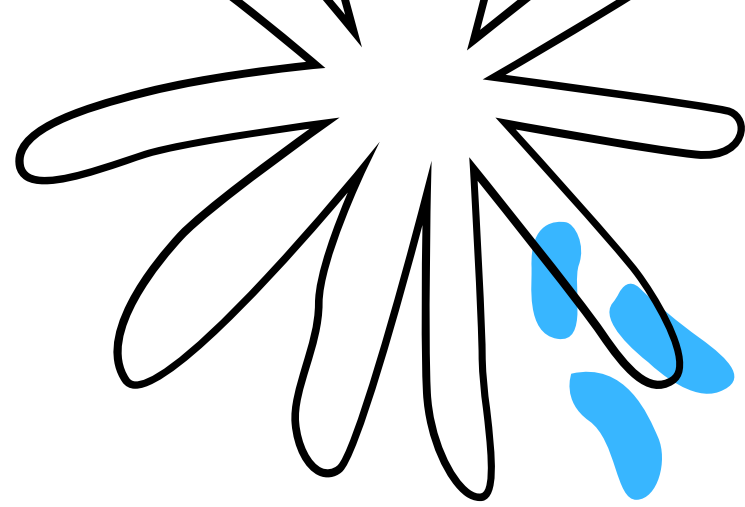




# STARTING & SUSTAINING CHAPTERS NHHSD



# Membership Structure



## HSDA

"High School Democrats of America (HSDA) is a national political organization that serves as an entry point to Democratic politics for youth activists from across the country"

## NHHSD

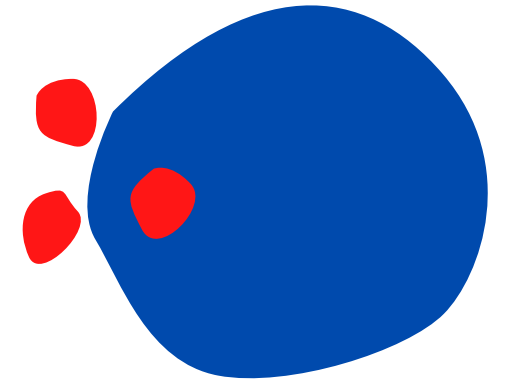
"New Hampshire High School Democrats (NHHSD) is a political organization that serves as an entry point for high school students across the state to get involved with Democratic politics"

## NH CHAPTER

A local group of high school students, joined either by a school district or close geographic proximity, who work together under both the NHHSD and HSDA to directly organize within their community



# Before Starting a Chapter...



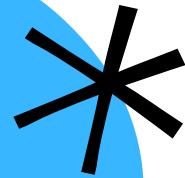
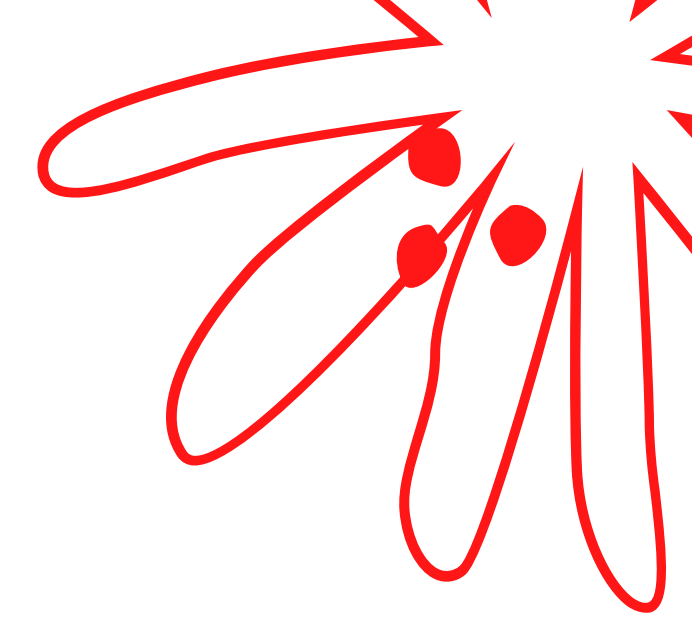
## REGISTER

Join over 15,000 others and register as a member of the HSDA [here](#); select "No, I'm not part of a local chapter". Membership allows you to vote in organization elections and receive important informational newsletters.

## CONTACT US

Visit the NHHSD website [here](#) and find the contact information of our current expansion director. While starting a chapter usually occurs at a community level, the NHHSD Executive Board will serve as a great resource.

# STARTING A CHAPTER



## STUDENT INTEREST

A chapter is only as strong as its members. If many students at your school show interest in democratic politics, a school-affiliated chapter is a great option. If there is little interest, try reaching out to other students from other schools to build a community chapter.

## ADMIN APPROVAL

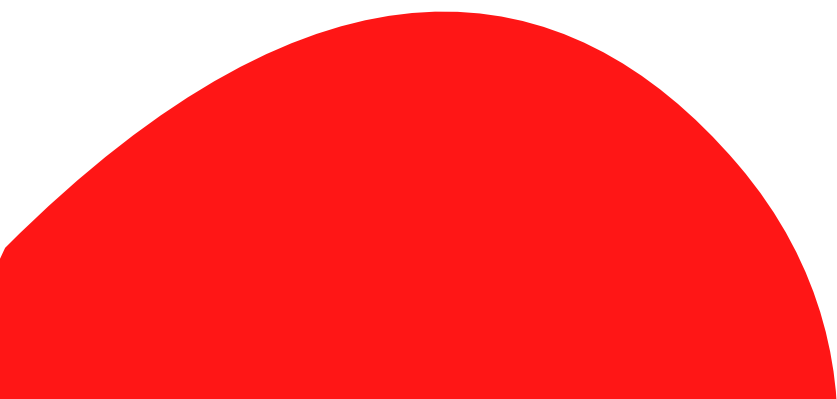
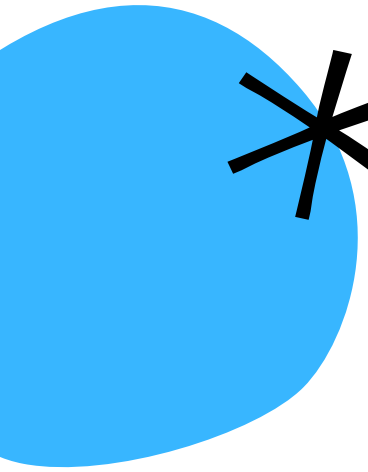
For school-affiliated chapters, it is important to go through your district's due process to establish a club. This usually entails reaching out to an administrator and filling out paperwork with your advisor.

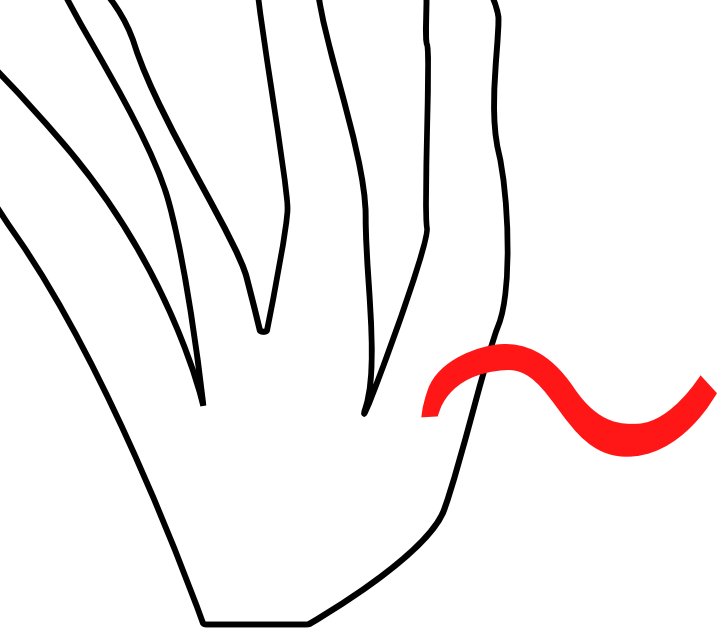
## ADVISOR

Every successful chapter needs an advisor (someone 18+) to lend a hand. For school-affiliated chapters, this is usually a teacher. For community chapters, this can be a parent, friend, or even a local politician.

## REGISTRATION

Once your chapter has been approved/established, make it official by filling [this](#) HSDA form.





# The First Step of Chapter Growth is Building a Brand

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## Building a Brand To-Do List

- Create a Group Email
- Google Drive
- Construct a Branding Materials Sheet
- Establish a Social Media Presence
- Organize with Linktree
- Bask in the Glory of a Cohesive Brand

### Tips

- Keep track of all your passwords and accounts in one place for future generations of your chapter
- Organize older projects in folders by year
- Use business accounts on social media when possible, they provide greater insight on reach and engagement

**NHHSD**





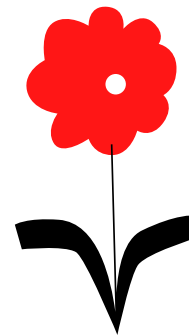
# Get Your Name Out



Word-of-Mouth



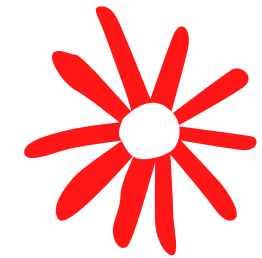
Social Media



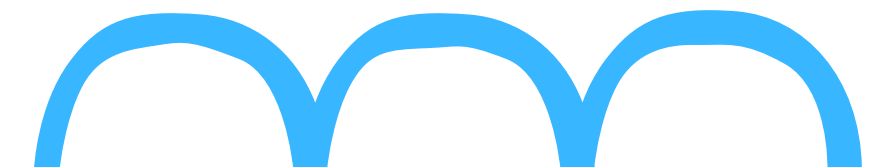
Intercom



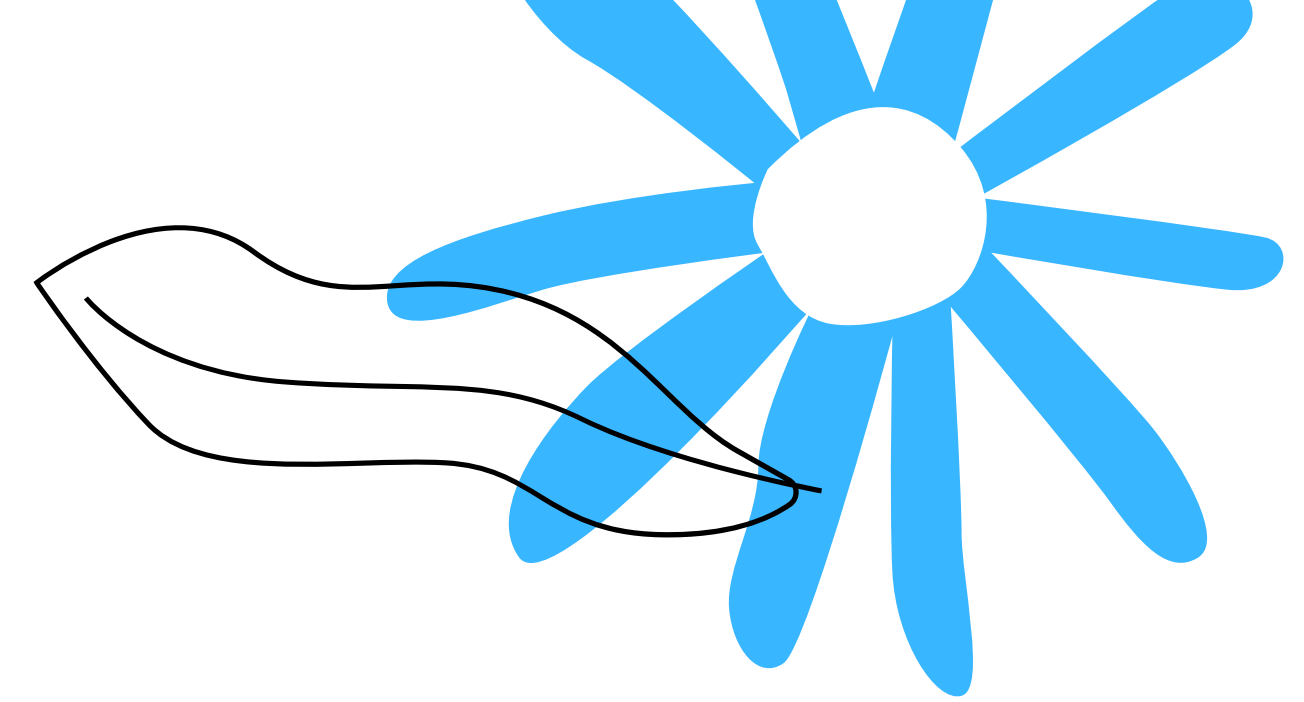
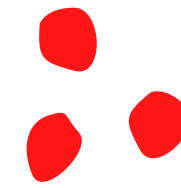
Flyers



Club Fair



# YOUR FIRST MEETING



## BREAK THE ICE

Get to know your members and what drew them to democratic politics with a discussion or group bonding activity. If your chapter feels like a friend group, members are likely to keep returning.

## SET SOME GOALS

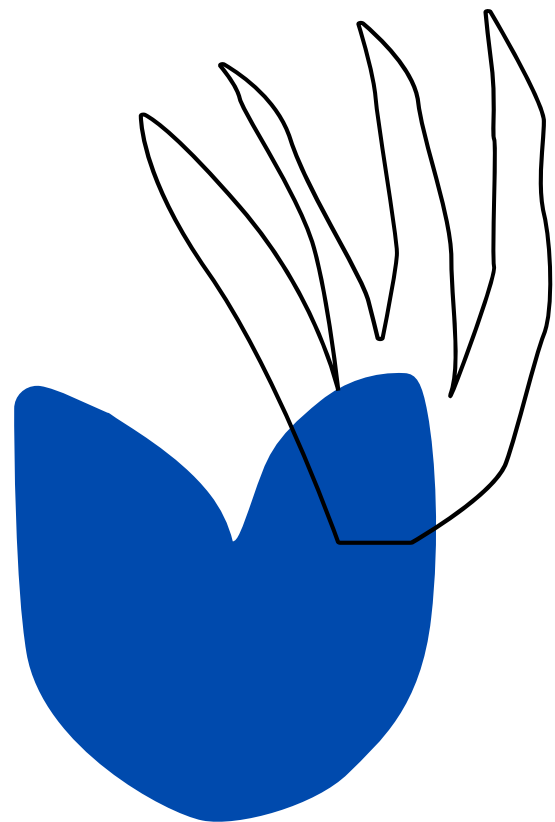
After identifying why each member is a democrat, shape some goals for the rest of the year that your chapter will be invested in. This can be issue-specific (ie climate change, abortion) or more general (ie fundraising, chapter growth).

## ESTABLISH A TIME

Schedule a regular time to meet for the rest of the year. Consistency is key to sustainability.

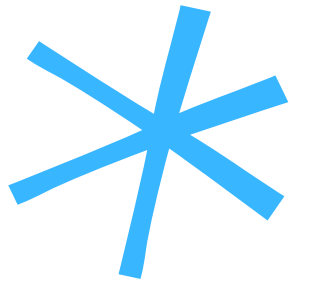
## LEADERSHIP

While executive structure of a chapter is up to the discretion of its members, NHHSD recommends (at the very least) an elected chapter leader to connect with the E-board and lead meetings.



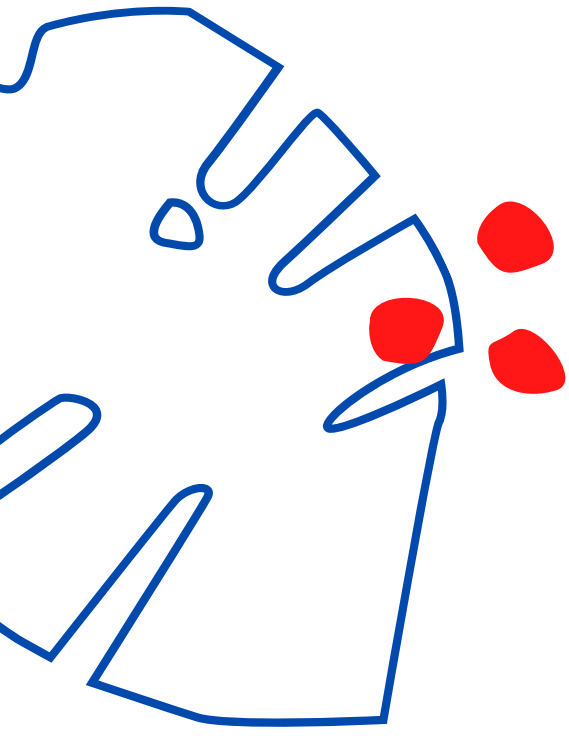


# Legislative Liaison



In addition to local chapter leadership, the NHHSD also requests a volunteer legislative liaison from each chapter to join our advocacy director in preparing testimony on NH bills on behalf of the NHHSD.





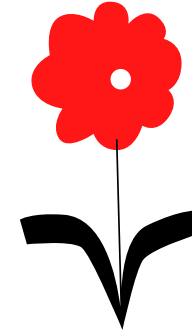
# Meeting Ideas



Discussion/  
Debate



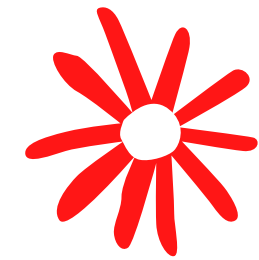
Informative  
Presentation



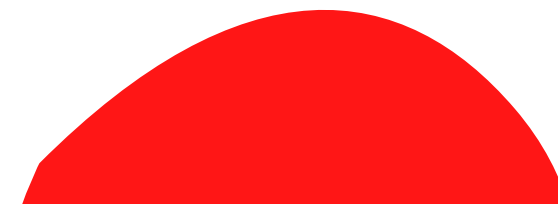
Guest Speaker



Phone Banking/  
Letter Writing



Fun Meeting

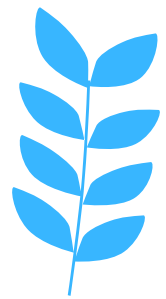




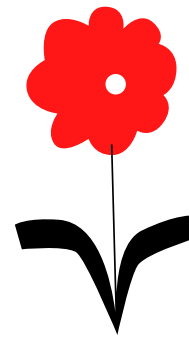
# Project Ideas



Item Drive



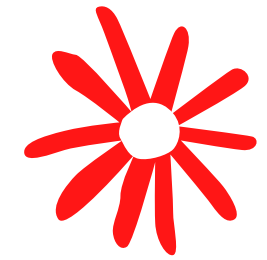
PSA Campaign



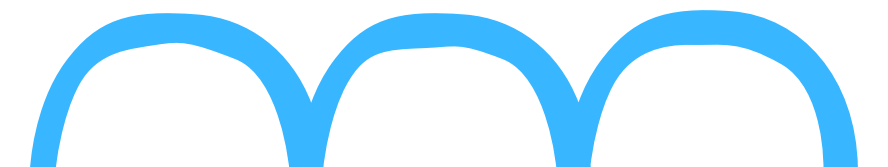
Rally



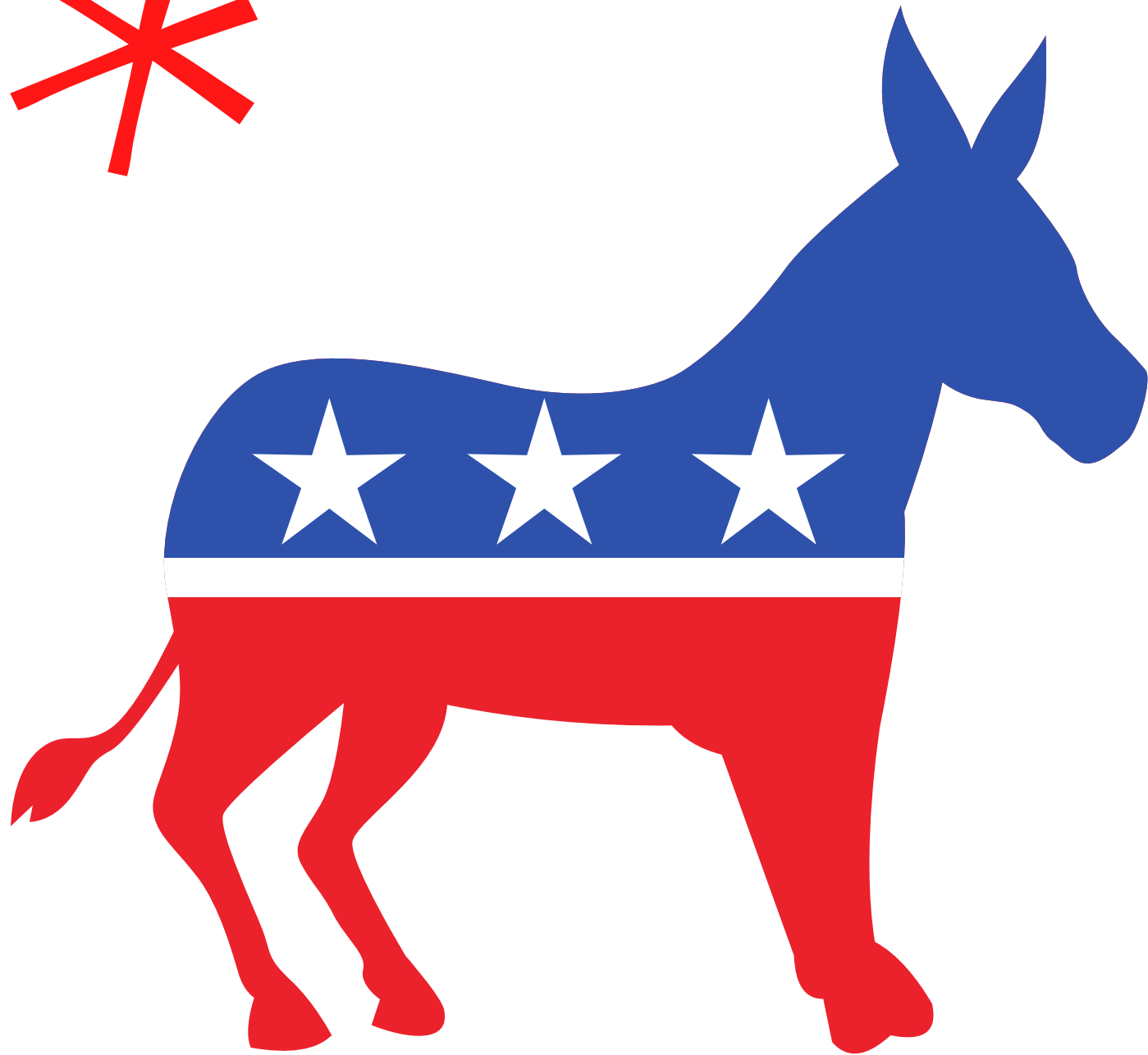
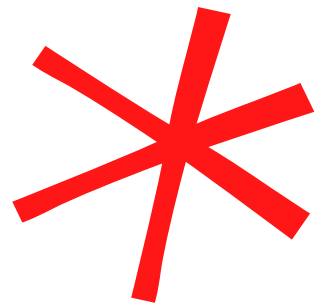
Informational  
Event



Campaign  
Internship



# Extra Tips



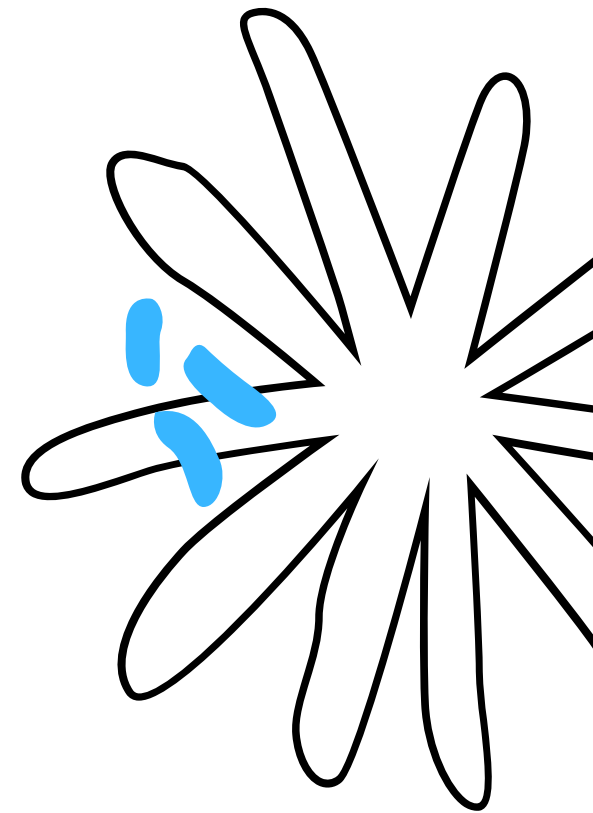
- Struggling with membership? Food at a meeting (ie a pizza party) is a great way to bribe new members to join

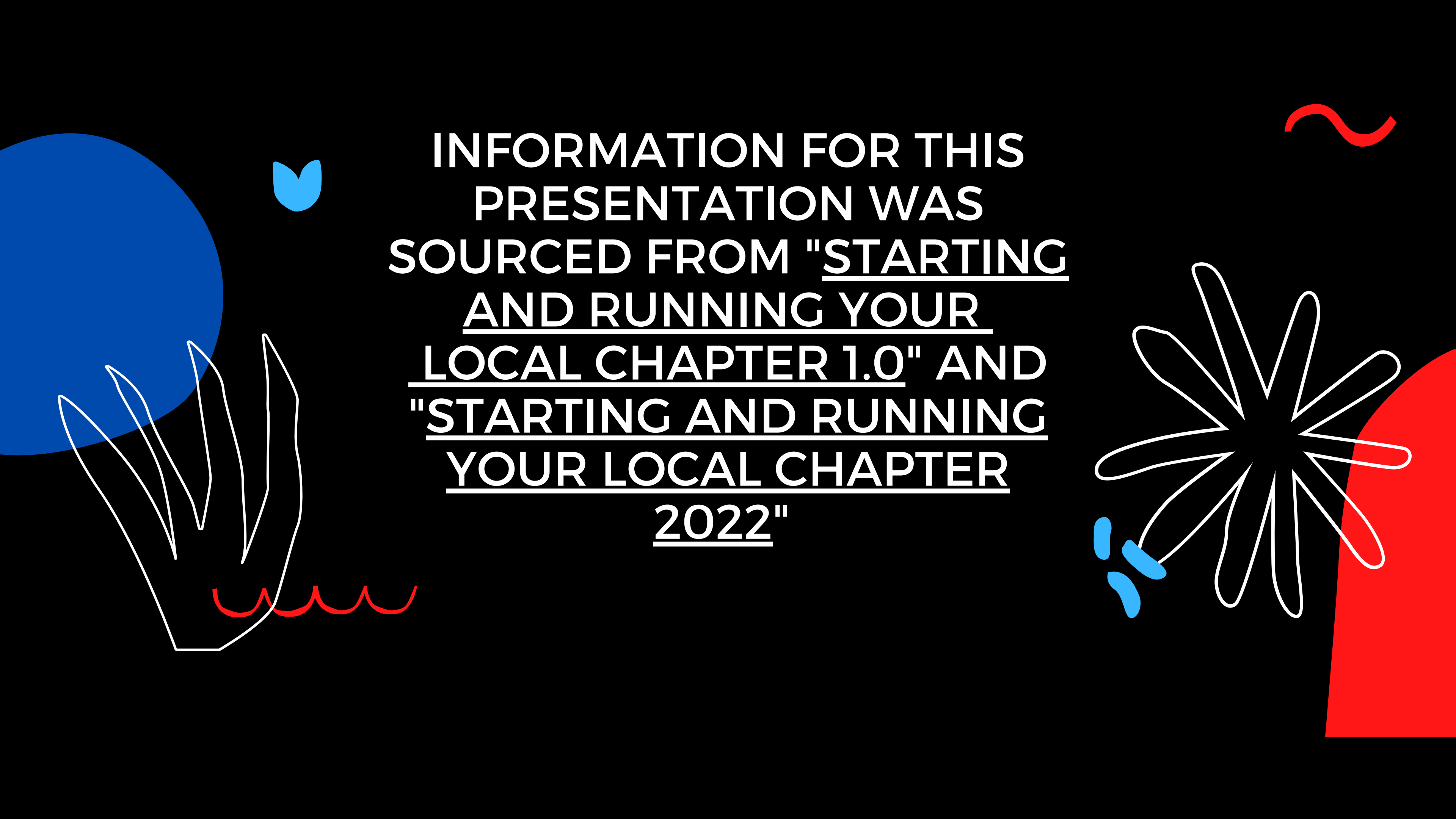
- Need a last-minute idea for a meeting? Plan a viewing party of one of the NHHSD training videos available on our website

- Is admin against a political club? Point them to the Equal Rights Act, which denies public schools the right to oppress politics in limited open forum

- Not enough people in your community to start a chapter? Contact our expansion director to join a virtual one

- Need more info? Read the HSDA's official 2022 guide to starting and running chapters [here](#)





INFORMATION FOR THIS  
PRESENTATION WAS  
SOURCED FROM "STARTING  
AND RUNNING YOUR  
LOCAL CHAPTER 1.0" AND  
"STARTING AND RUNNING  
YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER  
2022"