



State Officer Candidates

2025-2026



Yahavi Airan

Apex Friendship High School



Current Office

Chapter Reporter

Bio

Goals for TSA: I believe collaborating with other student leaders is crucial to making an impact and NCTSA will provide me with that opportunity, allowing me to effectively implement my vision of a more involved, passionate, and inclusive student body of North Carolina along with the state officer team.

Personal TSA goal: My goal for TSA as a state officer candidate is to expand TSA's outreach so that more students throughout North Carolina are exposed to STEM fields, especially students living in underprivileged communities. I want to make TSA more accessible to students so that they, too, can pursue their passions.

Why do you want to serve TSA? I want to serve as an NCTSA State Officer because I want to make STEM opportunities like TSA more accessible and attainable to students throughout North Carolina. Becoming a state officer will provide me with a platform where I can inspire other students to pursue their passions and create a positive change in their communities. It will allow me to effectively implement my vision of a more involved, passionate, and inclusive student body of North Carolina.

Nishka Amesar

Atkins High School



Current Office

State Treasurer

Bio

My name is Nishka Amesar and I am currently on the State Officer Team as your 2024-2025 State Treasurer! I am a junior at Atkins High School in Winston-Salem. My goals as a State Officer candidate are to enrich the TSA experience for all members. I would start by increasing communication with State Officers, especially with newer chapters, to understand their challenges and help them to succeed in all their TSA endeavors. As for my personal TSA goal, I will interact with as many NCTSA members as possible to hear their stories about TSA! Serving as a State Officer this past year has been so wonderful and rewarding but I believe that there is still so much more I can do by serving a second term!

Blythe Barnes

Hanes Magnet Middle School



Current Office

Chapter Sergeant-At-Arms

Bio

My goals as a state officer candidate are to improve membership in both middle and high school chapters so that a wide range of talents and opinions can be explored. I would do this by leading a session in public speaking that TSA members can attend. It can be scary to walk up to someone you don't know, introduce yourself, and start talking, so my goal is also to help people be more confident in their speaking skills.

My personal goal for TSA is to be able to listen more. I've always been somewhat of a leader when it comes to projects, and being in TSA has made me more sensitive to what other people have to say. I've worked with many different types of people, including quiet ones, and I know that listening to others is an important life skill to develop. I know that continuing with TSA is a great way to improve that, along with other important abilities. I want to be your NC TSA Middle School Representative because, as I mentioned before, TSA has taught me so much about the world and myself. It and the community it creates have given so much to me, and this is my opportunity to give back to it. I believe that everyone deserves to have the chance to find their people, and TSA is where I found mine. Being this year's Middle School Representative would be how I could help you and how I could help others find their way to TSA.

Ted Boulanger

Apex Friendship High School



Current Office

State Sergeant-At-Arms

Bio

Your goal(s) for TSA as a state officer candidate:

Start an outreach committee to help start and grow new chapters, continue the TedTalks, and increase community between chapters.

Your personal TSA goal:

Place 1st in Engineering Design

Why you want to serve as a NCTSA State Officer:

I've served for the last year and it's been one of the greatest experiences of my life being able to give back to this organization

Arjun Cattamanchi
Marvin Ridge
High School



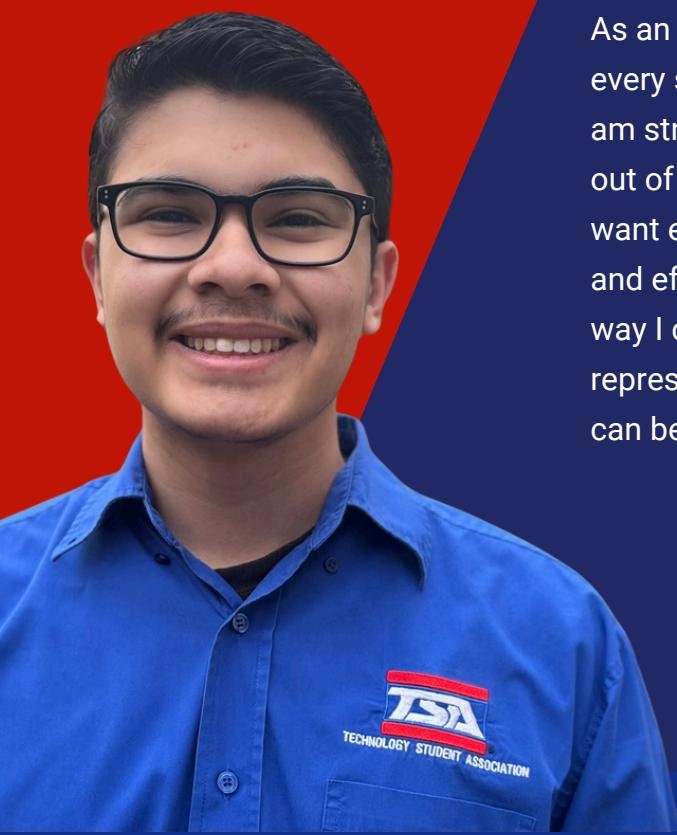
Current Office

Chapter Secretary

Bio

N/A

Vladimir Dimov
Atkins High School



Current Office

Chapter Vice President

Bio

As an officer candidate, I plan to bring community and a voice to every single TSA member, regardless of your time or position in TSA. I am striving for a chance to run as a national officer for TSA mainly out of the motivation, love, and passion I have for the association. I want every member, officer, and chapter to have the most enjoyable and efficient experience at every meeting and competition. The best way I can help execute this plan is to become an officer. With this, I'll represent all TSA chapters and show you all what the best of NCTSA can be! Now remember, stay rad and vote for Vlad!

Grace Garney

Ravenscroft School



Current Office

Chapter President

Bio

My goals for TSA as a State Officer Candidate focus on a platform I call the Three E's: engagement, equity, and expansion. For engagement, I want to boost the community between state officers and members by establishing monthly Zooms with chapter officers and growing the TSA social media presence through fun monthly takeovers by local chapters. For expansion, I desire to create a Membership Committee in which TSA members from across the state can apply and be selected to work directly with the state officers. Throughout the year, this committee would work to create resources for chapter development and provide outreach to new or struggling chapters. And finally, equity. As a founder, I know firsthand the difficulty of starting a chapter, thus, I want to provide more resources on the NC TSA website and build the chapter resource center. Also, I am devoted to creating more fundraising ideas to help state conferences and ensure disadvantaged chapters are supported.

My personal TSA goal is to compete in new events each year and have an amazing State Conference!

I want to serve as a state officer as it provides an unparalleled opportunity to give back to the incredible TSA community that has provided me with countless opportunities, from meeting my best friends, to learning what career I want to pursue, to finding myself as a leader. I'm running to say 'thank you' to TSA.

Remember, Vote Grace to leave a positive trace on NCTSA!

Manan Goyal

Panther Creek High School



Current Office

State Vice President

Bio

Goals for TSA as a state officer:

- Directly meet with newer chapters to address their concerns, helping them integrate into TSA
- Increase inter-chapter collaboration through chapter meetups, fundraising activities, game nights, and networking opportunities.
- Contact local businesses and corporate sponsors to match American Cancer Society donations

Personal TSA goal:

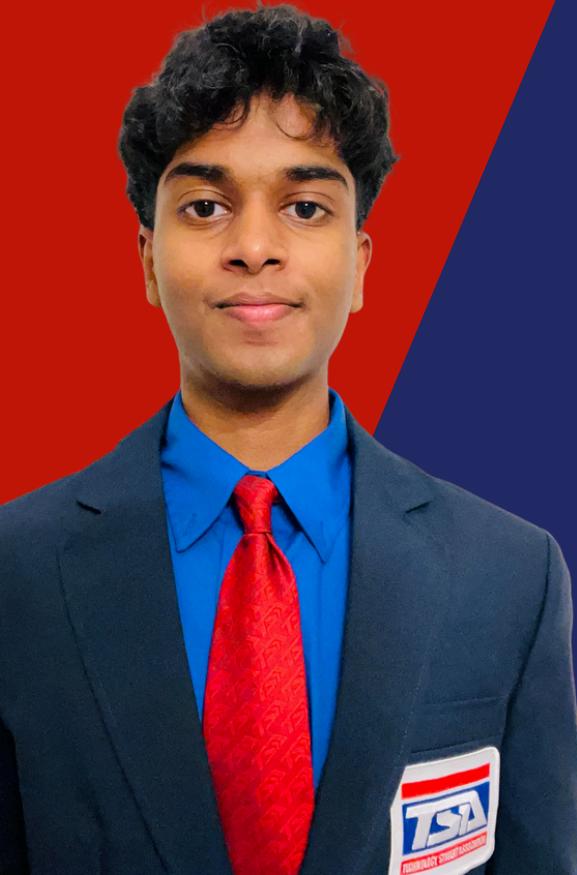
- Meeting new people at conferences, especially at pin trading sessions. I am looking forward to expanding my pin collection with a South Korea pin!

Why I want to serve as an NCTSA state officer:

- I am committed to leading with passion and want to ensure every member has the best TSA experience possible.
- I want to elevate NCTSA's recognition on the national stage.

Ishaan Joshy

NCSSM-Morganton



Current Office

Director of Outreach

Bio

Your goal(s) for TSA as a state officer candidate:

- 1) Increase scholarships for top-achieving NCTSA members.
- 2) Create comprehensive Excel budgets for NCTSA growth.
- 3) Provide lower-cost registration fees for those in need through sponsorship outreach.

Your personal TSA goal:

To continue bonding with the STEM and mission-driven community I have fallen in love with.

Why you want to serve as a NCTSA State Officer:

I believe that no student should miss out on the NCTSA experience due to cost, and I am excited to make that a reality.

Spencer Joyce

Calton McMichael High School



Current Office

N/A

Bio

My goal for TSA as a state officer candidate is to help spread the influence of TSA to people who would not otherwise be involved. I love the opportunities for self discovery that TSA provides, and I think that everyone should have the privilege of being part of such a great STEM organization.

My personal TSA goal is to use TSA to test what STEM field I want to go into before I attend college. Currently, I am looking at going for an engineering degree, and am still narrowing down which field.

I want to serve as an NCTSA State Officer because I believe that I have the leadership skills necessary to use the position to make a real, positive difference in North Carolina TSA and the national stage.

Lucas Kalakore

NCSSM-Morganton



Current Office

Chapter Secretary

Bio

As a state officer candidate, my goals is to be completely transparent with my plans if elected, and to communicate with you, the members, as much as I can. Being a candidate for state office is not something to be taken lightly, and I want to embody that. My goals as a candidate align with my goals as a TSA member: to grow. Over the past few years, I've realized that TSA is not just about winning your events, but its about growing as a person and connecting with others. Being said, I want to be a NCTSA State Officer so I can help others join a community where they can experience growth. This would happen in two separate ways: Growing the existing side of NCTSA by planning more out of conference events for members, and externally by getting chapters in rural areas started, and helping them get the resources to compete. I hope you give me a chance as a State Officer and I am excited to see you all at states!

Deeksha Kanamarlapudi

Mills Park Middle School



Current Office

Chapter Secretary

Bio

My Goals for TSA as an Officer Candidate:

- Increase middle school involvement and ensure they have better resources
- Support new chapters by encouraging members, officers from other schools, and members of state office to get involved by attending in-person meetings at new chapters
- Organize more chapter and state bonding events like a dance, silent DJ, or Charades

My Personal Goal for TSA

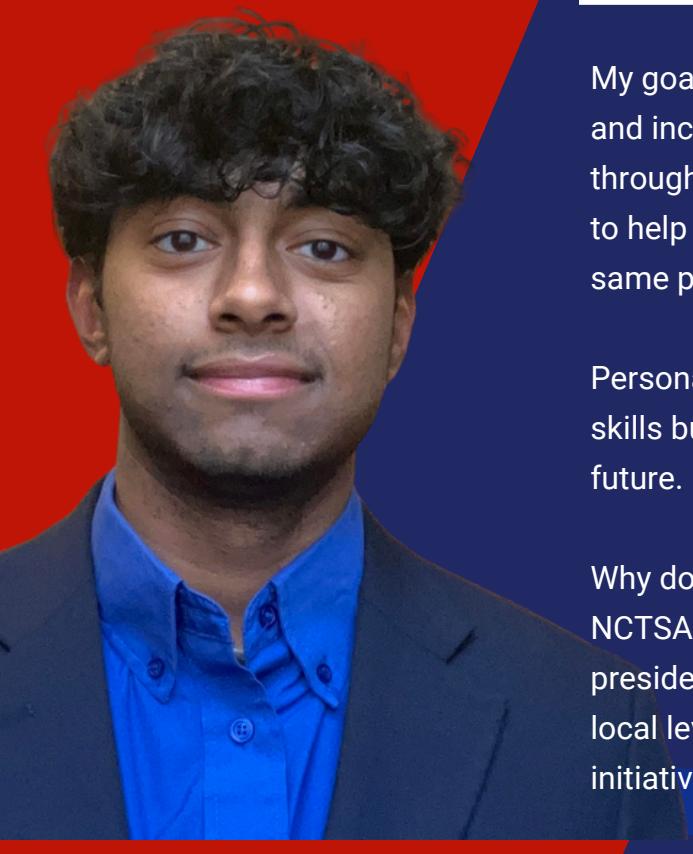
- Continue to develop strong leadership skills
- Build connections with fellow members, officers, and advisors
- Improve my competitive skills at TSA events at the regional, state, and national level
- Strengthen\
- my networking and refine my public speaking skills to ensure clear communication.

Why I want to serve as an NCTSA State Officer

- I would love to serve as an NCTSA State Officer so I can to give back to the club that has helped me gain confidence and make many new friends.
- I'm inspired by past officers who have helped me and want to support new chapters, making sure they have the guidance needed to succeed.
- Overall TSA has allowed me to explore unique topics and career paths. I want to make TSA more accessible and engaging, providing others with the same experience that I enjoy.

Muhilan Krishnan

NCSSM-Durham



Current Office

N/A

Bio

My goals as an Officer Candidate: I want to help expand the program and increase the industry connections and opportunities for students through more substantial career and college fairs. Additionally, I want to help connect students with more alumni who have walked the same path as them, and may be able to offer advice and guidance.

Personal TSA Goal: I want to grow as a person, not just in technical skills but also with soft skills through TSA, to prepare myself for the future.

Why do I want to serve as a State Officer? I want to serve as an NCTSA State Officer as I have already experienced being a chapter president and done all I can to expand TSA and grow its impact at a local level. I want to use the skills I have gained and expand that initiative to the State level.

Pranav Naresh

Mills Park Middle School



Current Office

N/A

Bio

Hi North Carolina TSA, I'm Pranav Naresh, and I am excited to introduce myself as a candidate for NCTSA State Office! I am currently an 8th grader at Mills Park Middle School. I've been a member of TSA for 2 years and have cherished the incredible experiences and opportunities it has given me. This year, I aim to expand membership and ensure all chapters have greater access to valuable resources. My goal this year is to develop new skills while inspiring and encouraging others to do the same. TSA has had a significant impact on my life, and I want to contribute to this amazing organization.

Jayti Patel

Apex Friendship High School



Current Office

State Secretary

Bio

Goals: My overall goals are to increase membership, especially in regions outside the central part of North Carolina. I also aim to visit chapters across the state to support their progress and make ACS a priority through statewide fundraising efforts.

Personal TSA Goals: I'll keep uploading helpful videos that explain exactly what needs to be done for different TSA events. I know getting started can be tough, so I want to make it easier for everyone by breaking down the steps and helping you all feel confident in what you need to submit.

Why I want to serve: I want to serve because I'm passionate about sharing my love for TSA with others. I plan to do this by making information easily accessible to all members and spreading awareness about TSA and its mission.

Lilian Redwine

Atkins High School



Current Office

State Middle School Vice President

Bio

Your goal(s) for TSA as a state officer candidate:

- Increase NCTSA focus and dedication to ACS fundraising and involvement
- Make updates and information more accessible to all members
- Make our conferences engaging and fun outside of competitive events
- Grow our membership, especially through involvement of the far Western North Carolina mountains area, our current smallest region

Your personal TSA goal: I want to give as much back to this organization that I can while working to perform as best I can in competition.

Why you want to serve as a NCTSA State Officer: I truly love and believe in TSA, so I want to use my experience to make NCTSA the very best it can be.

Dhruv Sakala

Panther Creek High School



Current Office

Chapter Vice President

Bio

Your goal(s) for TSA as a state officer candidate:

- Introduce more middle and high schools to TSA
- Smoothen the advisor experience
- Use social media to publicize deadlines effectively
- Facilitate more outreach on social media in general
- Help NCTSA lead a more organized front

Your personal TSA goal:

- Meet new people from different schools
- Compete and create networks with my teammates and my chapter
- Make a difference in TSA
- Create quality projects and win at conferences

Why you want to serve as a NCTSA State Officer:

- In TSA, I want to be where I can make the biggest difference, and the NCTSA State Officer Team gives me that chance
- I want to help form connections between more TSA chapters
- The position gives me the chance to meet new people, make new experiences, and get involved with more CTSOs

Megan Smith

Dalton McMichael High School



Current Office

N/A

Bio

My goal is to help spread “TSA” to other schools, and show how great TSA is, by showcasing TSA’s Leadership, teamwork and communication skills and how it helps lead students to becoming successful in their futures.

A personal goal of mine is to inspire other students to join TSA, and encourage them to give this organization a chance to show how it can overall improve their skills and help them find new passions.

I want to serve as a NCTSA State Officer, as throughout TSA I have gained valuable skills in leadership, communication, teamwork and much more. Along with finding new passions, I want to help others discover their passions and help them improve their skills. I am also determined to make a positive impact on TSA by encouraging more students and schools to join TSA.

Bailey Valle-Quintero

Corinth Holders High School



Current Office

Chapter Sergeant-At-Arms

Bio

My goal for my candidacy as a TSA state officer is to address the need for stronger engagement and accessibility and to encourage all members to take full advantage of what TSA has to offer. Many students may hesitate to compete, assume leadership roles, or participate due to feelings of uncertainty or a lack of confidence. My goal is to bridge that gap by enhancing communication, providing resources, and cultivating an inclusive environment where every member feels confident in stepping into new opportunities.

My goal in TSA is to challenge myself by attempting different events that I have not done before, such as coding and precision-based events. I want to challenge myself, engage in various activities, and expand my knowledge in both coding and creative endeavors. TSA has a great deal to offer in terms of development, and I want to make the most of it while motivating others to do the same. By aiming for something greater, I hope to encourage other members to push boundaries and unlock their potential in TSA.

My reasoning for wanting to serve as an NCTSA state officer is to give back to an organization that has played a significant role in my personal and academic growth. TSA has helped me develop my leadership abilities, critical thinking, and collaboration skills with others, and I want to ensure that every member has the same opportunity to grow. As a state officer, I aim to advocate for students, provide them with the necessary support to succeed and help create a TSA experience where all members feel valued, capable, and motivated to achieve their goals.

Yitian Yang

NCSSM-Durham



Current Office

State Reporter

Bio

My main goal for TSA should I be granted the honor of re-serving y'all as a State Officer would be to continue enhancing the TSA experience by developing our technology. TSA is an amazing organization, but throughout the years I've constantly seen the preliminary testing program fail, the pre-conference submission portal crashing, and countless other errors that could have been prevented with the proper technological infrastructure. My goal for the 2025 term will be to build that infrastructure. Just like how I built the NCTSA State Conference app that you are using to read my bio, I want to develop a new testing program, submission portal, and anything else to ensure I don't receive 15 emails from panicking students regarding their tests crashing or events not being properly registered.

I have 3 main personal goals: First, to maintain everything I have built. Improving the NCTSA State Conference app, adding more to the vault, and all the other responsibilities necessary to ensure my contributions can be used for many years into the future. Second, to enjoy the TSA experience by competing with my team and continuing to go to nationals. And second, to just have some fun, meet new people, and maybe get a second Germany pin. Because that's what TSA is about, those unbreakable bonds you form with that random kid you met in English class.

Why do I want to serve as a NCTSA State Officer - The past year serving as the NCTSA Reporter has been one of the best years of my life. Pitching TSA to CTE teachers, meeting with new chapters, and working with the officer team are all things I would die to experience again. But my last term just scratched the surface of what I want to achieve. I have projects left unfinished, dreams unpursued, and ideas half-baked. I want to spend my last year of high school leaving no regrets behind, and fulfilling all of my goals in TSA. I want to repay my debt of gratitude for what y'all have given me in the last 3 years, and I hope to one day step down from the NCTSA stage, proud of myself for 4 years of service.