

WISAL IBRAHIM FRESHMAN SECRETARY

List any previous leadership positions or experiences

- I was elected secretary of Beta Club for 2 years (7th and 8th grade). My experiences as a secretary will hopefully help me be a successful secretary at GSMST if elected. I was also a member of Peer Leaders in 8th grade year, which granted me the opportunity to experience being a leader at my middle school as well as giving me the opportunity to go to a leadership workshop to help me understand a great and effective leader.

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?

- As cliché as it may sound, I want to be a member of student council so I can be an active member of the school community while also playing a role that will allow me to improve and better the needs of students at GSMST. I chose to run for secretary because it is a familiar role for me. After all, I was secretary of a big club at my middle school for two years. Furthermore, I hope to improve GSMST in some way, even if it does not have a large impact.

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 provide a comfortable and welcoming environment. The role Student Council plays at GSMST and in the community at large is to grant students the opportunity to express their views and allow them to better GSMST as a whole.

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?

- Integrity

- Great communicator
- Collaborative

- I personally feel like Integrity and listening skills are my strength. This is because of my previous experiences with being secretary of a large club in my middle school, as it was expected for the secretary to take note of what occurs in a meeting and to make sure the information presented was accurate and factual. These skills can transfer over to Student Council, as I believe integrity is essential, especially for an officer in student council and collaboration skills are needed to be effective in completing tasks expected of the club.

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

- While there is always room for improvement, the one skill I would like to improve on the most are my communication skills. Communication is essential for any leader regardless of position or title, and I want to ensure that I am able to communicate my ideas as well as the ideas of my peers to a wide variety of individuals without any confusion on my part.

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

- Due to the current pandemic, it can easily be assumed that hosting any in person events is probably not plausible. However, that does not mean that no events can be held. One potential idea is to hold game nights, which will utilize the “breakout room” feature on zoom. The idea is that students are randomly placed into breakout rooms, and a multiplayer game of the group’s choice (Uno, Apple’s to Apples, and Among Us, for example) are played for a set period of time (15-20 minutes) before the students are moved into another breakout room with a new group of students. This game night grants the opportunity for students to meet and interact with one another in the comfort and safety of their own home.

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

- Student Council can improve communication by creating some sort of system (A google form for example) that will allow students outside of the council to leave suggestions, concerns, or comments about student council anonymously.

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

- The biggest challenge Student Council needs to address is the unhealthy amounts of stress and competition put upon students attending GSMST, which is further exacerbated by COVID-19. Student Council can remedy this by creating a better environment where healthy competition is promoted plus avenues to cope with stress.