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District Convention

Hosted by: Unity

2017-
2018
District
Board

The district board wants to welcome everyone to the last district event of the year! We hope you have all had a wonderful year in district with us. We encourage everyone to take advantage of the time we have left and make the most of it. Talk to new people!

As the year comes to a close let's just take a moment to reflect on all the charitable cause our district has helped this year. This past year we have donated to Mills Blankets, Crisis Nursery, Salt and Light, Champaign County Humane Society, Courage Connection, and Camp New Hope.

Contact Information

President: Bailey Wendt
kdascpresident@gmail.com

Vice President: Whitney Root:
rootwhitney@yahoo.com

Secretary: Kenneth Lahners:
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Treasurer: Hadiya Jagroop:
hadiyaj19@yahoo.com

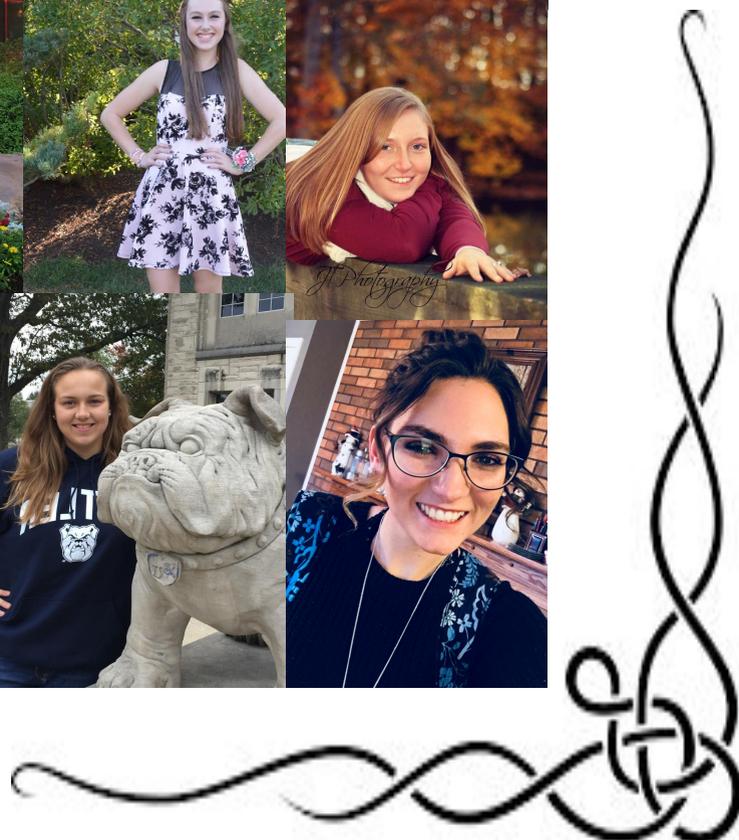
Historian: Hannah Buzicky:
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Virtual Historian: Kaitlyn Cary:
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State Liaison: Ayradi Catron:
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Webmaster: Kalli Ingram:
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Convention Secretary: Miranda Fairbanks:
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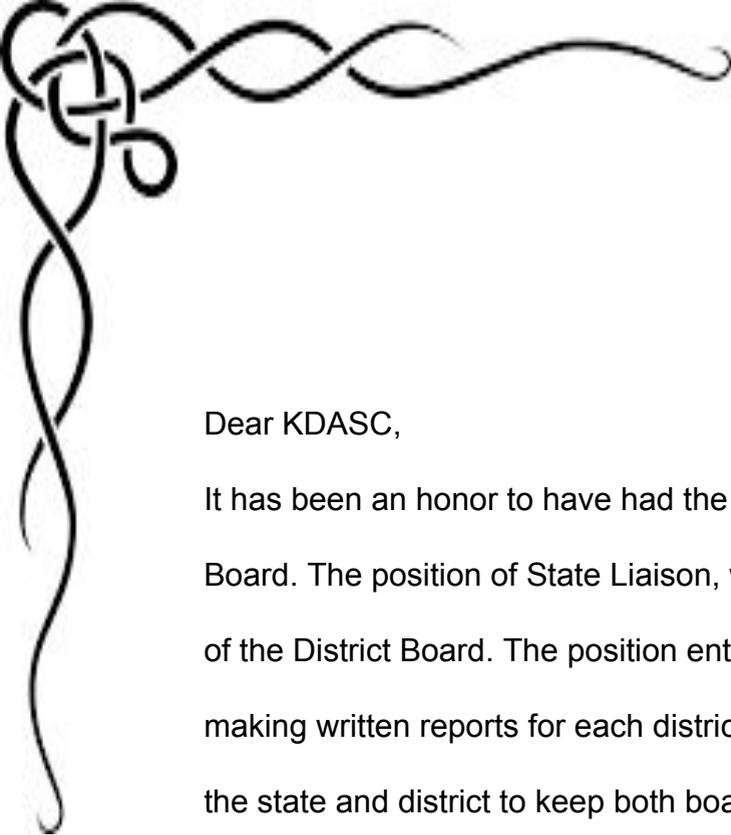
About Deborah Frank Feinen

Deborah Frank Feinen has been a proud resident of Champaign for more than forty-five years. Deb lives in Champaign with her husband, Chuck, and two children, Karlee and Catherine. A few of her hobbies include running, horseback riding, and photography. She has a passion to serve her community and to make Champaign a great place to live, work, play and stay.

In 1989, Deb earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology and Education from Mount Holyoke College. In 1991, she received her Juris Doctor from the Illinois Institute of Technology Kent College of Law. She was admitted into the Illinois Bar in 1992. In 1993, she began working as a Hearing Officer at the Illinois Pollution Control Board. In 1998, she joined Nally, Bauer, Feinen & Mann, P.C. as its first associate, and was named partner in 2001. She also worked for two years as an Impartial Hearing Officer for the Illinois State Board of Education. In 2013, Deb joined Tummelson, Bryan, & Knox, LLP where she continues to practice today, as a partner.

Deb was appointed to the Champaign City Council in 2006, as an At-Large representative. She was subsequently re-elected twice and was elected Mayor in 2015. Prior to serving on Council, Deb served as Champaign County Board member for fourteen years and during that time served for several years as the vice-Chair of the County Board.





Dear KDASC,

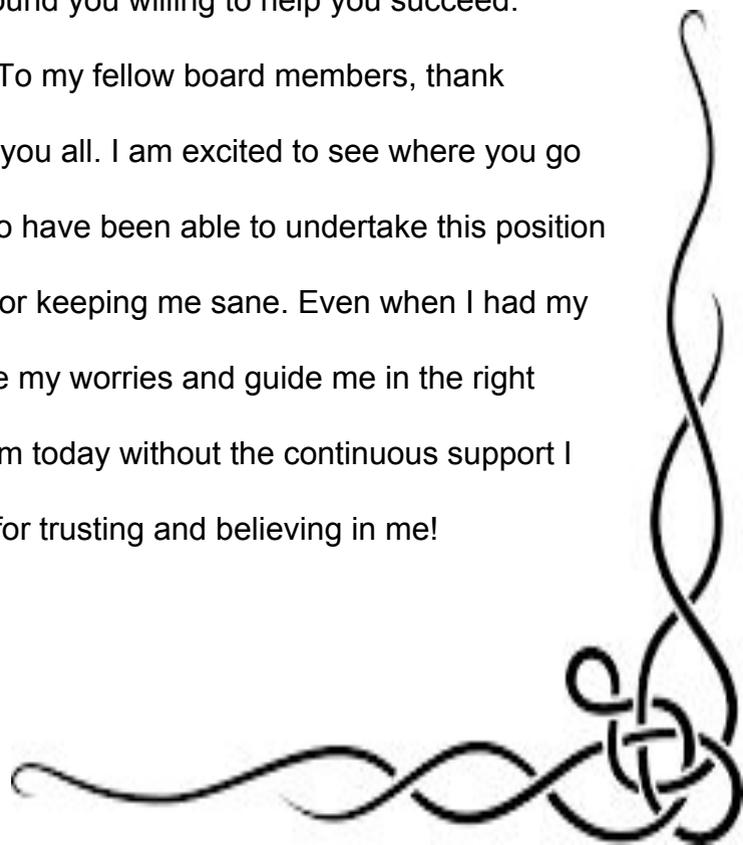
It has been an honor to have had the privilege to serve on the 2017-2018 KDASC Board. The position of State Liaison, while lesser known, has proved to be a vital part of the District Board. The position entailed: attending at least one state board meeting, making written reports for each district meeting, and relaying information between the state and district to keep both boards up-to-date. It has been fun getting to meet with this board almost monthly, and it is bittersweet to say goodbye.

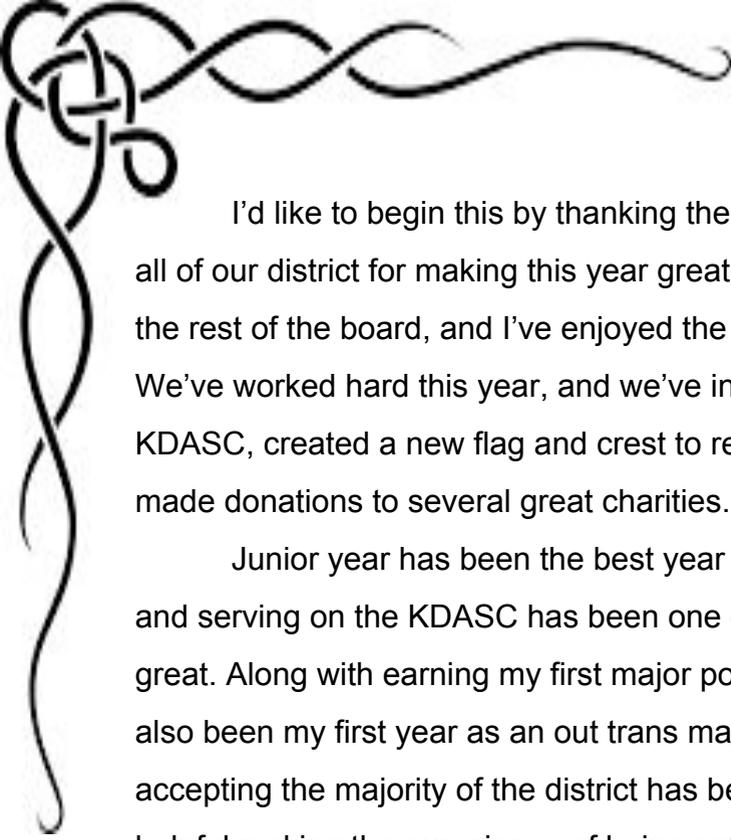
I have learned many important lessons while on this board. They have challenged me at every turn, to better myself and my leadership. I believe you should never sell yourself short or silence your values for anyone, but rather express yourself in a way that is clear and meaningful. You can do anything you set your mind to, and it is crucial to know that you have others around you willing to help you succeed.

I would like to close by saying thank you. To my fellow board members, thank you for accepting me onto this board with you all. I am excited to see where you go from here, and I will be eternally grateful to have been able to undertake this position alongside you. To my advisor, thank you for keeping me sane. Even when I had my doubts, you were always there to reassure my worries and guide me in the right direction. Finally, I would not be where I am today without the continuous support I have received from all of you. Thank you for trusting and believing in me!

With Love,

Ayradi Catron





I'd like to begin this by thanking the rest of the board, our advisors, and all of our district for making this year great. I've really enjoyed getting to know the rest of the board, and I've enjoyed the time I've spent with them at events. We've worked hard this year, and we've increased the membership of the KDASC, created a new flag and crest to represent our district, and we've made donations to several great charities.

Junior year has been the best year I've had since entering high school, and serving on the KDASC has been one of the highlights that has made it so great. Along with earning my first major position in student council, this has also been my first year as an out trans man at school. Seeing how kind and accepting the majority of the district has been towards me has been extremely helpful making the experience of being out and trans so much better. I can't wait to see what next year will have in store,

Lastly, I'd like to give a quick shout out to a couple of the friends I've made through the district. Thank you Diya and Victor for greatly increasing the fun I've had at events. I really hope that the next KDASC board will have the same great experiences that I've had, and I wish them luck in their year on the board.

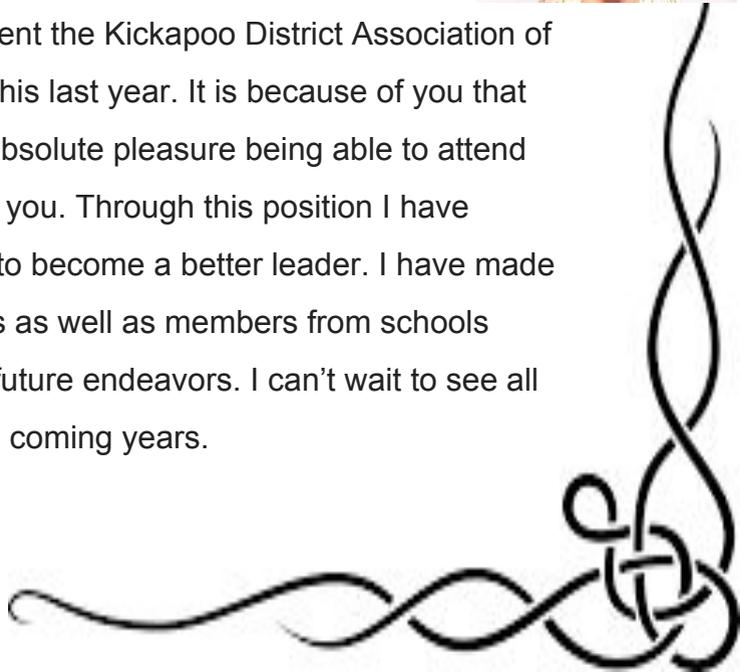
Sincerely,
Kenneth Lahnars

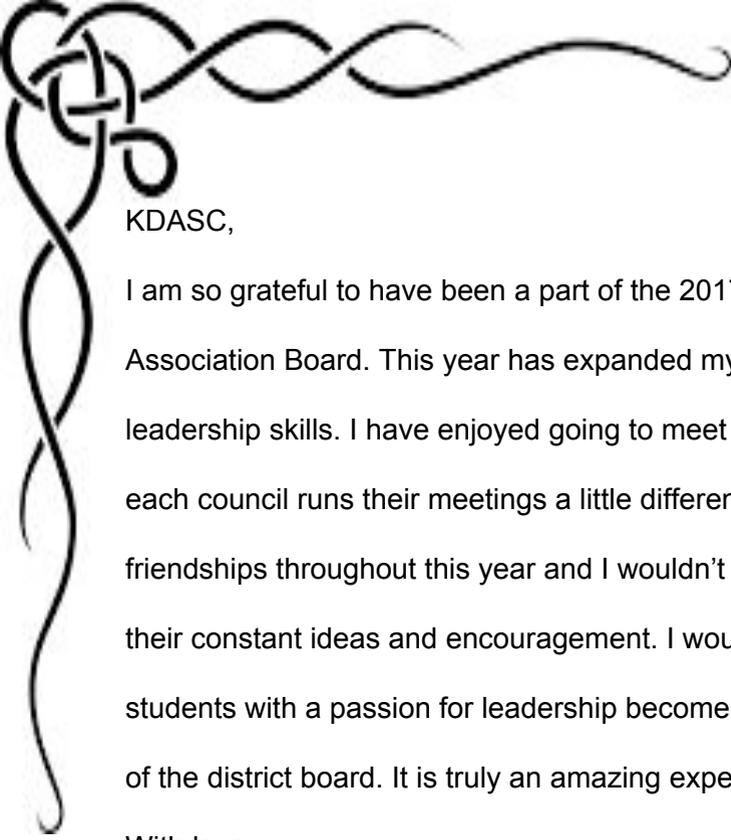


Hello everyone!

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent the Kickapoo District Association of Student Councils as your District Treasurer over this last year. It is because of you that this dream has become a reality. It has been an absolute pleasure being able to attend all the district events over the past year with all of you. Through this position I have learnt so much not only about myself but on how to become a better leader. I have made lifelong friendships with my fellow board members as well as members from schools around the district. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors. I can't wait to see all the amazing things that you will accomplish in the coming years.

With love,
Hadiya.





KDASC,

I am so grateful to have been a part of the 2017-2018 Kickapoo District Association Board. This year has expanded my horizons and challenged my leadership skills. I have enjoyed going to meet new schools and watching how each council runs their meetings a little differently. I have made many close friendships throughout this year and I wouldn't have grown as a leader without their constant ideas and encouragement. I would highly recommend that all students with a passion for leadership become a part of the district board. It is truly an amazing experience.

With love,,

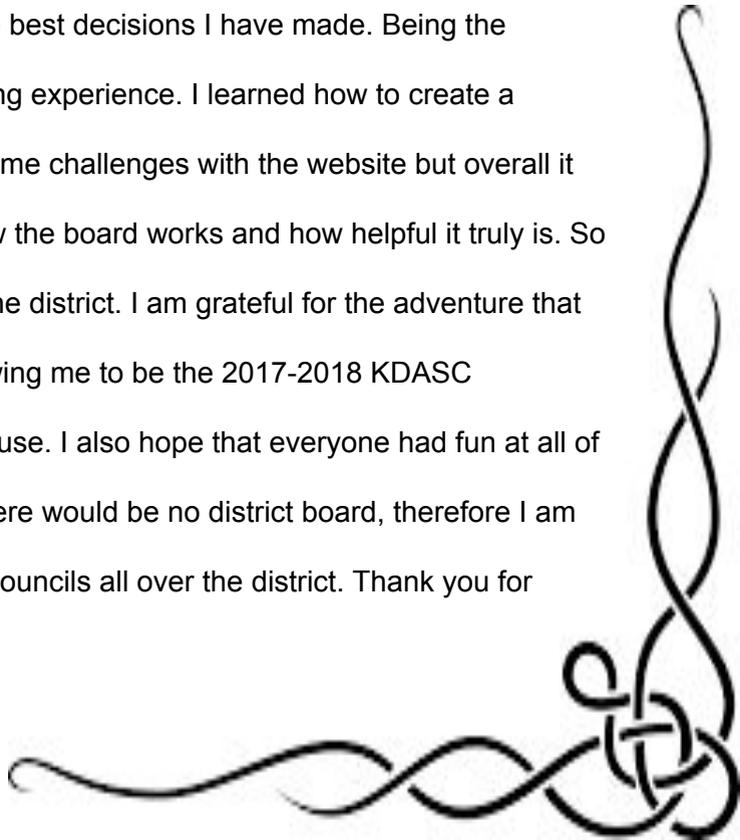
Miranda Fairbanks



This past year on the KDASC Board has been an amazing year full of new experiences. I met a horde of incredible, new people, including my fellow board members. These people are who keep the district going. That being said, I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the other eight board members and working together to accomplish our goals. I never thought I would be a part of the board but now that I have spent an entire year on it, I can safely say it is one of the best decisions I have made. Being the 2017-2018 Webmaster has been an unbelievable learning experience. I learned how to create a webpage and enjoyed upkeeping it. There have been some challenges with the website but overall it was a delightful experience running it. I also learned how the board works and how helpful it truly is. So many charities have received donations and help from the district. I am grateful for the adventure that this year has been. Thank you last year's board for allowing me to be the 2017-2018 KDASC Webmaster. I hope the website was helpful and easy to use. I also hope that everyone had fun at all of the district events, as I know I did. Without the district there would be no district board, therefore I am glad that there are so many amazing people in student councils all over the district. Thank you for making this year one glorious year

Sincerely,

Kalli Ingram



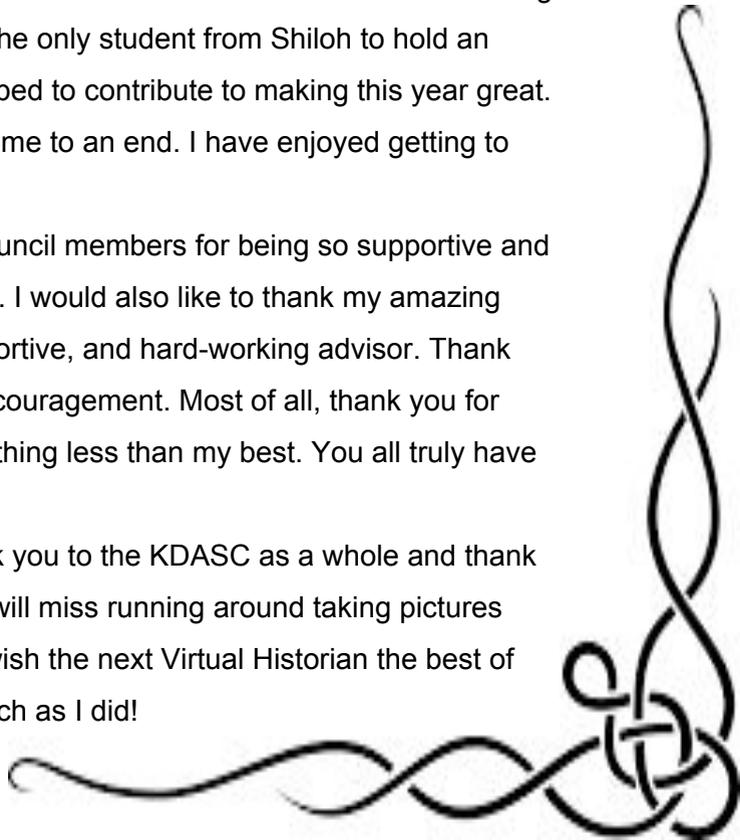


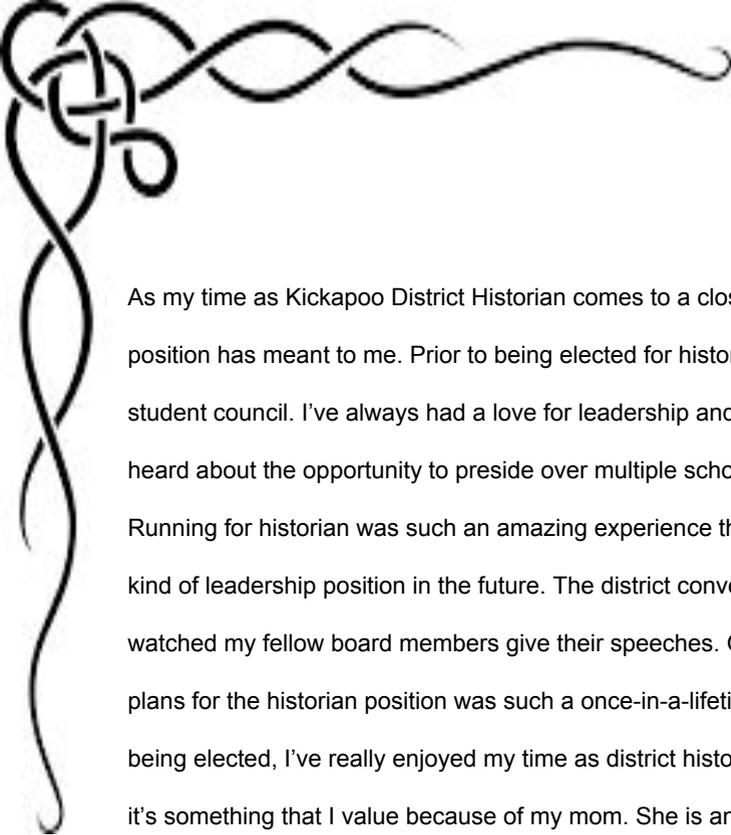
Hello, I am Kaitlyn Cary and this past year I served as the KDASC Virtual Historian. I spent the year attending all of the district events and taking pictures at all of them. As I look back at the pictures that I took throughout the year, it reminds me how much fun each event was and how much I learned about so many different people within the district. Each event is unique and each event that I went to enabled me to meet more people and learn so much more about the KDASC as a whole. My freshman year I didn't attend as many events as I would have liked to. This past year I made it a personal goal to get more involved and become a stronger leader. I attended leadership camp over the summer and was enlightened by how much I was able to absorb and learn not only from A'ric but from the campers as well. I made so many amazing memories, met so many amazing people, and learned so much from everyone involved. Being a District Officer has enabled me to see the business side of the KDASC as well as put myself out there more. I greatly enjoyed being able to stand behind the camera and capture all of the funny and memorable moments all throughout the year. I truly hope that the next Virtual Historian enjoys capturing the many memories that are made at each and every event. This position really is a great way to get your foot in the door and learn more about the district. It enables you to see the district from a different light and capture the memories all throughout the year. Good luck to the next Virtual Historian, I wish you the best!

I would now like to thank all of my fellow district board officers for such an amazing year. You all made my year on the District Board one to remember. At first I was nervous about being on the District Board. I didn't know anyone and was the only student from Shiloh to hold an office. But, everyone made me feel welcome and helped to contribute to making this year great. I am saddened by the fact this year has so quickly come to an end. I have enjoyed getting to know everyone and grow as a District Board.

I would also like to thank my local student council members for being so supportive and willing to help me with anything I have asked of them. I would also like to thank my amazing advisor Ms. Boland for being such a wonderful, supportive, and hard-working advisor. Thank you for all of the long conversations and words of encouragement. Most of all, thank you for pushing me to always strive for greater and doing nothing less than my best. You all truly have been a wonderful support system this past year!

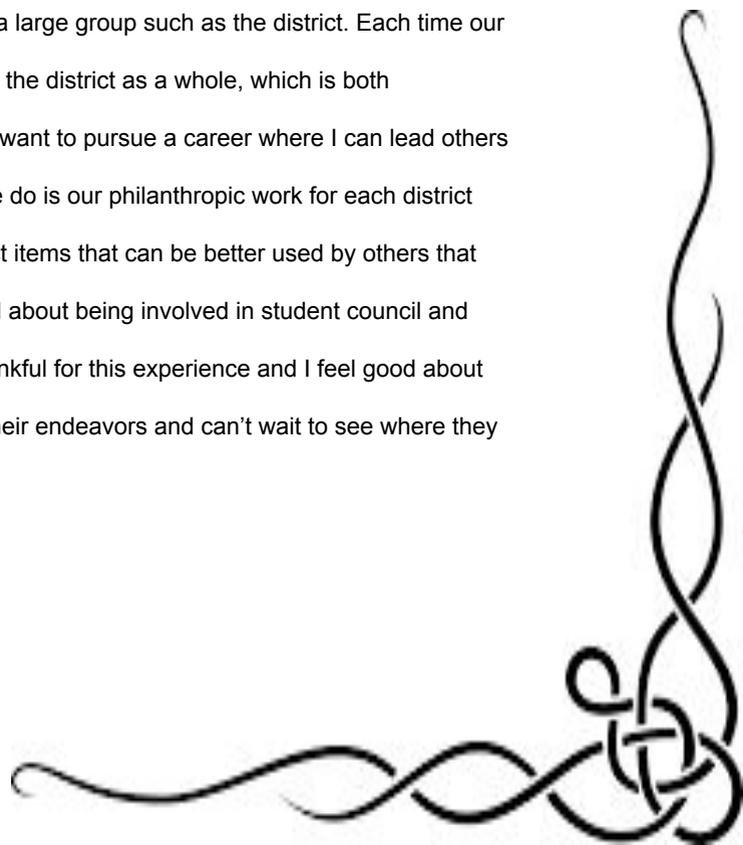
I would like to conclude this letter with a thank you to the KDASC as a whole and thank you all for making this past year one to remember! I will miss running around taking pictures and capturing memories at each and every event. I wish the next Virtual Historian the best of luck and I hope you enjoy your officer position as much as I did!

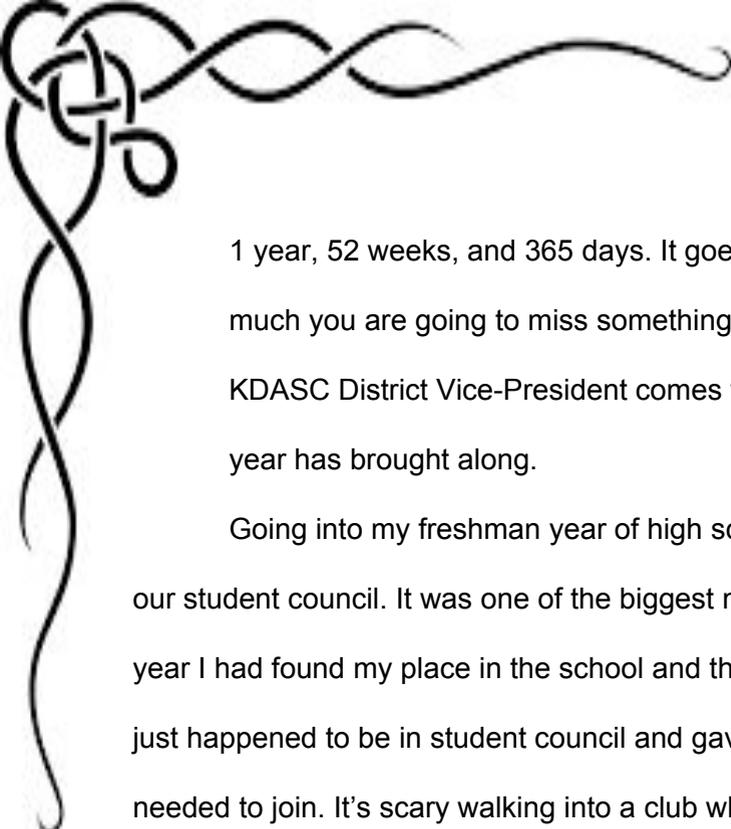




As my time as Kickapoo District Historian comes to a close, I'd like to take the time to reflect on what this position has meant to me. Prior to being elected for historian, I knew that I wanted a greater presence in student council. I've always had a love for leadership and service, especially in bigger group settings. When I heard about the opportunity to preside over multiple schools at the district level, I knew that I had to run. Running for historian was such an amazing experience that taught me many valuable things for running for any kind of leadership position in the future. The district convention gave me so much hope for the future as I watched my fellow board members give their speeches. Giving my speech and talking with others about my plans for the historian position was such a once-in-a-lifetime experience and I'm so thankful for that day. Since being elected, I've really enjoyed my time as district historian. I've always had a passion for photography and it's something that I value because of my mom. She is an amazing photographer and loves to scrapbook, which is where my passion comes from. I feel right in my element capturing photos and making creative pages for the honor book, which is why it doesn't even feel like a job. Through taking photos, I've been able to interact more with students from different schools, which has been one of the biggest rewards. I'm a very social person, so meeting new people has definitely been really cool. I always look forward to district events, especially because I get to see the rest of the board. I'm so glad that I've gotten to serve along side of them, and I'm thankful for the diversity among our group. We're very lucky to get to do what we do, and to be able to do it with others who feel so strongly about the work we do. This opportunity has taught me more about the behind-the-scenes work that goes on in order to efficiently run a large group such as the district. Each time our board meets we're making real decisions that affect others and the district as a whole, which is both intimidating and exciting. This experience has shown me that I want to pursue a career where I can lead others and constantly be of service to others. My favorite thing that we do is our philanthropic work for each district event. I love that we use each event as an opportunity to collect items that can be better used by others that are less fortunate. That type of work makes me feel really good about being involved in student council and gives me a such a sense of pride in it. In general, I'm really thankful for this experience and I feel good about the work we've done. I wish the next board all the success in their endeavors and can't wait to see where they take our district.

Your 2017-2018 Kickapoo District Historian,
Hannah Buzicky





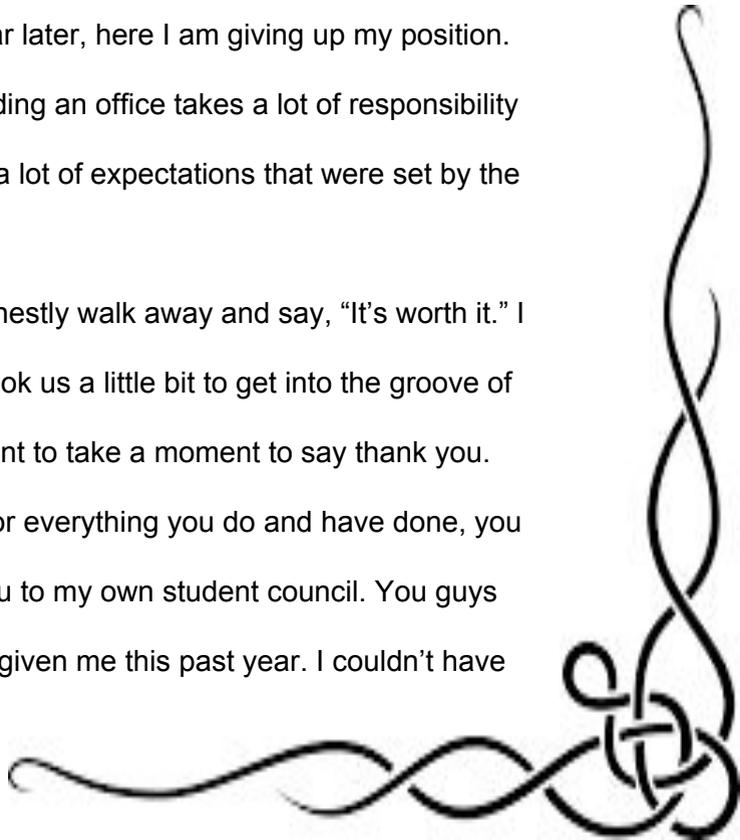
1 year, 52 weeks, and 365 days. It goes by so fast. You never realize how much you are going to miss something until it's gone. As my time as your KDASC District Vice-President comes to an end I sit here to reflect on all this past year has brought along.

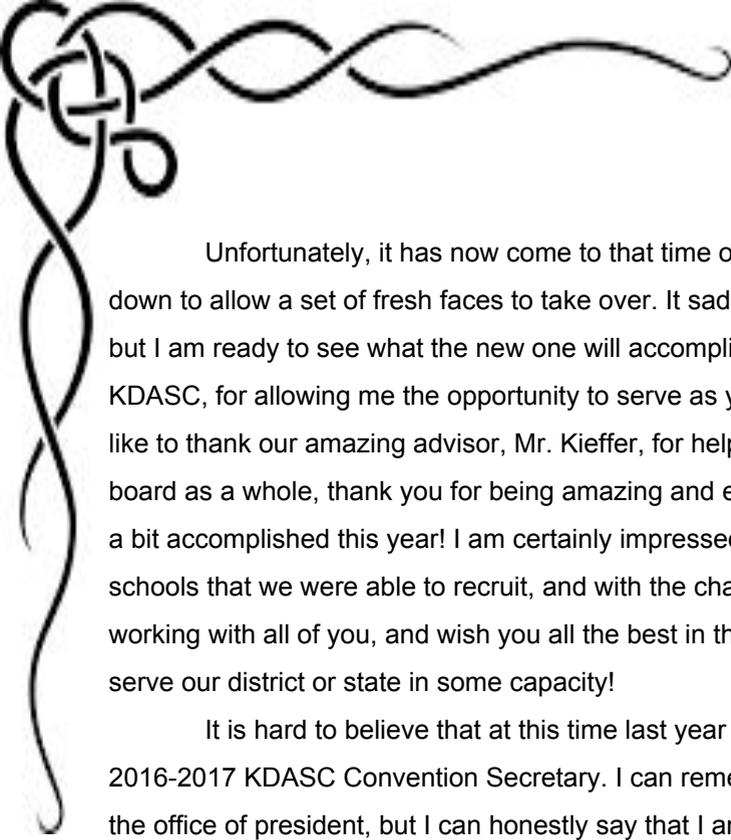
Going into my freshman year of high school I was so intimidated I decided not to join our student council. It was one of the biggest mistakes of my life. Going into my sophomore year I had found my place in the school and the people I liked to be around. Most of them just happened to be in student council and gave me the support and encouragement I needed to join. It's scary walking into a club where you don't know anyone! (By the way, I highly encourage all members of councils to reach out to your middle school kids so that they want to join.) It's amazing how a small gesture of support changed everything.

As a sophomore I played a huge role in our council without holding an office. I took it upon myself to have an impact, to do something well. I learned to love serving others. My love for council led me to run for an office. I had and have a passion that I wanted to do something more with.

So, I ran for district vice-president and a year later, here I am giving up my position. This year has given me so much. I learned that holding an office takes a lot of responsibility and you have to be able to handle it. It comes with a lot of expectations that were set by the people before you. But, it's worth it.

After a year of holding this position I can honestly walk away and say, "It's worth it." I was blessed to have a wonderful district board. It took us a little bit to get into the groove of things, but I wouldn't trade it for the world. I also want to take a moment to say thank you. Thank you to Bailey Wendt, our district president, for everything you do and have done, you are an amazing person. I also want to say thank you to my own student council. You guys are great and I appreciate the support you have all given me this past year. I couldn't have done it without them.





Unfortunately, it has now come to that time of the year where the old board steps down to allow a set of fresh faces to take over. It saddens me that I will be leaving this board, but I am ready to see what the new one will accomplish. First of all, I would like to thank you, KDASC, for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your 2017-2018 President. I would also like to thank our amazing advisor, Mr. Kieffer, for helping me throughout the year. To the board as a whole, thank you for being amazing and easy to work with! I think that we got quite a bit accomplished this year! I am certainly impressed with the number of new member schools that we were able to recruit, and with the charity work that we did. I genuinely enjoyed working with all of you, and wish you all the best in the future. Hopefully you will all continue to serve our district or state in some capacity!

It is hard to believe that at this time last year I was wrapping up my term as 2016-2017 KDASC Convention Secretary. I can remember being incredibly nervous to run for the office of president, but I can honestly say that I am glad I did. Even though it was a tough race, I would never trade this experience for anything.

Over the course of this last year, I learned quite a bit about myself as a leader, and as a person. This opportunity has allowed me to grow in both aspects, and for that I will be forever grateful. I have met so many people through student council not only in this last year, but also over the course of my four years in student council. Attending all of our events has allowed me to form so many bonds with students across the state. Though I have served in numerous positions, this one was definitely one of my favorites. Being allowed to serve an organization in this capacity is something rare, and something not to be taken lightly. I challenge the next person to take on the role of KDASC President to not only fulfill his or her duties outlined in the constitution, but to go above and beyond what is required.

As I head off to college this fall, I know that the Kickapoo District Association of Student Councils will be in great hands. To the 2018-2019 KDASC Executive Board, all of you were elected for a reason! I have great faith in each and every one of you. I know that you all will do amazing things together, and I can only hope that you enjoy being a part of the board as much as I did!

Sincerely,

Bailey Wendt
2017-2018 President

