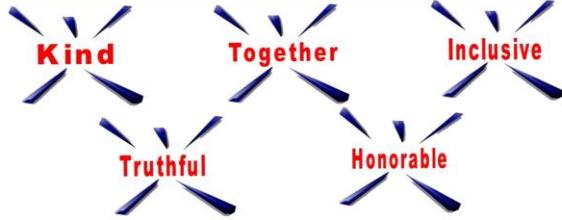


This is Us...



March 14-15, 2026

Pre-conference March 13, 2026

Shanty Creek Resort (Bellaire, MI)

Updated: 2/6/26

PRE-CONFERENCE AGENDA

Friday, March 13, 2026

7:00pm Pre-Conference Registration
8:00pm Team Building Activities and Ice Cream Social! (Special Feature of Exclusive Bloopers)
10:00pm Mandatory Advisor/Parent/Chaperone Orientation
10:15pm Room Curfew

Please note breakfast will be on your own Saturday morning.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Saturday March 14, 2026

9:30am-11:30am Conference and Hotel Registration
Schools set up exhibits; decorate hotel doors
11:00am-11:20am Mandatory Advisor/Parent/Chaperone Orientation
11:20am-12:00pm Friend Networking and Lunch
12:00pm-12:30pm Opening Ceremonies-*Featuring SLS State Student Advisory Board*
12:30pm-1:15pm General Session #1-“Lead With No Apologies”, Jesse Cole
1:20pm-2:10pm Workshop Session #1 **Choice of Five Topics**
2:15pm-3:05pm Workshop Session #2 **Choice of Five Topics**
3:10pm-4:00pm General Session #2-“When Students Lead: The Power of Peer Prevention”
Jeanine Kaltz & Jenn Pavlak, Hope Shores Alliance
4:00pm-4:45pm School Team Meetings #1 *Meet with Advisor(s)
4:45pm Break/Dress for Special Advisor Dinner
5:30pm Advisor Photo (*Conference Tradition*) Advisors meet in Bellaire Foyer for Group Photo
5:30pm Students Meet to Prepare for Advisor Dinner & Awards
5:45pm-7:15pm Advisor Recognition Dinner “Our SLS Garden”
Award & Recognition Ceremony
7:15pm-8:15pm General Session #3-“Truth, Power, and the Stories We’re Taught to Forget”
Historian & Author, Allie Seibert
8:20pm-9:00pm School Team Meetings #2 *Meet with Advisors
9:00pm-9:30pm Break/Dance Preparation/Decorating
9:30pm-11:00pm The Big Dance – “SLS The Musical” (*Movie option “High School Musical”*)
11:00pm Room Curfew **(11pm-7:30am)**
11:30pm Lights Out!

Sunday March 15, 2026

7:45am-8:15am Interdenominational Service (optional)
8:15am-8:55am Breakfast –*Wear Conference Shirts (Conference Tradition)*
9:00am-9:20am All Conference Photo
9:30am-10:10am General Session #4-“The Game with No Winners”, Sgt. Kendall Kretzschmer
10:15am-11:05am Workshop Session #4 **Choice of Five Topics**
11:10am-12:00pm Workshop Session #5 **Choice of Five Topics**
12:05pm-12:50pm Lunch School Team Meeting #3-Action Planning & Preparing Presentations
12:55 pm-2:30pm General Session #5- *SLS Action Plan Presentations*
2:30pm Closing Ceremonies and Awards
3:00pm Schools Depart! Drive Safely!

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Important Conference Information

1. The 2026 conference is **two days. Saturday March 14 and Sunday March 15. Conference will end at 3:00pm, Sunday March 15, 2026.** For those attending pre-conference activities that will take place Friday March 13 at 8:00pm.
2. Registration for the conference will be at 9:30 am on Saturday March 14 in the **Hotel Lobby.** For those attending pre-conference activities on March 13, registration will be at 7:00 pm in the **Hotel Lobby.**
3. Attention Advisors!!! There is a **mandatory** Advisor Orientation at 10:00 pm on Friday (for pre-conference arrivals) and 11:00 am on Saturday (for new arrivals) all advisors and/or parent chaperones **must attend.**
4. Weather permitting, we may be going outside to do an all-conference photo **on Sunday.**
5. Attention Advisors: SLS will provide an Interdenominational Service on Sunday morning at 7:45am for those interested.
6. **Swimming and Fitness Center is prohibited due to liability.**
7. **Everyone will receive a backpack at registration. Please have students prepare a backpack of the things they need for each day. Students will not be able to go back to their rooms until designated times. Please have them plan like it is a school day.**
8. Bring a nice outfit (if able) for Saturday's "Our SLS Garden" Recognition Dinner.
Students/Chapters are asked to bring/make a gift to present to their advisor(s) on how they have nourished them or helped them grow individually or as a group.
9. The dance will be Saturday night and is a "SLS The Musical" theme. **School with the best musical dance theme attire gets a chance to take home Happy the SLS Mascot!**
10. Bring packaged cookies or other packaged snacks to share at the dance (please avoid nuts).
11. SLS Conference has two traditions: Door Decorations (bring items to decorate your hotel door-**This year Door Decoration theme is "THIS IS US..." with 5 Key Words: Kind, Together, Inclusive, Truthful, and Honorable. Doors should represent how your group fits in one of more of those words that describes "THIS IS US".**
12. Bring your school/chapter or group banner to display and a chapter exhibit to display and show off your group's work!
13. Conference Day 1: Wear your school/chapter shirt and Conference Day 2: Wear the conference t-shirt for the all-conference photo!
14. **Note: Because the conference ends at 3:00pm on Sunday SLS has requested that all SLS conference participant rooms have a later check out. However, there is no guarantee. Please plan accordingly.**
15. You should have received or will receive an email or fax about the status of your registration (ex. If you are missing anything or are all set). Any questions call Dawn Flood at SLS 248-706-0757 before March 11. After March 11 call cell 248-462-9995.

Conference Menu: Saturday Lunch: Nacho Bar and Assorted Cookies

Saturday Dinner: Sweet and Sour Chicken over Rice and Stir Fry Vegetables, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert

Sunday Breakfast (In Restaurant Dinning Room): Scrambled eggs, Omelet station, Sausage, bacon, breakfast potatoes, and fruit

Sunday Boxed Lunch Team Meeting: Cold Cut Hoagie Ham, turkey, salami, swiss and cheddar on a hoagie bun Sides: apple, potato chips and a cookie.

Note: Any dietary restrictions or allergies that were documented on registration form will be accommodated by Shanty Creek.

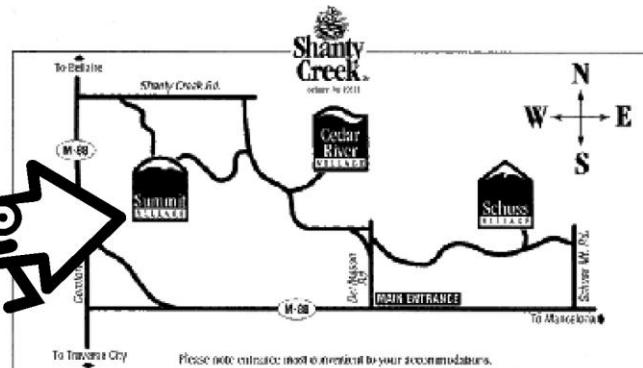
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1-800-678-4111

www.shantycreek.com

**Conference is in the Lakeview Hotel
/Summit Village
(Main Lodge or Summit Entrance)**



Follow Interstate 75 North from Detroit to Grayling: M-72 West toward Kalkaska. In Kalkaska turn North on US 131 to Mancelona. From Mancelona, take M-88 West to the Shanty Main Entrance.

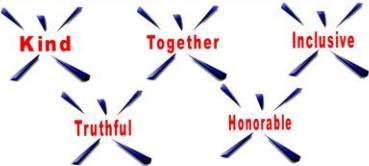
Proceed North on US 27 to Grayling, M-72 West to Kalkaska, Turn North on US 131 Mancelona. In Mancelona, take M-88 West to the Shanty Creek Main Entrance.

Take US 131 North from Grand Rapids to Mancelona. In Mancelona, turn west on M-88 the Shanty Creek Main Entrance.

Directions for shortcut that saves about 20-30 minutes.

I75 North to Exit 270. (I think the sign also says "Waters" which is barely a town.) Turn left off exit. Take road until it ends, turn right. 1st road on left (Passenheimer, and it comes up right away – about a block) take till ends. Turn left. You are on M-88. Take through Mancelona and follow signs to "Shanty Creek SUMMIT CENTER". Wait to go into Shanty Creek until you see the "SUMMIT CENTER" signs. There are several properties at Shanty Creek, and several entrances.

This is Us...



Packing List/To Bring:

- Hotel Door Decorations to advertise your chapter (if you want to!)
Door Theme: "THIS IS US..." with 5 Key Words: Kind, Together, Inclusive, Truthful, and Honorable. Doors should represent how your group fits in one of more of those words that describes "THIS IS US".
- SLS or School/Group Banner
- Group Exhibit
- **NEW conference tradition started in 2025!** Bring up a pin/button to exchange with other groups. Pins/Buttons can be worn all conference weekend and brought back year to year.
- Drinks and Snacks for your group
- Package cookies, or package snack to share at the dance (please no nuts)
- Bring an extra Group/School shirt to be added to the next SLS T-shirt Banner!
- Nice outfit for Advisor Dinner *We encourage participants to dress up for the Saturday Advisor and Award Dinner if able. **Students bring a gift to present to their advisor(s) on the theme "Our SLS Garden" on how they have nourished them or helped you grow individually or as a group.**
- Dance Attire for the SLS "The Musical" dance. Group with Best Musical Dance Costumes have a chance to win "Happy" the SLS Mascot.
- Workshop supplies (if you are presenting)
- Group or School t-shirt to wear on Saturday (bring an extra to add to our t-shirt banner collection)
- ENERGY! PASSION! ENTHUSIASM!
- Something to give your group a distinct identity. We love the group and school spirit!

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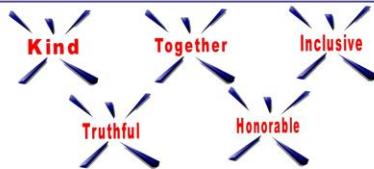
TO BRING AND TO DO LIST

*Give each student a copy!

Don't Forget to:

- **STUDENTS!** Please create an item or gift to present to your advisor during the Advisor Recognition Dinner. Students bring a gift to present to their advisor(s) on the theme "Our SLS Garden" on how they have nourished them or helped you grow individually or as a group.
- **Advisors!** Make sure all forms are sent in and payments are made to SLS (registration fee) and Shanty Creek Resort (hotel fee) **ALL CHECKS GET MAILED TO SLS and SLS will pass onto Shanty Creek**
- **Advisors!** Make sure all students and adults receive and review Conference Rules and Important Conference Information.
- Check out the SLS website www.slstoday.org for the latest conference information.
- Call SLS if you have any questions 248-706-0757 office; 248-462-9995 cell or email Dawn dmf@slstoday.org

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Pre-Conference Activities Presented by the SLS Student Advisory Board: (March 13, 2026)

School teams will participate in team building game activities that will increase their groups bonding and attachment as well as give them a chance to network with other schools across Michigan.

Conference Keynote Speaker and Presenters: (March 14-15, 2026)

Jesse Cole, "Lead with No Apologies."

Lead With No Apologies is a bold, high-energy keynote that pushes students to stop playing small and start showing up as the leaders they were created to be. With real talk, powerful stories, and practical takeaways, this session challenges students to own their identity, stand firm in their values, and lead with confidence no fear, no excuses, no apologies.

Allie Seibert – Historian & True Crime Writer

Join us for a captivating session with Allie Seibert, on “Truth, Power, and the Stories, We’re Taught to Forget”. Allie is a former Michigan educator turned historian and acclaimed historical true crime writer. Allie specializes in uncovering Michigan stories lost to time from unsolved mysteries to overlooked moments that shaped our state’s legacy.

Sergeant Kendall Kretzschmer

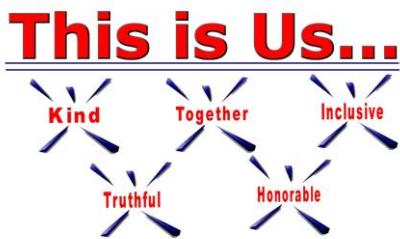
Sergeant Kendall Kretzschmer has served for eighteen years with the Livingston County Sheriff's Office. He currently supervises the Community Outreach Unit and the School Resource Officers. Kendall is dedicated to engaging with the community and youth to enhance safety and encourage positive decision-making through educational policing.

“The Game with No Winners”. Sgt. Kretzschmer will break down the hard truth about impaired driving not the myths, not the excuses, and definitely not the versions teens hear from friends or social media. He'll explain why driving drunk or high isn't just risky but life-altering, and how the idea that “it won't happen to me” is one of the most dangerous beliefs out there.

Through real stories, clear facts, and straight talk, Sgt. K will show why impaired driving is a game where no one walks away a winner.

“When Students Lead: The Power of Peer Prevention”

Jeanine Kaltz and Jenn Pavlak, Preventionists with Hope Shores Alliance in Northeast Michigan, will share how students can strengthen their leadership skills and make their schools safer through Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP), a nationally recognized, peer-led program that empowers young people to be active bystanders who prevent bullying, harassment, and relationship violence.



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Workshop Sessions: March 14-15, 2026

The Power of Kindness: Reconnecting Through Compassion

In a world that often feels rushed and disconnected, it's easy to overlook the impact of simple acts of kindness. This interactive workshop invites participants to slow down, reflect, and reconnect with their natural capacity for compassion. Together, we'll explore how small gestures can create big ripples bringing light, warmth, and connection to our daily lives. Let's unlock our potential for kindness and build a culture of care, one moment at a time.
Presented by Zacur Harrell, Clarenceville High School

To Love Without Limits: Self-Love Tool Kit

This empowering, workshop invites participants to explore the journey of self-love, personal growth, and inner resilience. Through interactive activities and heartfelt reflection, participants will: Celebrate their unique strengths, values, and lived experiences; Learn practical tools to boost self-esteem and self-acceptance; Set meaningful goals and build a vision for personal growth Develop strategies to navigate challenges with confidence and clarity.
Presented by A'niyah Daniels, Senior – Clarenceville High School

Bridge Builders

This creative and heart-centered workshop uses teddy bears as a playful yet powerful tool to explore different perspectives and personal challenges. Through interactive activities and thoughtful discussion, participants will learn how to build bridges between kindness and acceptance, strengthening their ability to connect, understand, and uplift one another.

Presented by Kaley Long, Taylor High School.

YOU SNOOZE, YOU LOSE

This high-energy, interactive workshop is all about shaking off hesitation and stepping into connection. Through creative team-building activities and group challenges, participants will break out of their shells, build trust, and discover the power of showing up fully awake and engaged. Come ready to move, laugh, and lead because when it comes to student voice and teamwork, *you snooze, you lose!*

Presented by Myah Randolph, Brighton High School

Real Talk: Bullying & Mental Health

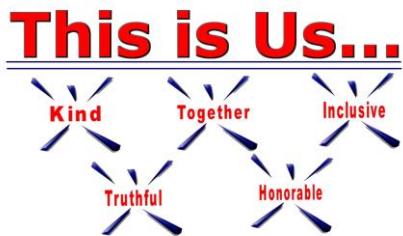
A hands-on workshop exploring how bullying affects mental health and how to rise above it. In this interactive session, students will dive into the real impact of bullying: physical, verbal, mental, and cyber, and how it connects to mental health. Through creative activities, group discussion, and a few laughs (hello, silly name game!), participants will learn about awareness, empathy, and action.

Presented by Marvin Mills, Marion Jr/Sr High School

Bite-Sized Fun! Quick Ways to Energize Any Meeting

When time is tight, fun doesn't have to be. This workshop is packed with fast, engaging activities you can use to spark connection, boost energy, and bring a little joy to your group no matter how short the meeting. You'll walk away with a toolkit of bite-sized ideas you can use anytime!

Presented by Marcia Partin, SLS Prevention Specialist.



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Becoming a Relatable Leader

Great leaders aren't just respected they're relatable. In this interactive and engaging workshop, *Becoming a Relatable Leader* challenges high school student leaders to rethink what leadership really looks like in today's schools, teams, and communities. Participants will explore the idea that leadership isn't about titles, popularity, or having all the answers. Instead, it's about connection, authenticity, and influence. Through discussion and real-life examples, participants will learn how self-awareness, empathy, and clear communication build trust and strengthen their impact as leaders—both in and out of the classroom.

Presented by Jesse Cole, Author and Motivational Speaker.

Mind-Body Power: Who's Really in Charge?

Ever notice your heart racing before a test? Or your body freaking out before you even start a presentation? That's not random — it's your brain and body teaming up. In this workshop, you'll learn how your thoughts can secretly turn stress *on* (or *off*), why your body reacts before you think, and how anxiety actually works. And you won't just sit there. You'll try fast, science-backed exercises that calm your nerves, sharpen focus, and boost confidence right when pressure hits. Learn how to stop stress before it takes over and messes with your performance.

Presented by Nicole King, Mind-Body Practitioner & Holistic Life Coach.

Are Your Pants on Fire? The Truth Behind the Lies

Everyone lies that's not an accusation, it's reality. The real conversation isn't *whether* we lie, but *why*. What are we trying to protect, avoid, or gain when we bend the truth, leave out details, tell "harmless" white lies, or say something completely untrue? This session digs into the psychology behind lying and the many motivations that drive it. Participants will explore how even small untruths can shape relationships, influence decision-making, and create long-term consequences we rarely consider in the moment. It's an honest look at dishonesty, without judgment, without shame, and without pretending we're above it. Promise... no lies. 

Presented by Ann Colwell-Johnson, SLS Program Specialist

Want to make your school safer and be a better leader while doing it?

Your voice matters and so does how you use it. Join our interactive MVP (Mentors in Violence Prevention) workshop designed for students who want to lead by example and create real change in their school. You'll learn from preventionists how to be an effective bystander leader—someone who knows how to step in, speak up, and stop bullying, sexual harassment, and unhealthy relationship behaviors before they escalate.

Through real talk, role-playing, and group discussion, you'll practice what to say, how to intervene safely, and how to challenge harmful norms, together, across genders and cultures.

Presented by Jeanine Kaltz and Jenn Pavlak, Preventionists with Hope Shores Alliance in Northeast Michigan.

ADVISORS ONLY - Keeping the Record: Documenting, Projects, Decisions, and Lessons to Carry Work Forward.

SLS work doesn't happen in a single meeting or a single year it builds over time. But without clear documentation, hard-won progress can disappear as students graduate, leadership turns over, or details fade.

We'll explore why documentation matters not just for accountability, but for reflection and growth. From tracking decisions and project outcomes to capturing lessons learned and challenges faced, good records help programs evolve instead of starting over. Presented by Allie Seibert, Historian, Author and Former Educator.

*Please review carefully

1. Faculty Advisors are needed to be in attendance and actively involved with their students and other advisors during the conference. They are also expected to participate in conference activities, i.e. workshops, etc.
2. Advisors/Parent Chaperones are to remain at conference/hotel location from arrival on Saturday (Friday if attending Pre-Conference) until the conference ends Sunday afternoon. Advisors are to be present for any pre-conference or post-conference activities/events.
3. Advisors will be considered on duty 24 hours a day and will be contacted if needed.
4. Vehicles are to be locked on the conference facility grounds during the entirety of the conference and the advisors are to hold the keys of their students who may have driven. Participants are always expected to remain in the conference facility.
5. **Advisors, Parents, Guest or Speakers are not permitted to use alcoholic beverages, smoke/vape or use any legal or illegal drugs during the conference.**
6. Dress is casual for conference except for Saturday's Advisor Dinner. Business casual dress (if able) is suggested for Saturday Award and Recognition Dinner.
7. As a Faculty Advisor you will be responsible for students attending from your school. In addition to being available to them during the conference, we have scheduled school meetings that you will facilitate with your group. You will receive School Team Meeting Agendas in your Advisor Folder that you receive at registration.
8. **At night you will need to make room checks to assure that your students are accounted for before you retire for the night. SLS's Conference Assistants (CA's) will also be doing bed checks. Students are expected to stay in their rooms following "lights out" (no trips outside or to other student rooms). This is strictly enforced.**
9. Faculty Advisors are expected to intervene when any participant breaks conference rules. See Disciplinary Action.
10. You will be expected to participate in any disciplinary decision-making and action involving your students.
11. Faculty Advisors are expected to cooperate with Conference Assistants and staff at the Conference.
12. **If student(s) is feeling ill at conference. Advisors will be the first contact for students who are not feeling well. Advisors will need to sit with their students. Students will not be allowed to go to their room. If student(s) is too ill to participate in activities and need to come to office/med room, phone call home will be made to discuss if student is able to continue at conference.**
13. All the above responsibilities for Faculty Advisors also apply to any Co-Advisor Parents accompanying the group. Please make this clear to any Co-Advisor or Parent Chaperone(s) attending.

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SLS CONFERENCE RULES & EXPECTATIONS

Please share with students and all adults attending

These rules are designed to ensure that all participants enjoy a maximum learning experience in an environment conducive to an exchange and sharing of ideas and concepts. Conference participants who violate these regulations will be subject to **disciplinary action, which may include being sent home and/or a report made to the participant's parents or guardians, or administrator. All participants are expected to abide by these conference regulations regardless of age. ALL RULES ARE STRICTLY ENFORCED.**

ATTENDANCE: Student and adult participation and attendance at workshops, general sessions and all conference activities are **mandatory**.

APPROPRIATE ATTIRE: SLS follows school dress codes. Conference is at a hotel resort and conference center. Conference may include outside activities (weather permitting) Please bring appropriate winter clothing such as, coats, hats, gloves, boots, etc.

BEHAVIOR: All participants are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly manner. Including no girls in boy's hotel rooms and vice versa unless advisor is present. Absolutely no Public Display of Affection (PDA). Behavior that falls below generally accepted standards may result in removal.

CURFEW: When conference activities are finished for the day all students must report to their hotel room. At no time may students leave their room or hotel once curfew is in place. **Students are expected to stay in their rooms following "lights out" (no trips outside or to other student rooms). This is strictly enforced.**

CELL PHONES: All participants are expected to have all cell phones off or on silent while in workshops or general sessions. There will be no phone use of any kind during any presentations. Respect and courtesy of presenters and conference activities are expected.

PROPERTY DAMAGE: Intentional damage/theft of hotel or personal property is strictly prohibited. Disciplinary action will include financial remuneration for such damage or theft and removal from event.

SAFETY: Nametags must be worn throughout the conference. All conference participants must stay within the designated hotel and activity areas. Advisors must be informed of student locations throughout the conference. Students are not permitted to be on balconies and currents must remained closed at all times. **Pool and fitness center are prohibited due to liability.** Absolutely NO WEAPONS of any kind are allowed on the premises by students or adults. Any participant (regardless of age) found with a weapon will be removed from the conference immediately and will be reported to the police.

SMOKING: This is a **no smoking** conference. Smoking of cigarettes, pipes, cigars, vape pens, e-cigs, etc. by adults or students is **not** permitted.

USE OF ALCOHOL OR OTHER DRUGS: Any participant found to be under the influence of or in possession of alcoholic beverages or other drugs, will be immediately removed from the conference. **This includes any adult, speaker or conference guest (regardless of age).** Advisors or medical staff must be informed of prescriptions and over-the-counter medications and or have it noted clearly on registration form.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

An offending student's advisor will be involved in disciplinary decisions however, the SLS supervision staff and conference coordinator will take final action. Disciplinary actions, depending on the severity may include and are not limited to the following: VERBAL WARNINGS, TIME OUTS, and/or DISMISSAL FROM EVENT. Depending on the severity of the event, parents and/or school principals will be notified.

Student Leadership Services, Inc. * 1150 Scott Lake Rd, Waterford, Michigan 48328