

### SGA Application Essay:

This year, I am seeking the President position for HCCS SGA. For five years now, I have genuinely enjoyed helping out with various sales hosted by SGA. Officially starting in sixth grade, the SGA experiences I gained, have developed me as an individual. This past school year, I served as the Vice President of SGA at the HCC campus, helping the organization of the annual hot chocolate sale, communicating with the PTA chair to involve SGA in the biannual Field Day, as well as participating in numerous other school sales at the campus including the Halloween costume sale, teacher appreciation weekend, the coat drive, and the Culture performance. Many of these sales are fundraisers for the Overseas China Education Foundation (OCEF), providing education for young students in China who cannot afford their own education. In the past I have also helped organize and volunteer for the Chinese New Year Gala, and various Asian Culture Performances, including senior center performances, serving the community by integrating Chinese culture into our society. As an experienced and dedicated member, I believe that I can contribute my knowledge to help the organization grow even more, and improve itself as well as the individuals who make up SGA.

Apart from my SGA experience as Vice President, I have also gained leadership and interpersonal skills as the starting libero for my travel volleyball team for four years now. As libero, I organize and strategize with the backrow or defensive players, to create the most successful defense plan, trying to eliminate any holes within our plays to win. Through four years of communicating with my teammates, I have improved my leadership skills, and can easily work with peers at my own age, younger, or older. The various wins, and the devastating losses of volleyball have taught me how to lead by example and encourage one another no matter what the situation is.

Aside from volleyball, I am also an officer for the MD Youth Speaker's Club, or the Gavel Club. This year, I am the Sergeant at Arms, calling every meeting to order as well as welcoming and introducing any guests, and setting up the room. Previously, I have been the VP of Public Relations and the treasurer. Through my experiences of these various roles, I have also improved my interpersonal skills as well as become a flexible leader who understands and practice broad aspects of the leadership for a club or association.

Every year I have been in SGA, we have had tremendous successes, and my goal as President would be to continue this streak as well as improve and build upon these successes.

This year, studying partially at the CHS campus for AP test preparation, I have noticed a slight disconnect between the two campuses. To improve this, I would like to improve the communication and collaboration between the two campuses, allowing the various sales to occur simultaneously, further boosting our profits. To do this, I would enforce a bi-monthly check-in with the rest of the SGA executive officers. By doing this, we can plan out events and discuss any ideas for more fundraisers and ways to get more members involved. As president, I would also promote more fundraisers, and bring back the lemonade sale in the spring, possibly adding tea to that list. This will help the fundraising for OCEF, and send more children to school. Apart from OCEF, I would also like to reach out more to our community in Howard County. I recommend we try to help out our local homeless shelter such as Grassroots, and really help the more than one foundation. This is very important to me because it connects my two different cultures, helping the helpless in China as well as America.

As a HCCS student for the past eleven years, I have grown up in this school, and want to see our school continue to improve. I will encourage more members to be more active in the school activities by hosting an end of year social to show my appreciation for the members who helped consistently. My biggest goal for SGA is to continue to help HCCS grow as a school and as a community of people. Growing up at this school, I appreciate all it has taught me and done for me.

My experience with community service as well as a SGA leaderer HCCS and within my community qualifies for the position of President. Please vote for me and join me in creating a better environment for everyone at HCCS!

Erin Li