

# Iliyan Gilani Member at Large

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List any previous leadership positions or experiences.

None

**Why do you want to be a member of Student Council?**

I want to be a member of Student Council because throughout my ninth grade year at GSMST, I have seen the role of the student council and have seen how much they help the students. Since I love helping the people around me, I believe Student Council is a way I can help many other students and it is something I would enjoy being a part of as well. I am running for the position of member at large because I am good at communicating with other students. I believe I can use this skill to improve communication between the student body and the student council and help express the concerns of the students to the student council.

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

The role of the student council is to create a better environment for all the students at GSMST and do anything they can, such as host events, to help the students to have an enjoyable and memorable experience at GSMST. To help the students, Student Council members must come up with creative ideas and take the ideas and concerns of other students into consideration.

**List up to three qualities you would 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 an effective leader has are being active, being a communicator, and being passionate about their job. A good leader must take an active role in anything they are a part of. They should not be waiting for others to do something, they should take initiative and come up with their own ideas and work to make their ideas into reality. Another important skill for a leader to have is being a communicator. A person in a position such as member at large must be able to listen to others to receive feedback and they must be able to express that feedback to others. They

must also be able to express their own ideas. Lastly, a leader must be passionate about their job. They should not be half-heartedly working on things they do not enjoy. Partaking in events a person does not want to participate in results in low quality results which means someone else has to take time to redo the job resulting in wasted time. I have all of these qualities but the skill that is my strength and will be most useful in student council is communication. Being a good communicator will allow me to talk to the student body and express their concerns to the student council. This would help the student council receive feedback and improve events that they plan to make them more enjoyable for the students.

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

One skill I would like to improve on is planning ahead. Often, when I have many tasks, I do not plan out my schedule which sometimes results in bad time management or lower productivity. I believe that by becoming better at planning ahead, I can work more efficiently and complete more work in less time.

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

One event that Student Council could host is an end of year celebration. End of year celebrations are common in elementary and middle schools and they are enjoyed by all students. By hosting this event in high schools, students can have time to relax and socialize after the stressful exam time.

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

I think Student Council can improve communication with the student body by creating more opportunities for the students to share their ideas and concerns with the Student Council. One way Student Council can do this is by having a table at lunch where students can talk to Student Council members, similar to what the counselors do. This will allow students to talk to members of Student Council without having to find time outside of school or during classes to express their concerns.

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

I think the greatest challenge faced by students at GSMST is that when they struggle to learn something in school, they do not have many opportunities to receive help to learn the content. Many teachers teach multiple courses and sometimes they are unable to find time outside of school hours to help students. However, there are many students who have taken the courses and understand the content. These students could help the struggling students by tutoring them in a program hosted by the student council. This would allow the students to receive the help they need and it would reduce the stress on teachers by reducing the amount of time outside school hours they need to spend helping students.