

Dear Commander Nestler,

6-22-2026

Thank you so much for your support through this process and your well wishes! I returned home from Girl's State about a week and a half ago. I had the best time, and I am very grateful I had the opportunity to attend. Below is a summary of my experience for you to share with your members if you'd like, and attached are some photos. Thank you so much again!

Summary:

During my time at Girls State, I was elected to the position of Fire Chief of my city. Along with my roommate, who was my Assistant Fire Chief, we woke up the other 28 girls in our city every morning. This was definitely a highlight of the week because we got to go door to door singing our hearts out to pop music as early as 5 o'clock in the morning. It was such a fun way to start the day and allowed us to really connect with and get to know all the girls in our hall. I personally think we were part of the reason why our city won the spirit award, because we really got everyone excited for the day.

I was also appointed to the position of Secretary of my political party. I had a lot of fun with this role because I got to see some of the behind the scenes action of Girls State while working closely with our advisors. It also gave me the chance to connect with over 150 new girls and hear everyone's ideas about the values (and mascot) our party should have.

In addition to these positions, I also served as a Senator. This was likely the most challenging role because it required me to do a lot of research in order to understand and fairly evaluate everyone's bills. It also challenged me to keep an open mind and consider different perspectives. At the same time, it was extremely rewarding because I was able to present and defend my own bill on local park preservation, which ultimately passed in the Senate.

While I learned so much through these leadership roles, the best part of Girls State was definitely the friendships. It was so inspiring to be surrounded by ambitious, like-minded girls who all wanted to support one another and make the world a better place. I connected with people I probably never would have met outside of this program, and I have even gotten together with some of them since returning home.

I am so blessed to have had this experience and all of the opportunities that came with it. The friendships, memories, and lessons I gained will stay with me for a long time, and I will definitely be recommending Girls State to my younger friends.

Wendy





