging ideas and similar solutions to situations also created new ways and ideas that we can use at our own school. That alone was one of the best things about that week at Virginia Wesleyan. It was great meeting new lifelong friends that you know honestly, genuinely want to see you do your best. At the end of the day that's what it should be all about; each leader striving to do their best to reach their highest potential. Overall the greatest thing at Virginia Beach Leadership Workshop was discovering the fact that if we all stick together through dark situations we can together create a brighter Light.

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Upcoming Events

11.4.16—Elementary and Middle School Workshop

11.4.16—Advisor Workshop

11.19.16—VSCA Advisory Committee Meeting

1.21.16—VSCA Advisory Committee Meeting

Regional Workshop Dates will be posted soon!

Save the Date

2017 VSCA State Convention

March 24 – 26, 2017

Renaissance Norfolk-Portsmouth
Waterfront Hotel

