## NEWSLETTER

NSSLHA



## APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH!

- Autism is also known as autism spectrum disorder (ASD). People with autism have challenges with communication and social skills. They also have repetitive behaviors or restricted interests.
- Approximately 1 in 36 children in the U.S. is diagnosed with ASD.
- Early intervention can improve learning, communication and social skills, as well as underlying brain development.
- Nearly two-thirds of children with autism between the ages of 6 and 15 have been bullied.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP RAISE AWARENESS?

- Educate yourself! Awareness starts with each person taking responsibility for themselves. Do your part to understand more about what autism is and how you can interact more effectively with individuals with autism.
- Be an advocate! Stand up for children and adults with autism. Ensure that individuals with special needs feel welcomed and valued where you work and are treated with respect just like everyone else.

## WHATS INSIDE THE ISSUE?

- Officer Spotlight
- Announcements

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## OFFICER SPOTLIGHT KALIANNA BROOKS



#### Tell us about yourself!

• My name is Kalianna Brooks and I'm the president of NSSLHA for 2022-2023. I'm from Clintwood Virginia- a very small town about 3 hours from Radford!

#### What did you enjoy most about being the president of NSSLHA?

• Planning and participating in all of the events throughout the year has been my favorite thing about being president.

## What is your advice to the upcoming president or anyone considering applying for the position?

• Applications to be next year's president will be sent out in April! I encourage anyone who is interested to apply! (Or apply to be an officer in the fall!) Don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone and try something new, plus extracurriculars look great on grad school applications!

#### What are your plans post graduation?

• After graduation I will be attending graduate school, but I am still deciding between 2 of my options!

# April Announcements

#### **Banquet**

Thursday, April 6th

• 7-9pm at Bisset Park Shelter 2





### **Your Next Step**

Tuesday, April 11th

• 7pm

#### Ice Cream Sundae Bar

Monday, April 17th

• 7pm





**T-shirt Tie Die** 

Tuesday, April 25th

• 6pm