

Notes from the Director

LifeSmarts Alumni Advisory Board Update, January 12, 2023

Dear Alumni,

Happy New Year! I hope that 2023 is off to a great start. We are 106 days away from the kick-off to the National LifeSmarts Championship. We hope you are as excited as we are, and plan to join us in Cincinnati, OH, April 28-30. Please share the <u>volunteer save-the-date</u> with your contacts.

Program Updates

- 1. Ten Norton Wild Card team bids were awarded in mid-December and coaches report a very high level of excitement among their team members, their entire schools, and their communities. Teams are working with LifeSmarts staff to dive into LifeSmarts resources and competition prep, and plan their travel. Successful applicants came from across the country, from Title 1 schools in big cities and small towns, and from other organizations such as alternative schools and 4-H programs. LifeSmarts thanks Norton for the sponsorship that will cover travel expenses for these 10 teams to facilitate their participation at the National LifeSmarts Championship in April.
- Successful Norton Wild Card team from in a short video
- State competitions kick-off later this month with North Dakota leading the country and hosting their in-person event in Bismarck on January 25. Many more to come in the next 10 weeks!
- 3. In January, the focus is on the environment and teams are encouraged to take the 100-question TeamSmarts quiz to showcase their knowledge in this area.

Please reach out if I can answer any questions for you. Talk with you soon!

Best regards,

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