

MASC WORKSHOPS/CONFERENCES

SAFE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

The safety and well-being of all student delegates attending Minnesota Association of Student Councils (MASC) sponsored workshops/conferences is of the utmost importance. For this reason, if at any time during the conference an incident occurs where you feel threatened or intimidated, please tell your adviser or an MASC staff person. (At the Summer Leadership Workshop, please tell Director Ann Postlewaite or other MASC/MAHS Advisor staff members)

All conference attendees and staff have the right to an environment free of discrimination, which encompasses freedom from harassment. The policy of the MASSP prohibits any verbal or physical contact that has the purpose or effect of:

1. Substantially interfering with an attendee's or staff member's ability to participate in conference activities.
2. Creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

Incident Reporting and Follow-up Procedures:

1. Students should report incidents as soon as possible to their advisers (this includes an adviser who is acting in the stead of the home school adviser). In the event where the timeliness of contacting the adviser is compromised, the student should report it directly to the MASC staff member in charge.
2. Once an incident is reported, the student will be separated from the environment or persons involved to ensure his/her safety and well being.
3. State staff will conduct an investigation of the incident to determine what actions should be taken and if local authorities will be contacted. Involvement of local authorities will be dictated by state law governing each conference site. (In Minnesota there is a legal obligation to report specific incidents involving minors, and those will be adhered to by all MASC staff.)
4. Review of the investigative findings will be made with the adviser and any communications with parents, school officials, or other parties will be made by the MASC staff.
5. Any person found in violation of this policy has the right to appeal any actions/decisions of the MASC staff to the MASSP Board of Directors. This does not apply to incidents requiring the intervention of local authorities, at which time state and federal laws will supersede any authority of MASC staff.
6. Written record of an incident will be kept on file at the MASC offices.