

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT COUNCILS

August 27, 2017

Hello S.E.M.A.S.C.!

Have you ever told anyone that you loved their smile? If you have not, I'll let you in on a little secret. This past summer, when I had the privilege of attending the National Association of Student Councils' Conference at Pinkerton Academy in New Hampshire, I approached random delegates and told them I loved their smile. Whether they hailed from New York, South Carolina, Alaska, or right here in Massachusetts, their reaction was the same: they may have given me a funny look at first, but ultimately, they began to smile. Smiling is universal. And however uncomfortable it may seem to approach a stranger and tell them you like their smile, the world needs these small acts of kindness more than ever. Throughout the summer, I have been fortunate enough to both share laughs and work diligently with your 2017-2018 S.E.M.A.S.C. Executive Board to plan and create the upcoming year. Together, we have made it our purpose to not only focus on how to become stronger leaders, but how to become kinder people.

First off, **I am pleased to announce that our 2017-2018 S.E.M.A.S.C. Executive Board has selected Wicked Good Cause, located in Duxbury, as our charity for the upcoming school year.** Wicked Good Cause has been working since 2013 to support local families who have been affected by illnesses, accidents, or tragedies. As September is Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month, Wicked Good Cause encourages the South Shore to Go Wicked Gold by purchasing Gold Goods and sharing it on social media! For more information on how you and your school can get involved, check out the Wicked Good Cause website at <http://www.wickedgoodcause.org/>.

Furthermore, I could not be more excited to team up with **Marshfield High School** to plan our 2017 Fall Conference. **Oh, the Places You'll Go With S.E.M.A.S.C. on November 16th**, when we reunite to kick off the upcoming year. Aside from spending some quality time with the Cat in the Hat, prepare yourself for **brand-new S.E.M.A.S.C. merchandise (all proceeds going towards Wicked Good Cause), keynote speaker and Patriot's magician John Logan, and the election of our 2017-2018 S.E.M.A.S.C. President-Elect!** A message to potential candidates: do not be afraid to put yourself out there! The board and I cannot wait to see who will join our team. Looking forward, our **Winter Conference** will be held at **Wareham High School. Spring Conference** will be held on **April 2nd at Duxbury High School.**

Finally, our **S.E.M.A.S.C. 2017-2018 theme "S.E.M.A.S.C. Shares a Wicked Big Smile"** aims to relay the importance of kindness and positivity in our everyday lives. Although this message seems simple, it carries a great importance. In the world today, society and social media has normalized the intent to bring others down, but together we can work to create a culture of kindness. As leaders in our schools and communities, and as human beings, we should strive to live in a way that reaches out and uplifts. We all want to do big things—we all have passion, purpose, and drive. However, no matter what your dream entails, at the end of the day, the most important thing you can do in your life is make another smile. Friendship, kindness,

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caring: those are the qualities that really make a difference. With this in mind, S.E.M.A.S.C., I both encourage and challenge you to take this year's theme to heart, and wake up each day with the goal of spreading wicked big smiles where ever you can.

With all of that being said, I am both honored and humbled to be spending this year as your S.E.M.A.S.C. President. Please know that I am always around and available: whether you have a question, concern, or just want to say hi, you can reach me at **sullivan18@wpsma.org**. Thank you S.E.M.A.S.C.! I cannot not wait to work with each and every one of you to make this year special.

I love your smile. Pass it on.

Sincerely,
Lindsey Sullivan
S.E.M.A.S.C. President
Walpole High School