

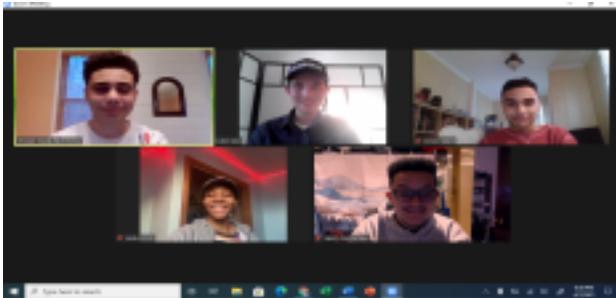
New Haven County High School Democrats (HSDems) - Press Release
Submitted by: HSDems Executive Board

It seems like the 2020 General Election was just yesterday. All boots were on the ground and the work got done and the rest is history.

Well not quite. The reality is that in the next four (4) years we have to work even harder to fight for our democracy, campaign tirelessly for our Democrat Party candidates, and fight to protect our Voting Rights.

Also in 2020, a little more than a year ago, our founding members **Sebastian Ward** and **Natalie Semmel** of the New Haven County High School Democrats (HSDems) chapter were invited to emcee the inauguration of the City of New Haven's Mayor Justin Elicker. Mayor Elicker gave a "shout out" to Sebastian and Natalie and the HSDems in his speech. He stated that they were not the future leaders but they are here to lead today. See the article here <https://www.newhavenindependent.org/index.php/archives/entry/inauguration/#.Xg34EhXWlrg.w.ordpress>.

Sebastian (senior) and Natalie (graduated) have now left the leadership reins in the very capable hands of HSDems' new leadership team which includes **Luke Izzo**, Chair, **Tristan Ward**, and **Laila Smith** Vice-Chairs, **Jonas Ward**, Programs Director, and **Henry Fernandez IV**, Communications Director. The current members of the HSDems' Executive Board are high school students from New Haven Public Schools.



HSDems is launching a new membership Drive in April and May 2021. The leadership team is confident that their efforts will be well received because many students are eager to be involved in direct action organizations and help to make a collective difference in our country. You may sign up here ([Chapter Membership Form](#)).

HSDems' virtual **Open House events are scheduled for Wednesday, April 21st and April 28th from 6:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.**, and all New Haven County High School students are welcomed.

On May 19th from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., HSDem will host an Open House, specifically for New Haven County rising 9th graders to learn more about HSDems, its mission, goals, and strategic plans for 2021 and beyond.

You may register here ([Open House Form](#)) to attend the HSDems Open House and you may visit the HSDems website <https://newhavenhsda.carrd.co/> for more information.

Put simply, HSDems are determined to educate, empower, engage, register, and mobilize as many high school students in New Haven County as possible, because *every* vote counts!