



For Immediate Release

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Department of Veterans Services Visits Buckeye Boys State

COLUMBUS – The Director of the Ohio Department of Veterans Services got to offer some pointers to his counterpart at Buckeye Boys State during a visit to the nine-day program at Bowling Green State University.

Director Thomas N. Moe and Assistant Director Jason Dominguez visited the youth in government program last week with Gov. John Kasich. Buckeye Boys State, sponsored by the Ohio American Legion, provides a hands-on experience in democratic government for selected high school junior boys each year. The program teaches the structure of state and local government, the organization and role of political parties, and their relationship to each other in shaping Ohio government. All students participate as office holders or agency officials.

“Buckeye Boys State is a fantastic opportunity to learn the nuts and bolts of government by living and working in it,” Director Moe said. “It’s a great foundation for future service, and teaches anybody who’s been there to be a better informed and active citizen.”

Director Moe met with Hayden Stone, of Eastwood High School in Luckey, who was appointed as the department’s director at Buckeye Boys State. Director Moe spoke with Hayden about the mission of identifying veterans and connecting them to the benefits they have earned, and of working with a network of 88 independent county veterans service offices to accomplish that goal. He also offered insights on being a part of the Governor’s Cabinet and coordinating with other state agencies.

“I definitely enjoyed meeting Hayden, he’s an impressive young man,” Director Moe said. “I wish him the best of luck as he pursues a career as a railroad engineer.”

Buckeye Boys State has been in operation since 1936. Alumni include the first man on the moon, Neil Armstrong, and the late Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, Thomas Moyer. The program is part of a national network of Boys State programs sponsored by the American Legion. The Legion also sponsors Buckeye Girls State, an identical annual program for selected high school junior girls.

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