

JOHN (JB) NGUYEN SOPHOMORE CLASS SECRETARY

List any previous leadership positions or experience

- Since the time I could remember, I have been enrolled in church school. There, I've had the opportunity to fulfill the leadership role of my group in class activities and in retreats. In addition to this, in the previous year I was able to be elected as the Freshmen Class Secretary. This was an amazing experience where I was able to showcase being a leader through helping the student body and collaborating with the Student Council team.

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 be able to help and serve the student body and GSMST community again. When I had the opportunity to be the Freshmen class secretary, I felt like I was a part of something bigger, and it really opened me to new experiences, one in which I do not think I would have every had if I had not joined the council. I want to run for the Sophomore class secretary position this year because it allows to me help the student body more than I would be able to as a student. The experience of being a part of the stuco family is one that I will never forget, and I would like to be a part of it again this year.

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 at GSMST is to plan events for the student body, but this is only part of a smaller task. The role of the Student Council is to really make the community a better place. The council strives to make everyone happy by providing fun events such as the dances to even small notes to brighten someone's day. Here at GSMST we are one family, so we could think as the Student Council as a sort of older brother or sister that makes someone's day.

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 I would say an effective leader has is that they are compassionate, positive, and have good communicative skills. I would say that I am very compassionate when it comes to doing my work and helping others and I always like to have a positive outlook on the situation. I will use these skills to better help the Student Council by putting my all into helping with planning, events, and keeping the energy in the room up.

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

- A skill I need to improve on to become a better leader is that I need to learn to communicate better. Often times, I listen to the words of others without giving my thoughts into the situation. Because of this, I feel that I need to work more on voicing my opinion when working in groups.

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

- A new event that the Student Council could host could be a movie night where students can watch movies and eat snacks. This event could either be as a charity event where the profit is sent to charity, or it could be used to fund clubs. At the event, students could watch movies and hang out with their friends while drinking drinks such as hot cocoa, water, juices, sodas, etc. and eat snacks such as popcorn or chips. Though, due to the global pandemic happening right now, this event only seems plausible through hosting some sort of event where the movie could be broadcasted to students. If the time comes when it is safe for students to return to schools all together, I think that this idea would be really fun. For added fun, students could wear pajamas too!

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

- The Student Council can improve its communication with the student body through more use of social media. Now an days, students are getting more and immersed in social media, and especially now that there is a global pandemic, there is hardly any time where students are not on some sort of device. STUCO already uses Instagram and Snapchat, but I am not aware of a TikTok account. In TikTok, STUCO can film short videos that can spread awareness of the hard work that the council puts into helping the student body.

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 that the single greatest challenge that our GSMST community faces is stress. This is because the students often times have a lot of work on their hands while not having any time to themselves. The way that the Student Council can help resolve this challenge is by providing more time for students to have get togethers. This isn't very applicable right now, but when the time comes for students to be able to go back to school safely, I think this would help students destress in a fun way!