

# Reumors

March 2015

JOIN US IN NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

FOR THE

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Mark your calendars for the NCSA Conference scheduled for Friday, December 4 through Sunday, December 6, 2015 at the Sheraton at the Falls and Niagara Falls Convention Center located a short walk from the American Falls, one of the natural wonders of the world. Consult [www.nawd.com](http://www.nawd.com) throughout this spring for updates and details. Our webmaster, Lou Miller will be posting an application if you want to volunteer to present a workshop at the conference as well as listing other ways that you can actively participate in this year's program. It is our goal to provide a preliminary conference schedule, list of workshop topics, and conference costs this spring so that you can present the details about the conference to your administration for approval to attend before the end of this school year. We hope that you will recruit colleagues from your respective schools and states to join us for the "Power of Leadership" in New York. The NAWD organization is appreciative of the work done by Roberta Bittel and the leadership team in New York as they plan an outstanding weekend. If you teach leadership in the classrooms of our nation, or are advisors to a wide variety of student activity organizations, or develop leadership education programs or conduct workshops for young people and their advisors on the state or national level, this NCSA conference is for you.

The National Conference on Student Activities (NCSA) is designed to provide program strands that encourage participation of a wide variety of activity advisors, school administrators, leadership educators, motivational speakers, and consultants. The program will feature:

- Two general session keynote speakers
- Three 40-minute workshop presentations
- One hour-long session with different groups focusing on camp curriculum, camp logistics, conference planning, leadership retreats, middle level workshops and conferences, and advisor training
- Panel of practitioners and experts in the field of student activities sharing 30 tips in 30 minutes



- Four 10 minute "Meet the Pros" sessions- learn about new materials, methods, projects that can be successfully implemented in middle schools and high school across the nation
- Mixers, social activities and meals that promote networking and fun

**Date:** Friday, Dec. 4 to Sunday, Dec. 6, 2015

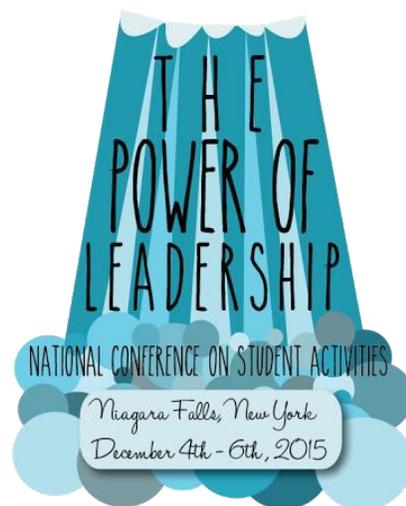
**Location:** Sheraton at the Falls and the Niagara Convention & Events Center, Niagara Falls, New York

**Rates:** \$126.70 including taxes for one to four people per room per night

**Cost:** \$315 (program and materials, two breakfasts, one lunch, one dinner, and NAWD dues) by Oct. 31st \$295 reduced rate when registering as a group of 5 or more or as an NASSCED member by October 31st \$335 after October 31st or \$370 onsite

**Pre-conference activities – December 4: TBA**

**More information regarding registration, hotel, pre-trip, etc. can be found at [www.nawd.com](http://www.nawd.com).**



**CONFERENCE INFORMATION THAT YOU CAN FIND ON THE WEBSITE NOW!!!**



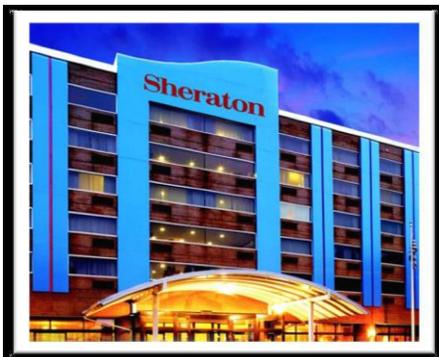
The American Falls in Winter

Look for the NCSA Conference tab at [www.nawd.com](http://www.nawd.com). Click on 2015 Niagara Falls. You will find a video created by David Brame and Digital Dynamx in coordination with the NYSCLSA team. The 2015 NCSA video is at <https://vimeo.com/113447128>. If you would like to embed that on your website, you can mouse over the video to see the 'share' link that appears at the top left. From there you can get the embed code.

Please share this video with colleagues in your schools. A goal of the NAWD, the sponsoring organization of the National Conference on Student Activities, is to provide an annual conference that brings together different groups of like-minded leadership educators and newly-minted activity advisors for a weekend of learning, networking, and fun so that they are inspired to return to their homes and communities to make the most significant differences possible in the lives of their students, colleagues, and community members.

It is our hope that, as both participants in recent NCSAs and veterans of many previous NAWD programs, you will join us in person every year that you can at NCSA, that you will bring with you someone new who can be inspired by the experience, and that if you can not attend this year, that you can find ways to keep connected to NAWD until we meet you again in person.

The website also includes a letter to share with principals, superintendents, and school board members that will provide them background information on the 2015 NCSA and its value to you, your colleagues and ultimately to your students.



**RESOURCES AND REMEMBRANCES FROM NCSA 2014**

It has been three months since NAWD members gathered in Scottsdale, Arizona for the conference. Now as we look toward spring, it is a good time to visit [www.nawd.com](http://www.nawd.com) and to click on the 2014 conference tab and take a look at the photo gallery to remember friends and events of the conference. The site also includes twenty workshop handouts provided by presenters. Hopefully, you will find them useful now as they may rekindle memories of sessions or a "to do" list that you made at the time. For some, it will provide new resources even if you could not attend that particular session or even attend the 2014 conference.

NAWD Executive Director, Jim Finnemeyer and members of the NAWD Board of Directors appreciated the evaluations provided by participants each day of the conference. These, along with the feedback obtained from the regional meetings held on Saturday afternoon, are a source of valuable insight as the NAWD organization plans for the 2015 NCSA and future programs and opportunities.

**ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SELECTED**

The Bylaws approved in 2014 for NAWD created a Board of Directors with a revised structure. The original three-member board has been expanded to include three additional regional members. Applications were accepted for the new positions and the Board of Directors chose: Mike Roland (Florida) from the eastern region, Tom Heethuis (Michigan) from the central regional, and Harry Bettencourt (California) from the western region. These three individuals have now joined Diane Anderson (Virginia), Sandy Hillman (Indiana) and Stu Shaffer (California). You are invited to contact any member of the Board to share your ideas for NAWD and the National Conference on Student Activities.

- Diane Anderson: [dandersn1@cox.net](mailto:dandersn1@cox.net)
- Harry Bettencourt: [harrybettencourt@hotmail.com](mailto:harrybettencourt@hotmail.com)
- Tom Heethuis: [theethuis@aol.com](mailto:theethuis@aol.com)
- Sandy Hillman: [hillmans@centergrove.k12.in.us](mailto:hillmans@centergrove.k12.in.us)
- Mike Roland: [mike.roland@browardschools.com](mailto:mike.roland@browardschools.com)
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**Reumors**

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**MEET THE NEW DIRECTORS**

**Mike Roland: Eastern Region**



Serves as the Coordinator of Student Activities for Broward County Schools and is Executive Director of the Florida Association of Student Councils. He was previously a student council advisor at both Plantation HS and South Broward HS in Florida. He served on the Executive Board for NASSCED from 2009-2014. Mike attended his first NAWD/NCSA in Philadelphia in 1989.

**Tom Heethuis: Central Region**



Is a retired high school principal with extensive experience as an activities advisor. He has served as the director of the Michigan Leadership Camp program and directed a national leadership workshop for NASC. Tom conducts activity advisor workshops in both the US and Canada. He served on the Executive Board of both NASAA and NASC. Tom attended his first NAWD/NCSA in Nashville in 1988.

**Harry Bettencourt: Western Region**



Has served in many positions within the Fremont Union School District in California including, teacher, principal, and Deputy Superintendent. Harry has extensive experience in activities as a member of the California Assoc of Directors of Activities (CADA) serving as Secretary/Treasurer. He was the host advisor for the 2000 NASC Conference and continues to work with NASC annually at NASC Conferences. Harry attended his first NAWD/NCSA in 1974 (the second year of NAWD's existence).

**IDEAS FROM THE 2014 PARADE OF IDEAS**

Please share your ideas for school projects or leadership workshop programs with NAWD by sending them to [Finnemeyer@nawd.com](mailto:Finnemeyer@nawd.com). Look for additional ideas in the next issue and at [www.nawd.com](http://www.nawd.com).

**Senior Activities**

**Terry D'Imperio** [tdimperio@livoniacsd.org](mailto:tdimperio@livoniacsd.org)

**Project Description:** On the first day of school, the senior class arrives at school 30 minutes before the buses. We gather in the cafeteria for the senior sunrise breakfast. The breakfast is paid for from our senior class funds. At the breakfast we give out senior t-shirts (pre-ordered in the summer) and we have a graduation gown out with a sign that says "I pledge to graduate with my class on June 25th, 2015". Each student signs the gown and it is put on display in the senior hallway as a reminder to stay the course throughout the year. Finally, I give a little speech about the class and what they represent to the rest of the school and we go out and meet the buses filled with underclassmen, cheering and bubble blowing.

On the last day before graduation, we meet again for the senior sunset dinner (it accompanies the senior fun night) and we choose a senior who embodies the characteristics of a true "bulldog" to wear the special gown and we present the gown to that student. It is a special ceremony where other students stand up and talk why they chose this person. The students realize the journey from the sunrise breakfast to the sunset dinner is just as important as the graduation. It is a nice tradition that is passed on from year to year.

**"Labor of Love" Murals and Art Contest**

**Lisa Schroeder** [Lisa.schroeder@srbmic-ed.org](mailto:Lisa.schroeder@srbmic-ed.org)

The Native American people are rich in culture, especially in Art. Student Council has devised an annual project within their school district where they pair efforts with a local gang prevention program called "Labor of Love". We host a student art contest where the student body can vote to select projects that become the murals. Once art is selected, the student body, student council, art department, community members and "Labor of Love" crew spend about 3 days painting the student images in places that are on the school grounds like the gym or courtyard etc... This is to discourage the graffiti as we do have a large gang population, and replace it with positive images that are culturally responsible, and reflect their history and pride in their school. This grant-funded and personal donation program provides all supplies. We eat breakfast and lunch, take turns painting, play ping pong, etc...and share stories. It is great because it is the community getting involved in the school activities as well as promoting school spirit and pride!

**“Uprooted” a Group Dynamics Skit**  
 Drew Midgette, [andremidget@vbschools.com](mailto:andremidget@vbschools.com)

Each summer the Virginia Beach Leadership Workshop staff uses skits as an instructional tool. In the summer of 2014, the staff created a skit, modeling the various roles in a group, using the four quadrants model of group dynamics. The quadrants include win-win, win-lose, lose-win, and lose-lose group members. Within these quadrants are more specific functional and non-functional group roles. In this skit all of the characters are different plants who take on different group roles. For example, the sunflower is a win-win group member who shares her sunny disposition. Students who attend the leadership workshop are able to see the various characteristics that each group member embodies from each quadrant. We have found that skits are an effective and entertaining way for students to engage in our instructional content. Go to [www.nawd.com](http://www.nawd.com) and click on Parade of Ideas to obtain a copy of this script. As Earl Reum, would say, “CASE it.” Copy and Steal Everything, but remember to always give credit to the original author or source.

**Editorial Note:** The Virginia Beach Public Schools Leadership Workshop staff has a long history of creating humorous skits that provide knowledge and understanding of key leadership concepts. They have created several excellent scripts for the teaching of parliamentary procedure. Please contact Drew or NAWD Board of Directors member, Diane Anderson ([dandersn1@cox.net](mailto:dandersn1@cox.net)) for additional information.

**Utilizing Hashtags Within Your Summer Workshop Program**  
 Allyssa Rommel, [allyssa.rom@gmail.com](mailto:allyssa.rom@gmail.com)

During the Advanced High School Workshop in Pennsylvania, we utilized a common hashtag (#advancedgold) to encourage dialogue leading up to our workshop and to continue that online dialogue throughout the workshop. For those who aren't familiar with the hashtag concept, it easily connects posts, pictures, etc. of a common topic. By clicking on the hashtag, you're able to view all posts made with that same hashtag. Therefore, it was an easy way for our program to catalog and archive memories from the week-long workshop. What we found was that its use prior to the workshop created high energy levels which carried through for the duration of the week. It provided an opportunity for student and staff bonding even prior to meeting one another. It also provided students with a level of comfort prior to arriving at camp because the tone had already been set and staff members were already visible to the students.

During the week we continued to use the hashtag on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to showcase parts of the workshop by attaching #advancedgold to pictures

and posts made by the students and staff throughout each day. By doing so we were easily publicizing the workshop and keeping advisers and parents in the loop with daily events and curriculum material. We also included the hashtag in our daily blog posts, which served as another means of communication between our staff and advisers, parents, etc.

Hashtags are simple to use, FREE and easily adaptable to a variety of student leadership events and activities.

**Community Clean-up with Police & Fire Depts**  
 Lisa Schroeder [Lisa.schroeder@srpmic-ed.org](mailto:Lisa.schroeder@srpmic-ed.org)



This annual community service event is called "Fall Overhaul" where the focus is on community beautification. A lottery is hosted and names of community/elderly members are provided for a drawing. About 5 families are selected. We then gather the local police, fire departments, community members, and student leaders to go and do a community clean-up. The clean-up ranges from graffiti removal, clearing of overgrown landscaping, and trash pick up. We paint murals of positive messages in the form of words, and images that are culturally responsible over the graffiti. Once the day's activities are done, we gather for lunch in a local park where we cook out bbq, play family oriented games like you would find at a company picnic. It is a great time for all and once done, we have cleaned up an entire section of the reservation! This is all volunteer-based and we have about 50 people or more who participate. In a large reservation which contains a relatively small community that has often had negative interactions with the Police and Fire Departments due to families in crisis, it helps build positive relationships with the families, students and community members that they serve.

