

# Virginia Association of the Technology Student Association

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September 24, 2002

Dear TSA President,

The following page details the plans of the Leadership Development Committee for promoting leadership opportunities in Virginia TSA this year. We encourage you to take the initiative and include these materials in your chapter work.

One way to promote leadership is to create an interest session on "what an officer does". Have each officer give a workshop on their office. They should have the applicable pages from the officer handbook copied and available for the members in attendance. Ask them give a brief presentation on their officer duties and answer any questions.

Also, try to offer a workshop on leadership. In this packet, there are instructions and ideas on what to talk about and how to involve the participants. The main goal is to motivate your members to run for office, apply for scholarships, and apply for various chapter and member awards. Each year a few students are applying for these valuable resources, we want these opportunities to be publicized to all our members.

We offer these instructions to get you started. We encourage you to do some research and come up with your own ideas concerning what to present to the students. Be sure to have copies of all applications and information. Help students in your school find and use our applications. The best way to get your members involved is to have as much information available as possible during your activities.

Remember, Virginia TSA is nothing without its leaders, so we entreat you to motivate your chapter! If you have any questions or need any help in coordinating various sessions, please feel free to contact any member of the Leadership Development Committee.

Sincerely,

*Lily Smith*

Lily Smith  
Leadership Development Chair  
Tidewater Region TSA President



"Learning to live in technical world."

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One of the Executive Council's goals this year is to increase leadership opportunities. With that in mind, the leadership development committee has put together some ideas for a leadership workshop to be held at chapter meetings. Below is an example of one way to conduct a leadership workshop. We encourage you to do some research and come up with your own format.

- 1.) Begin the workshop by asking students to define leadership. Use what they say to write a general definition (you may want to have worksheets for the students or use a chalkboard). One example of a definition is: a leader is able to relate to and influence other people.
- 2.) Have the class come up with a definition for shared leadership, such as: shared leadership is when many people contribute to a given objective.
- 3.) Discuss Dr. Towns' Eight Laws of Leadership. See if the students can come up with their own definitions, and then give them the examples.
  - The Law of **Dreams**- follow your dream when you have a universally desirable dream.
  - The Law of **Rewards**- the things that get rewarded get done.
  - The Law of **Credibility**- people follow a leader when they have confidence in his/her ideas.
  - The Law of **Communications**- a leader must give clear directions and effectively communicate goals and objectives.
  - The Law of **Accountability**- a leader must always be there for his/her followers.
  - The Law of **Motivation**- getting people to work on your side- motivate people to new heights and give them reasons to work.
  - The Law of **Problem Solving**- a leader must convey that problems cannot be stopped, but can be solved.
  - The Law of **Decision Making**- makes good decisions based on thorough research and information.
- 4.) Discuss Leaders vs. Micromanagers- leaders lead as a whole, while micromanagers divide a process amongst other managers.
- 5.) Provide the following way to define goals:
  - Specific
  - Measurable
  - Attainable
  - Realistic
  - Time-related
- 6.) Ask the students to list common characteristics and beliefs of genuine leaders, such as:
  - ⊙ Optimism
  - ⊙ Leads by example
  - ⊙ Trustworthy
  - ⊙ Possesses humility, integrity, drive, and vision
- 7.) Finally, at the end of class, talk briefly about awards and scholarships. Provide applications for interested members for the chapter award and advisor award, and be sure to explain how valuable the scholarships are. Also, have applications for the scholarships on hand for people who want to apply. Be able to answer questions about deadlines, and refer members to the Virginia TSA website for more information.
- 8.) Lastly, lead by example. Speak loudly and clearly, and be well informed of your topics of discussion. Be respectful to everyone in attendance, and show your fellow members how a true leader acts.