

LEON NGUYEN SENIOR MAL

List any previous leadership positions or experiences

- I used to be a teacher's assistant at my Vietnamese school where I helped teach peers my age Vietnamese. I also took the Service Learning Cohort where we had to design and apply projects with little to no teacher insight. Through these two experiences I learned how to work with not only my peers but adults on a professional level.

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?

Because it is my last year of GSMST, I wanted to contribute to not only the school, but the student body as a whole. I am running for Class Member at Large who is the communication between the student class and the student council. I believe this is easy for me because I am more of a listener and would be able to inform both sides on how things are progressing and if there are any ideas that would help either side.

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 in my opinion, is more of to look out for the student body. All the events and occasions are directed towards the students as a way to relieve stress. As we know, school can be really stressful, and with STUCO learning on how to help, it not only relieves the pressure and stress of the students, but it brings everyone closer together.

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?

To be an effective leader, you must be a great listener, one who can empathize, and have the ability to inspire others. My greatest leadership skills would be having the ability to empathize with others as well being a great listener. I've always been one to look out for others and ensuring that they are okay, and running for Member at Large, I need to do both. By listening to what the

student body wants, I would be able to put myself in their shoes and understand how they feel. I would then use this and spread awareness on both sides on how to help.

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

- I've always been more of a listener than a speaker so it was more likely for me to become a follower. However, because it is my last year, I wanted to step out of my comfort zone and do something I would have never seen myself doing before. I would like to improve my ability to inspire others in a way that others have inspired me. If I learned how to inspire others, I would have a better bond between my peers.

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

- A new event at this time would be very tough to do; however, if the event is online then it could engage both in person learners and digital. One idea is a digital escape room. Of course there are way too many students for a single escape room; however, if we split up the students like a class v class, it could even become a small competition on which year can complete the same escape room the fastest.

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

- As of right now, I believe the student council is doing well in communicating with the student body; however, at this time of quarantine it would be wise to create more connections with the student body. For example, rather than just posting posters, the student council can reach out to their friends and peers about specific events and engage them onto some projects. We don't know if the digital news will reach them, but if the student council reaches out to the student body as a whole, more information could easily be spread out.

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

- I believe the single greatest challenge facing our GSMST community at this time is the distance between one another. Especially with quarantine occurring, there has been less interactions of student to student. If the student council were to organize events however, then there would be an increase of interactions between students. The best part about this is the events do not have to even be in person in order to interact with one another.