

ASHLEY CHUNG SOPHOMORE CLASS SECRETARY

List any previous leadership positions or experiences

- Leadership experience I had before was that I was a speaker series student ambassador in 9th grade. I served as an ambassador for both first and second semesters. In addition, I have been volunteering for a program every Saturday where I taught students who are disabled to read and write. There, I taught Korean, arts and crafts, and how to play the flute, which is what I play. Due to COVID, we were not able to meet in person, but we are currently doing it online every Saturday.

Why do you want to be a member of Student Council? Why are you running for the position that you are running for this year?

- I want to be a member of the student Council because I want to experience and gain more leadership. Running to be a member of the Student Council gives me perfect experience in preparing and campaigning. I am running for Secretary because I am a good listener, which means I can listen to what the student body wants and do my part as a Student Council member. I am a dedicated hard working student, who really tries to do her best job in any given task to her. I can effectively help the Student Council to create fun events and fundraisers. Furthermore, I can help reach out to students, who feel isolated and left out, and make sure they are connected with the Student Council.

From your perspective, what is the role of the Student Council at GSMST and in our community at large?

- From my perspective, the role of the Student Council at GSMST is to connect every student at school and help raise funds for school-wide activities, including social events, community projects, and helping people who need help. It is the Student Council's responsibility to welcome and include everyone in school events. The Student Council helps connect and unite students

socially because through fun radisers and school events. Academics can be stressful from time to time, and the Student Council can help destress and bring fun to school life.

List up to three qualities would you use to describe an effective leader. What leadership skill(s) is your strength? How will you use that skill(s) to benefit Student Council and GSMST?

- Three qualities that would describe an effective leader are listening, communicating and open-mindedness. I am a very good listener and very open- minded person. Listening to others helps me understand what exactly is wanted or needed because I know the details. I am an open minded person because I have many friends with different cultural backgrounds, which helped me to gain more knowledge and awareness of cultures. I can work well under pressure, and balance my work very well. In addition, I am a good leader because I know when I need to step up or sometimes step down. I anticipate that it is important to listen to other members' opinions instead of only pursuing and pushing only my thoughts.

What would you most like to improve about your own leadership skills to become a better leader?

- There is always more room for improvement in all of the qualities of leadership. I would like to practice and experience more leadership. Additionally, I want to learn to be more confident in myself. Sometimes, I have trouble speaking out about ideas I have because I am afraid it will turn out to be a bad idea. I want to expand my relationship with my peers because I love meeting and working with new and different people.

Describe an activity for a new event that Student Council could host.

- A new event that the Student Council could host is raising money to buy laptops for schools who need laptops because they are short on them. GSMST students are fortunate enough for the school to afford a personal laptop. However, some schools in Gwinnett County may need extra laptops or mice, but they can not afford them. The Student Council could raise money by hosting spirit week and selling masks. Then, we can donate the money to schools that are in need.

How can Student Council improve its communication with the student body?

- Although this may take work, the Student Council should send out emails to students through the school email account. GSMST Student Council has a great social media account that communicates with the majority of the students. However, there are some students who are not allowed to have social media accounts. I personally have friends who are not allowed to have

social media. Because of this and the fact that students are less connected because of COVID, some students may miss event information, and they feel left out. As a solution, the Student Council should send out email to students about information of the events that are being hosted.

What do you think is the single greatest challenge facing our GSMST community and how can Student Council help to resolve this challenge?

- The single greatest challenge facing our GSMST community is the Coronavirus. Because of this, we are not able to go to school and meet in person. This is an obstacle to fundraising and school events. GSMST students are spread across Gwinnett county, and this makes some students left out from friends and school. A possible solution is that the Student Council can host a social distance movie night for each grade. We can use the big screen at school. Each grade will be split into two nights in order for students to not be crowded. The students will be seated six feet apart, and they will have to answer questions related to Coronavirus symptoms and travel before they reserve a seat. There will be mandatory hand sanitizer stations and temper checks before entering.