

List any previous leadership positions or experiences

- I served as a GSMST StuCo Cabinet Member for the 2019-2020 school year. As Art Director, I helped with the visual and artistic perspectives of significant events, such as the Fall and Spring Dances. I also currently work as a board member of a student-led organization called Fine Arts for All. We teach fine arts to the underprivileged, elderly, and children, all for free. We also support local and global organizations that help those in need. Additionally, I am a small group leader for children at my local church. Lastly, I was active in Student Council and my orchestra's council as a middle schooler.

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 Student Council member because I want to create a positive environment for the school and bring a smile to people's faces in stressful times. Whether that's through a large event like Fall Dance, or through a small gesture like a good-luck poster, spreading positive thoughts is important to me. As someone who understands that times get tough, I want to make sure that you know that you aren't alone at GSMST. As much as I enjoyed being a cabinet member, I am seeking an even more active role in our school's council. I will ensure that the student body's voices are heard and make sure that GSMST is a place where everyone can feel safe and happy.

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

- Student Council goes beyond just coordinating large events, socials, and class v class games. The Council works tirelessly behind the scenes to bring the best GSMST experience to every individual student. Hours of tedious and meticulous work go into being a Council member, yet it is still worth it. A positive school makes a more positive youth, therefore directly impacting the community. The Council also works with organizations such as Bert's Big Adventure to help sick

children fulfill a dream of theirs. In many ways, both apparent and unapparent, StuCo affects hundreds of people in positive ways.

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?

- Although there are many good qualities a leader has, I've narrowed it down to three: Determination, compassion, and courage. Those who are determined are passionate, diligent, and hard-working. Compassionate individuals are considerate, empathetic, and reliable. Lastly, those who are courageous are adaptable, creative, and unafraid of change. Although it is impossible to have every good quality in the world, I believe that I represent many of these. I am flexible and willing to work around obstacles, especially during changing times like these. I express a high level of empathy because I understand how negative experiences impact us. Lastly, I am determined, working into the late hours of the night to complete what is necessary, to the best of my ability.

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

- I am far from perfect, and there is always much room for growth. However, if I were to choose just one trait to improve upon this year, it would be my resourcefulness. When we don't know what the near future holds, we must be accountable for our resources and maintain things like budget and supplies. Considering the pandemic and how it has impacted us, I believe a greater sense of resourcefulness would be highly useful. Adapting to situations, using what we've been given, and communicating with each other are all actions that must be stressed upon this year.

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

- Because of the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing measures that must be put in place, I would suggest an outdoor social. It could occur in the soccer field, where everyone is spread out and not exposed to indoor, circulated air. Hoops would be placed every 6 feet, letting students know where they can stand (1 person to a hoop). While we must take caution during these times, people also need interaction with others, something many GSMST students lack. Snacks and water would be pre-distributed in everybody's social distancing hoop to avoid as much mass-contact with food as possible. This social would give people time to catch up with friends and chat while maintaining safe distances from each other. People could also rotate or trade

hoops to speak to friends who are further away. Because space will be limited, this can be done by grade level during different times/days.

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

- While Student Council does an excellent job with planning events for the student body's good, individual voices outside the council are not always heard during meetings. Perhaps a daily/weekly Instagram story could be posted using the "Question" story sticker feature. Students can freely use this to type comments and questions for the council, to be heard as an individual. The Social Media Manager in the Cabinet could then organize any questions/comments left on the story sticker and be prepared to address them at the next StuCo meeting. After the StuCo meeting, the manager could post the answers to the questions on Instagram.

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

- Many of our most popular events are no longer happening because of the pandemic. However, it is no longer a matter of lacking events; it is a matter of lacking human interaction in general. Therefore, StuCo could host events that will allow for fun for the entire student body while maintaining proper distance. Additionally, during this time of difficulty, the Council should make it known that the members listen to the student body and regularly ask if there is anything to improve on. Communication with our friends and the student body needs much more focus in these times, and by doing so, GSMST can improve.