

## KDS Student Attends Boys State

Alabama Boys State is one of the highest honors granted to Alabama high school students. Students from across the state are chosen based on their demonstration of leadership, hard work, strong morals, and motivation in school and community activities. Boys State consists of a full and active week of activities, held on the campus of The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

Senior RJ Myers was chosen to represent KDS at the 2019 Alabama Boys State.

"They split us into groups which were cities. We voted on our city mayor, city council members, house of representatives, and the senate. Within our cities, we had various discussions about a variety of subjects and their impact on today's politics," said RJ.

Delegates also have the opportunity to join interest groups that focus on their individual areas of interest such as law school, fire college, law enforcement academy, aerospace academy, lobbyists, city government, county government, constitutional convention, engineer/computer academy, and environmental interest group. Delegates also have activity time during which they can participate in recreational activities such as basketball, volleyball, softball, soccer, academic bowl, etc.

"We were divided into interest groups to learn more about possible career choices and I chose the engineering interest group. We were able to see the 3D printer lab and observe the 3D printed cast of Kenyan Drake (UA football player), meet the Engineering Dean as well as the head of the 3D lab," RJ said.



*KDS Senior RJ Myers with one of the new friends he made at Alabama Boys State at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.*



*The attendees at Boys State participated in a number of activities including an Honor Guard ceremony.*

He stated, "One of the days we participated in a community service project where we made a gravel path for people working at an emergency hotline center. It was very rewarding," he said.

RJ was able to attend Boys State through the generous support of the DAR.

RJ added, "Thank you so much for the opportunity to attend Boys State. It was a life-changing experience."