

# Terukimi Hayashi Executive President

List any previous leadership positions or experiences.

STUCO Freshman Member-At-Large, STUCO Sophomore President, STUCO Executive Parliamentarian, TSA Engineering Design Team Leader, TSA State Leadership Conference Representative (10th and 11th), Peer Leader (8th grade)

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

Ever since my freshman year, I committed myself to XX. Seeing all the work Student Council put in to tie our student body together, and learning from my then upperclassmen about their passion for the school, motivated me to put in the same effort to help GSMST. Student Council has always been the way I showed my appreciation to the school, and I wish to serve this year as Executive President so that I can directly effect change and lead the club that has impacted my growth as a leader so much.

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

Student Council should not only serve as facilitators of the ideas and concerns the student body has, but also as mediators for the school environment. Through planning for events to lighten the stress students feel because of GSMST's workload, Student Council is helping to make students feel welcome in a place that could drain their mental health. Student Council should aim to make these students feel like they are allowed to have fun and feel like teenagers despite the school's rigor, and ultimately, to create a more welcoming environment.

**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?**

An effective leader should be open, observant, and assertive. My most direct strength would be my observational skills. Oftentimes, I am able to assess situations and come up with the best solutions based on the problems I identified before. In my previous experience on Student Council, this foresight has helped me to make the right decisions when it comes to committee decisions, as well as making the decisions best for the council. By using my observation skills, combined with my other leadership skills, I hope to continue to improve the school environment and facilitate decision-making in the future council.

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

I would most like to improve my communication skills to become a better leader. From my experience in Student Council, I understand how vital communication is to keep order when planning events. By improving my communication skills, as well as being more transparent to my Student Council peers, I would be able to effectively facilitate tasks and make sure everyone is on the same page during planning. On top of communicating well, I also want to improve my openness in Student Council. Being more open about the work done in Student Council will help to teach the underclassmen the ropes, as well as improving transparency in the council.

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

Student Council can host a Teacher vs Students volleyball tournament. Based on feedback from the student body, I have heard that they would enjoy a competition between the students and the teachers. Much like Class vs Class, the students and teachers will create their own teams and will form a bracket-type competition until one team is remaining. This event will run almost synonymously with Class vs Class, but with added fire and competition between student and teacher.

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

Student Council can improve its communication with the students by sending out additional feedback forms for events. Frequently, the student body feels as if their opinion is not heard when

it comes to choosing certain dance themes or events to run for the coming year, so Student Council can send out Google forms at the beginning of the school year to ask the student body what events they would like to see in the coming year. Additionally, after every dance and event, the Student Council can send out a feedback form for direct commentary on how the event went according to the students.

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

The greatest challenge for the GSMST community is the constant pressure students feel to perform at a certain level academically and through their extracurriculars. Although a very apparent issue, this pressure causes students to be under constant stress and forces them to feel down on themselves. There's no direct solution to this challenge, but there are definitely ways to mediate the effects within the student body. Most importantly, I believe that the Student Council has a big impact on the students' spirit about this school. By hosting fun events and pushing a welcoming environment for the students, Student Council can help to reduce the pressure students feel and actually have them enjoy going to school. Student Council, although just an event-planning club, has such a wide-reaching impact on the livelihood of the students.