

Welcome to the 13th annual Greater Cincinnati High School Leadership & Ethics Seminar – we are thrilled you're here!

The purpose of this seminar is to provide you with an opportunity to better understand how to improve your leadership abilities by identifying and using your personal values to make ethically based decisions under difficult circumstances. This is a key component of becoming a Leader of Character in your schools and communities. This seminar is the first part of a broader leadership development program in which you now have the opportunity to participate.

We are excited to kick off today's seminar with a fantastic speaker: **Major General Mark C. Quander** is the Commander and Division Engineer Great Lakes and Ohio River Division. MG Quander is the former Commandant of Cadets at U.S. Military Academy as well as a West Point graduate. MG Quander has served his country as an Army Engineer officer for 30 years.

Today, you will have the opportunity to work in small groups with new participants, past participants, and ROTC cadets from Xavier University who have been recognized for their leadership in their schools and communities. Each of these individuals will offer their perspective on how ethical leadership principles have helped them succeed.

We hope you gain valuable insights from today's presentations and discussions with your peers. However, we also recognize that even the best one-day seminar cannot fully develop your ethical decision-making skills. Building these skills requires practice and reinforcement. That's why we are continuing our mentoring program this year for seminar participants. Mentoring packets and instructions are available in this packet and on our website to help you continue your journey toward becoming a capable and recognized leader.

We have also established a competitive scholarship program eligible to all seminar attendees. These scholarships are independent of where you choose to attend college and are open to both sophomores and juniors. To qualify for these scholarships, you must 1) schedule and complete a mentoring program with a mentor of your choice, and 2) submit prompted essays in November. For the mentoring program, student participants are required to set up a one-hour meeting each month during the school year with their faculty mentor to continue the dialogue and training you receive today. Finalists will be asked to attend next year's seminar and be an assistant facilitator in the breakout groups that you will be part of today. So, pay attention – you might help facilitate these groups next year!

This event is not possible without the support of other *Leaders of Character* in the community. Special thanks for the contributions from our featured sponsors The Heidt Family Foundation, GE Aerospace, Johnson and Johnson, RWI, Taft Law, Xavier University ROTC, and the West Point Society.

If you have any questions during or after this seminar, please contact us at info@wpscincinnati.com or via our website at www.WPSCincinnati.com. Have a great day and thank you for your participation!

Stephanie Markich

Stephanie Markich USMA '99President, West Point Society of Cincinnati