

Personal Statement

My name is Ella Wang. I will attend the 10th grade in the HCCS 2023-2024 school year.

I am seeking the position of the HCCS Student Government Association (SGA) Note-Taking Secretary because I am organized, detailed-oriented, and excellent in taking notes. I have a strong passion for helping students in our Chinese Community. Serving in the HCCS SGA will provide me with a great opportunity to learn, to lead and contribute to our community. It will also provide me a sense of accomplishment and help to build a network with like-minded people.

In the past two years, I have actively participated in the Youth Ambassador Program (YAP) from HCCS. I have attended multiple group activities such as art group and social media group. I participated in the YAP Logo design contest and also went to the Chinese American Museum with our group. I attended the Multicultural Youth Storytelling Film Institute (MYSFI) last summer. I learned a lot about film production and started to develop ideas for what stories I would like to tell about the world around me. MYSFI provides me with an innovative way to process and present complex lived experiences creatively. Last September, I presented a booth showcase introducing the YAP program at HCCS Open House. I have also been an active member in the YAP Environment Group, where I had the opportunity to lead and contribute to a variety of projects. These included Underground water quality testing, Garden composting, Setting up a school club and Road cleanup etc. This spring, we gave a seminar to HCCS PTA and recruited a few new members. I have also joined the SGA recycle project where I learned to use old shirts to make the shopping bag.

The YAP program has provided me with wonderful training on leadership and teamwork. At MYSFI, we formed several teams to start making individual films. In the Environment group, every team member rotated their roles among different activities so everyone learned the different parts of the team and how a group worked together to finish a task. I have led and organized the 2022 Year-End party for the Environment group where I organized everyone's slide into one presentation. I also wrote a newsletter about our presentation at the HCCS PTA seminar.

On April 28, 2022, I gave testimony to the Board of Education regarding our students' mental health. The mental health of individuals is of a very high priority and should be taken more seriously than it currently is. As part of my testimony, I talked about how the county school system might be able to help teens cope with mental health problems.

At my school (River Hill high school), I have participated in PTSA Reflections program and helped RHHS Reflections Coordinator with managing the submission of artwork, organizing a group photo and presentation at a school event. I also attended a HCC summer class on note-taking last summer.

I believe my skills and past experience in leadership and community service make me a strong candidate for the SGA Secretary position. I am confident that I can bring a level of dedication and enthusiasm to this role. If I am elected to this position, I would like to devote myself to the HCCS Community on a variety of topics such as Parent-Child communication, Teen's mental health, middle school and high school preparation. I aim to ensure that all members of the community feel supported and heard. I have drawn art and played violin for many years, so I would like to help organize art exhibitions and student concerts for special

celebrations. I would also like to organize the seminars on the students mental health and provide our community with these resources and support.

In summary, my past leadership experience, my skills in art and music, and my enthusiasm for helping others have prepared me well for the HCCS SGA Secretary position. I will work with the rest of the SGA team to better serve our Chinese students community.

Parent signature: Ye Yan

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Student signature: Ella Wang

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