From: Chairman Texas Boys State < <u>chairman@texasboysstate.com</u>>

Sent: Sunday, August 27, 2023 2:42 PM

To: Chairman Texas Boys State < chairman@texasboysstate.com>

Subject: Update #1 | 2024 Texas Boys State | 27 AUG 2023

Hello Legion Friends –

Below please find **Update #1** for **Texas Boys State 2024**.

Please share everywhere, along with attachments.

Remember one of the attachments (**attachment #4 in this note**) is always the updates (in PDF form), for ease in access to the links and the messages, as things get forwarded.

In no particular order:

- 1. **Thank you**, in advance, for all you will do for the 2024 program. You are key to success.
- 2. As always, **quality** remains most important.

 Thank you for selecting the very best, of the very best, for this life-changing week.
- 3. To get you <u>fired-up</u> as you start to think about 2024, please see the attachments. Your program has <u>unbelievable impact</u>.
 - a. Report from your Texas Senators about their Boys Nation experience (attachment #1)...
 - "Attending Boys Nation was like diving into a pool of overachieving and hyperactive piranhas."
 - "It was apparent that just artificial networking or asking people to vote for you with the shake of a hand wasn't going to cut it . . . instead, true connection had to be made, and that was the first "jolt" for me."
 - b. Some powerful post-program thoughts from 2023 Statesmen (attachment #2) . . .
 - "Imagine 30, 17-year-old strangers, gathered in a room charged with the task to agree on hot topics like immigration, abortion, and gun laws."
 - "Boys State
 - ... was one of the best experiences of my life
 - . . . that will stick with me
 - . . . and shape who I am for the rest of my life."

- "As a 6'3, 2-year varsity offensive lineman,
 I am not intimidated by face-to-face showdowns,
 but I was quiet." (see attached for more of this story).
- c. Article from Governor TG Barwa on his experience (attachment #3)
 - ... "The crowd erupted in cheers as friends I had made over the week celebrated with me,

making me feel as though I had known them for years."

- d. "The constant exposure to differing viewpoints compelled us to step out of our comfort zones and engage in constructive conversations with others who held opposing beliefs."
- e. And look at the fantastic picture with TXBS Governor Barwa at the end of the article (Governor Barwa with Lieutenant General Stuart Risch, graduation speaker).
- 1. Please click below to see the **2023 yearbook**.

is too large to send via email.

- a. Thank you to counselor Jim Bynum for assembling that top-shelf document.
- b. Thank you to counselor Matthew Hartmann for the exceptional photos!
- c. Click here: 2023 TXBS Yearbook
- 1. Tentative dates for 2024 Texas Boys State is 9-14 June 2024.
- 1. If you wish to receive email updates regarding TXBS 2024, please complete the attached 3-question form at this link: <u>Distro List 2024 Link</u>

We will share more as we fire up our systems in the coming months.

Cheers!

Your TXBS Executive Committee

Casey Z. Thomas

Chairman | American Legion Texas Boys State

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