

# FIRST MEETING GUIDE



## ARE YOU READY FOR A BRAND NEW SCHOOL YEAR? WE SURE ARE!

Use this guide at your first SADD meeting to not only get your new members acquainted with what SADD is all about, but to refresh veteran members on the importance of this organization in schools today! Not to mention, your chapter can use this guide to plan upcoming school year activities.

## **STEP 1** DISCUSS THE ROLE OF A SADD CHAPTER

ASK YOUR STUDENTS WHAT THEY THINK THE ROLE OF A SADD CHAPTER IS WITHIN A SCHOOL/COMMUNITY AND HAVE A STUDENT WRITE THEM DOWN ON THE BOARD. HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES THAT YOU CAN INCLUDE:

- Support system for students
- Liaison between the school and the community
- Example of positive leadership for students
- Spread awareness about SADD related topics: substance abuse, traffic safety and mental health



# STEP 2 STARTED FROM THE BOTTOM, NOW WE'RE HERE

NEXT, IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND ALL OF THE PIECES TO THE PUZZLE IN TERMS OF SADD NATION, NORTHERN LIGHTS YOUTH SERVICES AND NORTHERN LIGHTS SADD.



SADD was formed in the Boston, MA area in 1981. Known initially as Students Against Driving Drunk, SADD expanded its mission and changed its name in 1997 to Students Against Destructive Decisions. Our core issues include underage drinking, tobacco and other drug use, traffic safety, suicide, violence, and more.

Northern Lights Youth Services, Inc., is a 501c3 nonprofit corporation headquartered in Hillsboro, ND. NLYS was formed in 2003 with the primary task of providing oversight to the Northern Lights SADD program in the Dakotas and Minnesota, but its mission goes further than that. The mission statement of NLYS is “to lead in the development and support of positive youth development”, and its vision is “youth realizing their potential.”



## AFTER...

have the group read through the Northern Lights SADD Constitution, written by the 2015-2016 Northern Lights Advisory Board, the collection of students who have gone through an application process and elected by their peers to serve as the youth voice for Northern Lights. (This could also be an opportunity for you to challenge your students to take their leadership in this organization to the next level!) Ask your students, based on this document, how does that mean we should treat one another? How should we treat our peers? How should we treat our community? Hang up a copy of the NL SADD Constitution in your meeting space so that your students and you can stay focused on your vision! Here is a link to the Constitution: <http://nlsadd.eclipticcms.com/files/pdf/Constitution.pdf>



# GOING OVER THE EVENT CALENDAR & **STEP 3** PLANNING YOUR YEAR

**TAKE A LOOK AT THE SADD NATION PROGRAMMING CALENDAR FOR THE YEAR AND THINK ABOUT THE DIFFERENT AWARENESS WEEKS AND UNIFIED PROGRAMMING THAT YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CHAPTER TO PARTICIPATE IN!**

## **ALSO...**

Also, keep in mind Walk the Walk (November 13th) and SADD Cares (February 6-10th during SADD Shines Week) and take a look at the planning guides found on the Resources tab at [nlsadd.com](http://nlsadd.com) and include them on your list. They are listed under “advisor information”, password: NLadvisor15. Use the next few pages to write down what you would like to accomplish over the coming school year!

## **SEPTEMBER:**

## **OCTOBER:**



**NOVEMBER:**

**DECEMBER:**

**JANUARY:**

**FEBRUARY:**



**MARCH:**

**APRIL:**

**MAY:**



## STEP 4 STAY CONNECTED

**MAKE SURE TO GET CONTACT INFORMATION FROM YOUR MEMBERS SO THAT YOU CAN STAY IN TOUCH!**

Northern Lights is starting a STUDENT E-MAIL LIST, so please submit your chapter officer/leadership list with E-mail addresses to us so that we can streamline information going to the students. Topics in these E-mails will include how to talk to peers about tough situations, increasing numbers in your SADD chapter, and opportunities for students to take their leadership in the organization to another level!

### NEXT...

register your chapter with SADD Nation! By registering you will have easy access to all of SADD's programming and receive special benefits for being a registered chapter:  
[http://www.sadd.org/get-involved/join-the-movement/chapter-reg/?utm\\_source=SADD+Nation&utm\\_campaign=eadc0ae690-Network\\_News\\_07\\_18\\_2016\\_7\\_16\\_2016&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_bb3510137c-eadc0ae690-168865433](http://www.sadd.org/get-involved/join-the-movement/chapter-reg/?utm_source=SADD+Nation&utm_campaign=eadc0ae690-Network_News_07_18_2016_7_16_2016&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_bb3510137c-eadc0ae690-168865433)



**USE #SADD16 AND #SADD17 TO GAIN FOLLOWERS, CONNECT WITH SADD FAM ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND PROMOTE YOUR EXCELLENT WORK!**