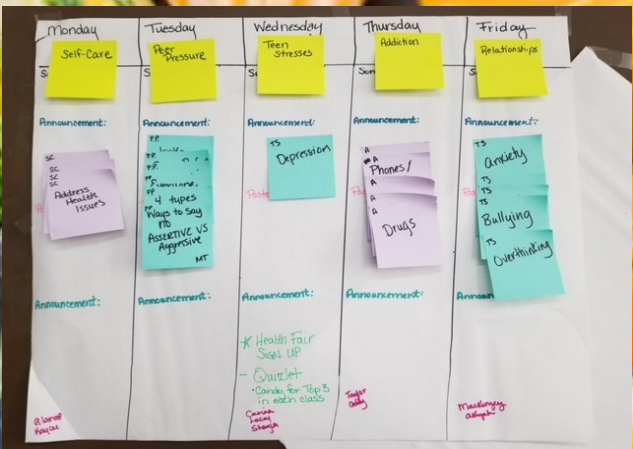


Attention!!
Please share this
newsletter with student
leaders within your
school! Thank you!

Below are some examples of action plans. This fall, create an action plan with your chapter to help have an organized and efficient school year with a clear plan and goal in mind.



SLS: A Culture of Connections

Belonging, Bonding, Skill Development, and
Meaningful Participation.

Culture of Connections

In this fearful time, how can we let students know that we truly care about them? See below.

Students Leading Students (SLS) gives life meaning and purpose for students. Organizing a high school or middle school group, being a member of SLS, and planning student-generated activities connects youth. Students target topics that are important to their peers. The plans demonstrate youth culture, issues, and include mental health, diversity, alcohol, drug use and addiction, driving safety, relationships, job readiness, and community service. Any concern of youth is important. Students choose.

SLS builds a culture of connectedness. That connection positively impacts students in intellectual, social, emotional, physical, and psychological ways. By working with their peers to create change, they acquire knowledge and skills that prepare them for their actions and decisions throughout their entire lives. Students practice their power as leaders, learning from their experience with SLS, and have the support of their peers while helping others.

SLS provides a youth-led structure with opportunities, supports, training, and activities that strive to save lives. SLS provides a place for students where they feel important. They will be listened to. Students who have experienced disappointment, trauma, or toxic stress have a place in SLS to have fun and help others while they help themselves. Students take care of each other. SLS relationships feel like family, because the groups do things like a family. They talk about ideas, listen, play games to get to know each other, snack, celebrate, and learn while they plan education programs to save lives. They learn who they are, what they believe, and the skills to implement those ideas.

The SLS Validation Study (2011-2018, Wayne State University) was sponsored by SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) with 23 Michigan High Schools. Social bonding soared! Here’s why schools need to call SLS to train youth:

Measured Outcomes

- Compared to non-SLS students, SLS students are significantly:*
- More informed about ATOD.*
 - More confident to recognize and resist peer pressure.*
 - More comfortable using leadership skills in the classroom & school.*
 - Less likely to have used ATOD in the past 30 days and their lifetime.*
 - More involved in community service.*
 - More likely to have positive feelings about school.*
 - More likely to demonstrate safe driving behaviors.*
 - Less likely to be the bully.*
 - Less likely to send inappropriate social media posts and texts.*

Why are students attracted to SLS? Because it’s about themselves and their peers.

“Just like for SLS Conference, I’m finding in college when you over prepare for class it removes a lot of anxiety.” Jillian Davis, SLS Life Skills Trainer

Project Topic: Cozy Cove by Ereeand High School		Project Topic: Mental Wellness/Mutual Respect by Clarenceville High School	
Project Idea: Chill space after school where students can destress and address mental health issues.		Project Idea: Big Brother, Big Sister and Zen Room (online as well)	
1. List all the things your group has to do to complete your project/task? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Get permission from Ms. Smith and the board to use the room, approve the idea, and get money for snacks, possible supervision, furniture, and games.Make a box with QR code.Set up Google Form.Advertise (not as SLS) on every other locker, bathrooms, posters on halls.Create Mental Health Team.Fundraise for project.	2. List the 3 most important things that need to get done in order to complete your project? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Create Mental Health Team.Get permission from Ms. Smith.Board.	1. List all the things your group has to do to complete your project/task? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Talk to school administrative staff and propose the idea for Big Brother and Big Sister.Fund the website.Get a sign-up mode ready.Find a supervisor and support staff.Pick and choose hours.	2. List the 3 most important things that need to get done in order to complete your project? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Get approval for both projects.Receive funding for the supplies needed.Find and coordinate with a supervisor and support staff.
3. What needs to be done in order to accomplish the 3 important things to complete the project? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meeting scheduled with Ms. Smith.Establish a Mental Health Team.	4. How can you make the planning of the project fun? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide snacks and drinks.Have games and ice breakers.	3. What needs to be done in order to accomplish the 3 important things to complete the project? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Email administrative staff and schedule a meeting with the school board.Set up fundraising opportunities.Hold SLS meetings as usual to keep track of progress.	4. How can you make the planning of the project fun? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to have snacks at meetings.“Cheapskate” scavenger hunt.Stick together.Plan a celebration after the project is completed.Games.Coloring.Sensory items for the five senses like mints, Play-doh, and diffusers.Post-it notes.

Action Plan from Dakota High School

Created at SLS Conference, March 2022

Project topic: Bridging the gap between students and teachers.

Project idea: Student-led workshop: Host a student-led teacher workshop, possibly during a staff meeting, to have a conversation with teachers about issues where students feel there is a disconnect between students and teachers. The purpose is to “bridge the gap” and discuss issues students are facing today and offer ways teachers can better relate to students.

List all the things your group must do to complete your project/task:

- Come up with a full plan and outline of the process and workshop.
- Present the information to administrative staff for approval and discuss possible dates.
- Create a schoolwide poll to find out what issues students are facing that teachers could better understand.
- Use QR codes, school emails, and other methods.
- Create a list of topics to discuss: Such as: LGBTQ+ and pronouns, minority religions and their needs, mental health, and social media.
- Choose one or two students to be experts on their topics and create content for the workshop.
- Get all content approved by administrative staff.
- Run workshop.
- After some time, ask students to complete a poll again to see if there was an impact.

List the 3 most important things that need to get done in order to complete your project:

- Create a plan and outline for the entire process.
- Conduct a school-wide poll.
- Run the workshop.

What needs to be done to accomplish the 3 important things to complete the project?

- Work as a committee to plan out event processes and details.
- Create the poll, choose topics to discuss, and choose panel experts for the event.
- Decide on the agenda for event, create content, get approval, and practice.

How can you make the planning of the project fun?

- We have a close group of students who will enjoy working and brainstorming together.

WHY SLS?

Written by: Mariam Kebe

It’s been three and a half years since I first joined SLS and as I look back on my decision to join, I smile ear to ear. I realized that being a part of SLS these past three and a half years have played a profound role in shaping me into the person I am today. The first time I heard of SLS I was sitting in my homeroom listening to the school announcements for the week. I wasn't really paying attention but what caught my attention was when a group called SLS was mentioned and their first meeting of the year was coming up. I went to that first meeting and got the rundown of the whole group. I realized SLS is a student leadership club that focuses on improving the school’s environment. I thought this was amazing, so I decided to join. That year we focused on mental health, drugs and alcohol, and safe driving. I found more of an interest in helping those around me and bettering myself. The summer going into my sophomore year, I applied for the SLS State Student Advisory Board in hopes to spread more positivity and awareness. I was given the honor to be a part of the SAB and meet so many bright young students who had a similar purpose of guiding and educating. SLS provides an outlet for many students that need it, in many different ways.

GET TO KNOW SHANAE OBI

Written by: Mariam Kebe

I’m going into my last year on the Student Advisory Board, and I’ve had the pleasure of meeting some cool, admirable, and quirky people on the board! From Izzy, to Loretta, Kenzie, Alex, Gia & now my new li'l sidekick, Shanae Obi from Taylor High School! Shanae is an amazing young lady who enjoys anime. Her favorite show of all time is ‘Attack on Titans’ and the storytelling by Hajime Isayama. “He is so creative & talented!” I asked Shanae where she felt the safest? She replied, “My house, of course, and my bathroom. There’s a lock & I have my peace.” The last movie she watched in the theater was a marvel movie, ‘Dr. Strange.’ The last book she read was ‘And Then There Were None’ by Agatha Christie. As you can tell, Shanae is a pretty cool person. I can’t wait to conquer the last year on the SAB! Give it up for the amazing SHANAE OBI FROM TAYLOR HIGH SCHOOL EVERYONE!

Conversation with the 37th SAB Regarding Culture:

- What does culture mean to SAB?
Culture is about environment. What you are surrounded by and how it impacts who you are.
- What is the culture of SLS:
Inclusive and non-judgmental.
Family.
Diverse.
Mission driven.
Unique.
Creative freedom.
- What does it look like?
Fun.
Productive meetings.
Safe space to exist and be yourself.



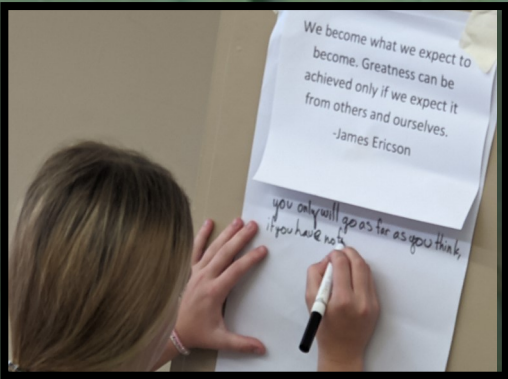
- How does SLS culture help students who have experienced trauma?
Provides resources: What students can do (sharing of ideas, action plan presentations, sharing of projects).
Programs and events available: Examples: Taylor HS Mental Health Month, Clarenceville Mental Health Week, Atherton Mental Health Fair.
Provide food (basic needs) for students: For SLS members and those students who just walk through the door.
Provides an outlet/space where students are heard and listened.
- Conference:
Speakers relate to students with experiences.
Student workshops and speeches relate with experiences.
Fun, food, and a happy environment.
This is a big event, so this mission must be important.
First impression: Shocked that students did this and that it is student-led.

- How do we know we accomplished creating a safe culture:
Students say “thank you” and “this helps”.
People want to be there.
New ideas are created and shared.
New conversations are happening.



To the left: Mariam Kebe, Senior at Clarenceville High School.
To the right: Shanae Obi, Senior at Taylor High School.

Pictures from the Marion Junior/Senior High School Leadership Institute.



About Mariam Kebe

Written by: Shanae Obi

Before the first SAB meeting, I had never met Mariam. When I did meet her at the meeting, she was extremely friendly. We talked for a while and she asked me many questions to get to know me, which I appreciated because it's hard for me to initiate conversation. I learned some facts about her, like she is an avid chicken lover, her favorite TV show is Dance Moms, and her favorite subject in school is English. She enjoys writing non-fiction pieces and wants to study journalism in college. When I asked her what one thing she would change in the world, she said she would change the cost of college. To relax, she goes to the park and swings while listening to music.

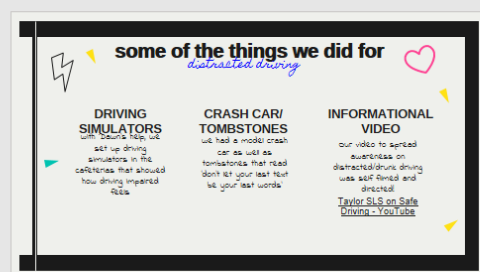
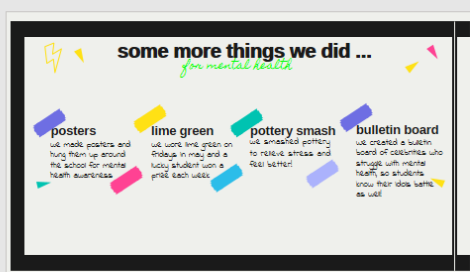
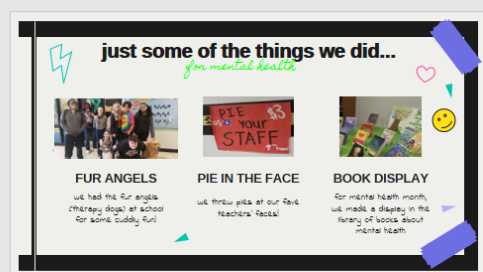
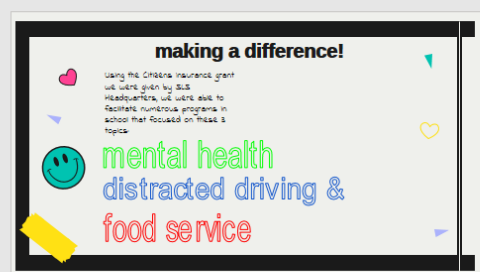
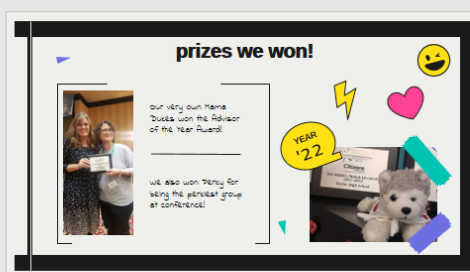
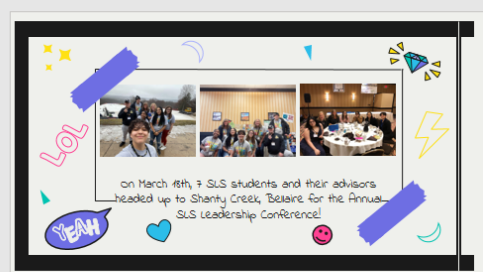
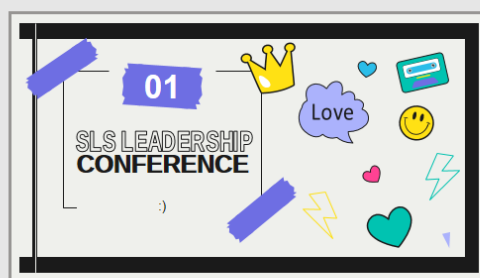
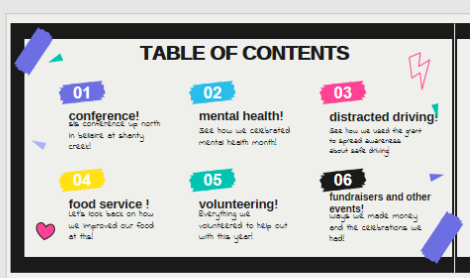
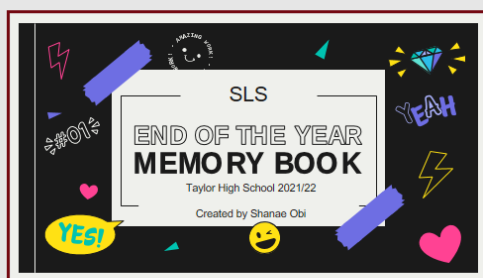
Taylor High School SLS

Chapter

Keep up the exceptional work, team!

This year was such a wild ride! Everyone should be extremely proud of all the accomplishments we've done this year, as well as all the memories made, friendships formed and fun things we've experienced! Have a fantastic summer; next year at SLS is going to be even better than the last!

Student Leadership Services Inc.
www.SLStoday.org



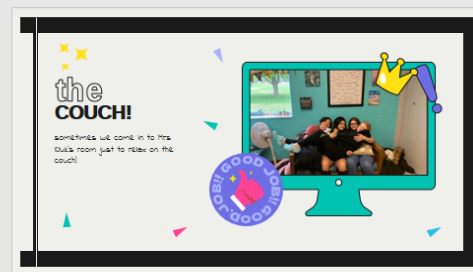
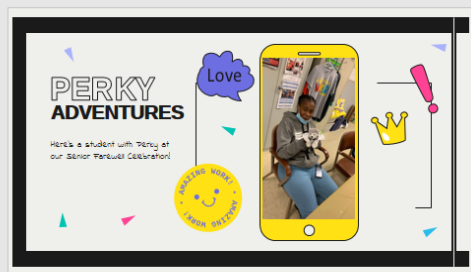
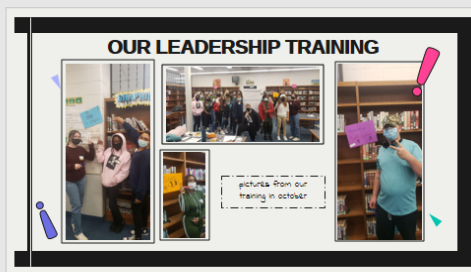
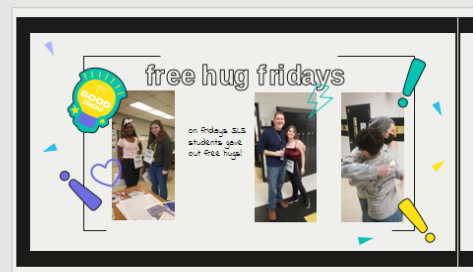
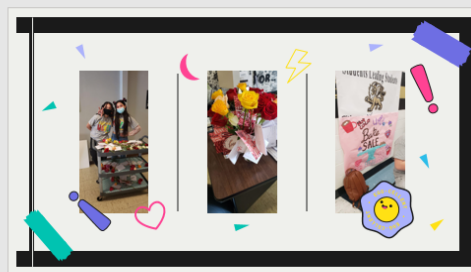
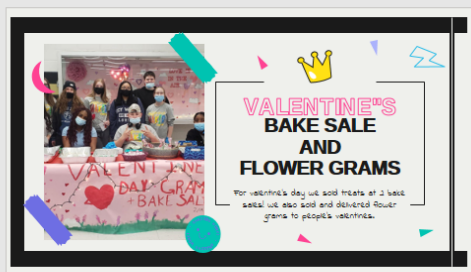
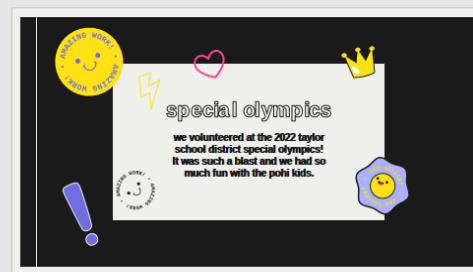
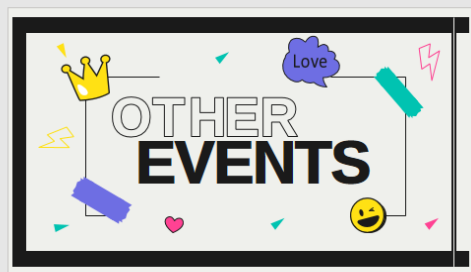
SLS National Awards

SLS is the only Michigan-developed, student-led program with proven outcomes and national validation.

You can help SLS by selecting us as your charity on AmazonSmile's non-profit program. AmazonSmile donates 0.5% of eligible purchases to support the work we do. Visit smile.amazon.com and select us as your charity. Donations will be no extra cost to you.

Alert!!

Please sign up with our Google Classroom. Contact dmff@SLStoday.org to sign up.



A list of everything Taylor High School did this year!

other events

- Leadership conference
- October training
- Elections for new officers
- Free hug Fridays
- Bake sales
- Concessions for the dodgeball tournament
- Teacher appreciation lunches
- Special olympics

Grant projects:

- Lime green on Fridays
- Fur angels
- Pie in the face
- Book display
- Posters around school
- Pottery smashing
- Bulletin board
- Hegira jeopardy
- Mindful meditation
- Distracted driving posters
- Crash car
- Distracted driving video
- Driving simulators

Grant projects contd

- Food council
- Food survey
- Improvements in food menu

Thank you Taylor High School advisors Christin Dukes and Sandra Kluk for your awesome work and support!!

For education, information, and inspiration, stay connected with SLS!

www.SLStoday.org

1150 Scott Lake Rd, Waterford, MI 48328

248-706-0757



National Teen Driver Safety Week:
October 16-22, 2022

These rules address the greatest dangers for teen drivers:

1. Distracted driving.
2. Impaired driving.
3. Inconsistent or no seat belt use.
4. Number of passengers.
5. Speeding.

Safety Tips for Driving:

- If you are expecting a text message or need to send one, pull over and park your car in a safe location. Once you are safely off the road and parked, it is safe to text.
- Designate your passenger as your “designated texter.” Allow them access to your phone to respond to calls or messages.
- Do not engage in social media scrolling or messaging while driving.
- Struggling to not text and drive? Activate your phone’s “Do Not Disturb” feature, or put your cell phone in the trunk, glove box, or back seat of your vehicle until you arrive at your destination.

Source: NHTSA

Congratulations to the BIG IDEA Scholarship Winner!

Haley Lipman
Attending University of Michigan

“I want to help you.” BIG IDEA Scholarship

In honor of Stacey Anklam
\$2,500 Scholarship



Haley graduated from Walled Lake Northern High School.

Golf Outing Sponsors : 9/10/22

Jet Heat- Platinum Sponsor Rose Sargol

Pioneer State Mutual Insurance Company

Nikki & Allan Motes Steve Wroblewski

Bob’s Specialty Company

Deb Kowalczyk, CPA

Team Lisa, Mortgage One Ward Bartlett

Shaun Martin, PGA Professional

Pete & Teresa Lauretano Kenny Peacock

Wolf-Chandler Agency, LLC Larry Rotta

Talley’s Log Cabin Advanced Endodontics

Body Wax Boutique and Spa

Yvonne Zielinski (Re/Max) Brad Simmons

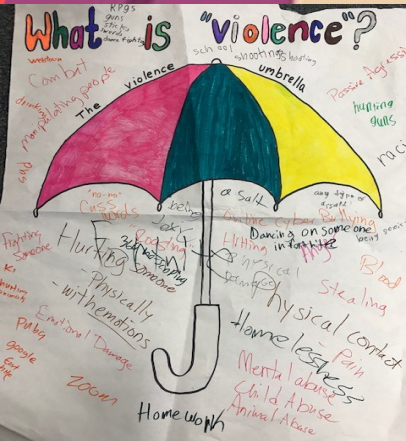
Dianne Bostic Robinson Quality Lumber

Sign Fabricators (Donated banners/signs)

Golf Outing Committee:

Toni Lauretano Sue White Tricia DeVries

Thank you for saving young lives!!



An excerpt from:
You Matter/ We Matter
By: Marvin Mills AKA DJ M-POP!
(Part of their Self-Image Project for #SLSTOGETHERWECAN 2022 Winner.)
Marion Jr/Sr High School

The true you,
The true me,
We matter,
And we are meant to be.

Above: “Boys and Girls Club Troy”
Lessons on Violence and the Communication Toolbox for Dealing with Anxiety and Anger.
Taught by Jillian Davis, SLS Intern, LifeSkills Trainer.

To right: Poster Board created by
Addison Jabonowski
Pierce Middle School
#SLSTOGETHERWECAN
2022 Winner

The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) includes resources about coping with the challenges of returning to school. Follow NIMH on social media for information.

988 is the new Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. It is now active! You can text and/or call to **988** and chat to **988lifeline.org**.

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Zane Sami Hatahet, Media Spokesperson

Griselda Mucollari, Google Ads

Michael Talamonti, Networking



Below: Milford High School PRS Team presenting to 5th Graders.



Thank you!

Stacey Anklam	Dan Peace
Heiroom	Jet Heat
Performance Assembly	
Sign Fabricators	Sue White
Toni Lauretano, Alumna	
Tricia Devries, Alumna	Laura Dodd, Alumna
Boys and Girls Club Troy	Mortgage One – Team Lisa
Vickie Stocker, Parent	Matt Stocker, Alumnus
Wolf—Chandler Agency	Janice Nephew, Parent
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Dawn Flood	
Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan	

SLS Staff

Dawn Flood,
Executive Director/ Master Trainer

Pamela Voss-Page, Research Director

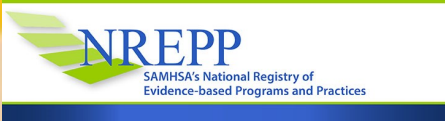
Marcia Partin, Prevention Specialist

Garrett Zimmerman, Communication Specialist and Web Manager, Alumnus

Allison McCauley, Newsletter Editor

Volunteer Alumni throughout the world!

Student Advisory Board Members
1986-2022



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