

Personal Statement

Larry Tong

skylartreks2@gmail.com| Phone number: 919-7203257

I am Larry Tong, a rising 8th grader for the HCCS 2024-2025 school year. This year, I am running for HCCS SGA Vice President. I am not just pursuing this position; I am driven by a deep-rooted care for our community and a genuine desire to contribute to its growth through the SGA. My previous leadership roles, such as my active participation in the SGA and the AAPI Youth Ambassador Program Environmental Conservation Club, have equipped me with the necessary skills and experience to serve as your Vice President effectively.

As an SGA member and an HCCS student, I am a regular attendee of student SGA events and most SGA-partnered student activities. Inside the SGA, I have been instrumental in organizing numerous outreach HCCS events, such as the Howard County AAPI Festivals (2023 & 2024), Howard County Green Festivals (2023 & 2024), Howard County Multicultural Festival at the Harriet Tubman Cultural Center (2023). These events have not only raised awareness about important issues but also brought our community closer together. I have also been a dedicated volunteer for SGA events, such as fundraising with flower sales on Mother's Day, which have helped us raise funds and nurtured a strong sense of community spirit. I find great joy in working with the community and building relationships with the leaders and achievers I constantly collaborate with.

Besides SGA, I am an active member of the SGA-partnered AAPI Youth Ambassador Program Environmental Conservation Club, one of the many student-led programs I am a part of. Alongside my peers, I actively led and engaged in many conservation projects. In the Water Quality Testing project, we tested 150+ water samples of residents who rely on well water to foster the perception of health and advocate for awareness. My strong leadership skills helped our club members overcome social barriers and resolve numerous logistical obstacles we encountered. Additionally, I frequently participated in the HCCS Youth Garden and worked with my peers to donate over 500 pounds of fresh produce annually to food banks and those in need. Playing a pivotal role as a team member further exemplifies my robust teamwork and collaboration skills and my ability to work irreproachably and coherently with a team under tight constraints. Last but certainly not least, again, within the Environmental Conservation Club, our group goes every quarter of a year onto Freetown Road, our adopted road via the Adopt-A-Road program, to clean the road of any trash. I grew extensively through involvement in these activities, developing my prompt thinking and communication skills that allowed me and the club to work efficiently and effectively, even within a tight timeframe and budget. These experiences have taught me the value of diversity and the importance of inclusivity in achieving our goals.

As Vice President, I will bring these skills to the SGA and work unremittingly to implement the policies, changes, and suggestions you want. As relevant stakeholders involved in Howard County Chinese School and our community, we are constantly and incessantly redefining the future, whether that be partaking in student-led programs, advocating, or changing how we think and view the macrocosm we inhabit. As trendsetting and innovating pioneers, we can only continue to galvanize the future if led by ambitious and vigorous leaders. As a Vice President, it's

not just about leading but also about listening. I am deeply committed to hearing the issues that students express, espousing for teachers and their environments, and striving for HCCS to be a space where everyone feels safe, included, and involved, whether that be within the SGA or anywhere where our wide heterogeneity of neoteric leaders are enmeshed. Your voices matter, and I am here to listen

.
Let's work together to inaugurate the future.

Daniel Tong

Parent signature: