KEY CLUB

To: Capital District of Kiwanis Board of Officers
From: Kristina Dlugozima, Key Club District Administrator, Capital District
Date: November 18, 2023
Subject: Capital District of Key Club Update

Fall Rally
Fall Rally was held October 21st at Kings Dominion in Doswell, VA for the first time since the pandemic. Over 300 Key Clubbers and advisors registered which is a record for any recent year including pre-pandemic. Capital Key Club District Board members planned and executed the event including preparing presentations, interactive activities, securing a speaker on conservation from the Virginia Department of Forestry as a tie-in to our district project, and much more. A special thank you to Jenn Hiscock (Mount Airy) as the adult lead on planning and executing Fall Rally and Nicole McDermott (Tysons), Ginny Grant (Winchester), Jeannette Ogilvie (Lynchburg/Next Gen), Cory Fore (Fredericksburg/Next Gen) and Mic Platt (Greater Hilton) for chaperoning this event with me.

Membership
The Capital District of Key Club ended the 22-23 year with 11,380 members in 218 clubs across the Capital District. This was an 11% increase over prior year and beat our goal of 10% growth this year. We chartered 6 new clubs and reactivated over 16 clubs. As of 11/18 at the start of the Key Club dues cycle, the Capital District of Key Club has 2,864 dues paid members in 53 dues paid clubs. With the regular dues deadline of Dec 1st, we expect this number to exponentially increase through the remainder of 2023 and into the beginning of January. At our last District Board meeting, the board voted on a goal of a 7% membership increase over prior year. Membership will continue to be a focus with a look towards how the District Board can support clubs in their recruitment efforts and charter efforts. If you are aware of any possible charters in your area, please reach out to me and your local zone administrator.

Re-divisioning
Like Kiwanis did for October 1st, Key Club is looking to re-division for the start of the next Key Club year. A proposal is being voted on this weekend by the Key Club board and will be presented to the Kiwanis District Board for ratification at this meeting. The adult committee put together the proposal with the general guidelines of following the new Kiwanis divisions as possible and have between 6 and 12 clubs per division. While we did end up with 2 divisions that will start with 5 clubs, we were able to bring the number of divisions from 37 to 28 and create more robust and active divisions. If divisions grow beyond 12 clubs, we will access annually to split them and if divisions grow less than 5 clubs, we will access whether to merge with a neighboring division. With this reduction in divisions comes cost savings as well as an opportunity to have new leadership opportunities for members as committee chairs or otherwise.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusiveness, and Belonging

This year, Governor Erina has chosen to focus on DEIB (Diversity, Equity, Inclusiveness and Belonging) initiatives as her Governors Project. In addition to asking Key Clubs to participate in DEIB projects and programs, the District Board will be doing a variety of things to be more inclusive including DEIB training for our students and adults, looking at where language translation services make sense, incorporating club members onto district committees and other initiatives. This past Monday, the District Board and adult committee completed our second virtual DEIB training lead by a DEIB educator and leader, Mr. Prince Botchway. Through both of our trainings, students and adults learned ways in which we may be biased and ways to counteract these biases amongst other things. We are excited to continue this work at our District Convention.

2023-24 Priorities/District Convention

As we have completed our re-divisioning efforts, we will move into the strategic planning priority as well as planning for our District Convention. Last year, we made several substantial changes to District Convention in an effort to make it more valuable to our attendees and we plan to continue to do so this year. This year the convention is a little later than usual due to the holiday and spring break schedule as well as hotel availability and will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City,VA from April 12-14th. Our theme this year will be Service Rocks! (a music theme) and special thanks to Immediate Past Governor Jen Wolff (Tysons) for designing our logo as usual. More information will be coming soon!

Please feel free to reach out to me at any time at kmsd512@gmail.com or 703-868-6224.

Yours in Service,
Kristina Dlugozima
Capital District Key Club Administrator

CAPITAL DISTRICT