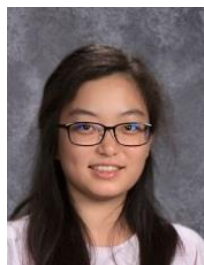


Running for President



Lin-Hsiang
(Shani)
Chiang

Dear MSA family,
Amidst these difficult times, I hope you all are safe and well. My name is Shani Chiang, and I am running to be your MSA president for the 2020-2021 school year. As your former MSA Underclassmen Events Coordinator, I have gained valuable leadership experience from hosting orientations, meetings, the house system, the escape room, the banquet, and much more. I have realized that leadership is about being resilient and empathetic, and I instill these qualities within myself. As president, I will ensure that your voice is heard and that action is taken. I care not only about your success academically, but also about your mental, physical, and emotional well-being. As a fellow academy student myself, I understand the struggle of juggling academics while maintaining a healthy lifestyle. My mission is to create an empathetic community within the MSA where we support each other throughout our high school journey. I will help prevent student burnout by inviting experts to explain the importance of mental wellness and organizing time management workshops. MSA students should master these essential skills early on, so we can shine in college and beyond. I will also increase involvement and introduce reforms in the Mentor Mentee Program to further improve collaboration in our community. I am dedicated to making my vision a reality! Vote Shani for a sha-ning MSA future!! :) Please check out the awesome parody I made "Thank You, Vote Me" at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SYd-knyhbes> Stay safe, and thank you!



Ann Phan

Hey y'all! My name is Ann Phan, and I am asking for your vote for MSA president. As this year's Director of Activities, I have both worked on the MSA executive board and seen all of the areas where improvements can be made. Having worked with our booster club and the inter-academy network, I have a robust set of leadership experiences that I can take into my presidency. My plan for the Math and Science Academy has three pillars: transparency, organization, and advertisement. My first order of business would be posting an annual calendar as early as possible with as much detail as possible. You should never be confused about the MSA, or the officers that ultimately exist to represent you. Crucial to this sense of transparency is a well-organized MSA system. Academies are actually organized by cadres, or quarters, with inter-academy president/director meetings in between. To take advantage of this, every cadre should have one town hall, one guest speaker, one field experience, and one group volunteering opportunity. Not only would students have a diverse set of opportunities to engage with the MSA, but also with STEM in general. To make this possible, I would introduce a revised system of house leadership, with houses as liaisons between the MSA executive board and student body, as well as leadership opportunities for prospective officers. Finally, to make sure that the academy remains large and well-connected, I would increase our partnerships with local organizations and educational institutions, expand our social media presence, and work directly with incoming freshmen to make sure they are comfortable entering the academy system. With these policies in place, we can make the MSA a better, more inclusive place. Check out my story for more info: <https://www.instagram.com/annth.phan/> #annhasaplan

Running for Director of Communication



Trace Hankins

Hi, My name is Trace Hankins, and I'm currently running to be your Director of Communications. With your vote, I hope to help bring the Math and Science Academy closer together, keep all members updated, and guarantee that each member can make their voice heard. As DC, I would act as the connection between you all and the officer panel, the booster club, and other organizations we may be involved with. I would communicate with MSA students through a survey or something similar to ensure that we bring in guest speakers who will come from fields that you are interested in, which may be in person or online due to COVID. Furthermore, despite the unique challenges we may face this upcoming year, I would do my best to work with the booster club in securing internships for the students who will be applying, increase the MSA's social media exposure, and inform members through our calendar and reminds about upcoming events. I've also heard complaints about the disorganization on the MSA website and would work to make it a more accessible and readable location for MSA information. I'm extremely experienced in reaching out to other people and organizations, which would be a huge asset considering the work I will be doing as Director of Communications. As Vice President of Green Generation, a club with members who live throughout the Houston area, I actively sought out organizations and received their help in an effort to meet the goals of my club and its members, which I would also do for the MSA. In order for the academy to become more unified, the suggestions of its members need to be listened to. If what I'm saying is something that you'd want to see in the MSA's future, vote me for Director of Communications.



Abhinav Sinha

Hey, I'm Abhinav, one of your current MSA communication officers and your aspiring director of communications. I have had the privilege of serving you guys for the past year and have picked up a great understanding of how the MSA operates. I'm extensively qualified for this position, considering the role includes a heavy emphasis on a STEM orientation. I have taken many AP science classes, competed at the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), and am an active member of various math and science clubs. These experiences have equipped me to help me pursue my goal as director of communications: to provide new and engaging opportunities to learn (i.e. enrichment activities) and internships (over the summer too!) to take your math/science education to the next level. By communicating with the student body as well as external companies and organizations, I've become very experienced in designing these programs. I also had the privilege of being a captain of the debate team and being a nationally competitive debater (ranked 9th nationally), as well as being a school ambassador for a district-wide student advocates program--Student Voices, all of which gave me invaluable communication skills. We all have busy lives, and the coronavirus has made things very complicated. In order to facilitate our livelihoods in the upcoming school year, I will do my best to work with the other officers and incorporate a balanced learning model into the MSA's agenda while also giving significant time beforehand so you guys can incorporate MSA activities into your overloaded schedules. To head us in the right direction, Abhinav is your connection!

Running for Director of Activities



Megan Phi

Hi! I'm Megan, and I served as the Secretary for the MSA this past year. Although much of my past work has been behind the scenes, I hope to prove that I have a lot to offer next year as the Director of Activities.

For a quick rundown of my platform, follow the link: <https://tinyurl.com/MeganPhiDA>
 In summary, I would like to push for engaging monthly meeting activities as well as a more efficient sign out system, such as an exit ticket completed during the meeting (i.e. cleaning up - similarly to labs) rather than a photo submission. In addition, I would move meeting activities towards hands on group work and bring in speakers such as professors and current college students to provide a diverse perspective on post-secondary career paths.

On another note, I would like to get rid of the House System as a whole. While it's cute in concept, it's not really effective or conducive in encouraging networking and is counterproductive in matching freshmen with mentors. Instead, small group mentoring would be implemented - freshmen would be grouped with students interested in similar organizations with 2-3 upperclassmen involved in those activities rather than a one-on-one mentor they would lose touch with.

Overall, I can offer a diverse skill set to the officer panel. I have professional contacts in disciplines such as engineering, biotechnology, international services, etc. that can speak at school events as well as other abilities. With my design experience, I believe I can provide a professional touch to MSA activities and publications in partnership with Booster Club to enhance the MSA presence in and out of our district. That being said, I hope to be your 2020-2021 Director of Activities!



Raaiqa Zahid

Hi I'm Raaiqa Zahid and I'm running to be MSA's director of activities! Given a chance to be the director of activities would mean being in charge of organizing and planning events for the MSA. I know for a fact, to many students enrichment activities and volunteer hours seem like a burden that clings on to you as you dread it up until the end of each semester. If given the chance to serve as MSA's director of activities I'll always make sure to take student input as a major factor for my decision. I want volunteer hours and enrichments to be tailored to your own unique interests. Before planning enrichment activities I will work to send out surveys to find out what entices your interests; to find out what speakers and activities y'all want to see. Also, I will work to ensure that the academy can bring forth new opportunities to all of its students to explore and learn about the career paths they are passionate about. I plan to make brochures for each career path that will contain opportunities for internships, volunteer opportunities, and contact information for people you can reach out to just learn more about that path. This will allow you to spend your years at the academy diving into the areas that truly intrigue you. Additionally, one last aspect I'd love to work on for the academy is bringing forth a more familial vibe amongst the students. I want to have more socials for us all to just chill together after we finish our often insanely stressful weeks at the MSA. I'd really appreciate your vote and if elected I promise to work to make your experience at the MSA just that much more memorable. Thank you for taking the time to read this!

Running for Secretary



Michelle Ding

Quality over Quantity: Vote Michelle for Secretary

Every two minutes, some student falls asleep in the classroom. Thankfully, I pay attention so you don't have to! Hi, I'm Michelle, your manager in group projects, note-taker in boring lectures, and the perfect person to deposit in a room to gather all the important information we need. As secretary, I want to use my organizational and management skills to simplify your lives.

Aren't we always so busy? I know everyone has a lot on their minds so I'll keep this short. If you are in the MSA, chances are you are involved in other clubs as well. Y'all have a busy life, which is why I want to make things easier for you. As secretary of the MSA I promise to simplify our sign-up process and schedules by collaborating with other clubs. By communicating across clubs like MAO and SNHS, I will make events, deadlines, and requirements easier to track. We will listen to your ideas on what kind of activities you like, and when you feel most comfortable having them. As a fresh person, I will bring in fresh ideas and listen to you for change.

Now, you are probably wondering, who am I to talk? Currently as vice president of Mu Alpha Theta, I will bring to the MSA my experience in organization, dependability and efficiency. As a coach in my local ice skating rink, I always try to make lessons fun, drawing wacky designs on the ice and holding speed races, even when skaters sometimes fall flat on their faces. My love for unboundless learning and laughter all the way fuels my passion for STEM-teaching.

Now that being said, I ask of you to please vote for me for MSA Secretary. Together we will make life better!



Cynthia Sun

Rise and shine! I'm Cynthia SUN and I am running for Secretary. I am a RISING senior and have a lot of experience organizing events and coordinating with other organizations. For example, I am the creator and leader of a summer program to teach middle school students computer science that is partnered with YWCA USA.

As the secretary, I will be sure to listen to questions and input from students that come up during meetings to improve the MSA. As an MSA officer, I aspire to provide more resources and opportunities for students such as internships, summer programs, and enrichment activities. Often, the required MSA enrichment activities, meetings, and volunteer hours feel like chores to fulfill. I plan on listening more to student's input to create interesting and engaging opportunities. My idea is to find a couple of options for students to vote for in a survey before each event. It will take more work as an officer to find various choices but I think it is important for you guys to be excited for and enjoy attending MSA activities.

One of my ideas is for MSA to host a TED talk at Dulles next year where we can hear from math and science professionals. I attended two successful student-led TED talk events and I think it will be a great idea for the MSA to host one next year. We had a great time with friends and got a shirt and lunch. It was also really inspiring and helped me get a better understanding of their careers. Remember, vote for Cynthia for BRIGHT and SUNny days!

Running for Historian



Sanjana
Dhakshina-
moorthy

Hello, my name is Sanjana Dhakshinamoorthy. I am an incoming sophomore here at Dulles and I am applying to be Historian of the MSA. I'm super excited to be contributing to our beloved academy! After taking a broadcasting course in middle school, I have been extremely fascinated with taking photographs and creating videos, and as a historian, I would really love to capture all those meaningful moments that really celebrate what makes the MSA the MSA: our members. My favorite part about being in the MSA is how we are all one big team, and I want to preserve that as an officer! Outside of school, you can often find me singing, spending time with friends and family, or with my nose in a book! I am eagerly looking forward to working with everyone in the MSA to help make our daily lives more fun and meaningful! As the Historian, I hope to celebrate the success of the MSA and also motivate everyone to achieve their dreams. I want to show everyone, both inside the academy and out, all the amazing things we do here, and inspire them to believe in the Math and Science Academy just as much as we do! In the end, we are all family, and I want my position as Historian to promote friendship and encourage all our members to achieve their goals.



April Ma

Hi guys! My name is April and I'm running for the position of historian. To me, being your historian isn't just taking pictures for you or creating posters, backdrops and frames. Being your historian also means to be there for you and listen to your concerns or comments to improve our academy as a whole. I believe our bond as members of the Math and Science Academy can grow even stronger, and I, as an officer would ensure that. I am willing to dedicate my time to help you make the best memories as a part of the academy. I can guarantee that the greatest moments we experience together will be captured, including pictures that are just in the moment. This proves that my photography skills are not just average and I am capable of taking high quality, perfected photos, as well as finding the most ideal angles and shots. My creativity and artistic skills help me to create the best posters, backdrops, and frames that can be used for socials, meetings, etc. These socials and meetings will also help us as the academy to grow a bond with each other. Likewise, I would be available to help other officers when necessary and make sure that my role is completed to the best of my ability. This shows that I am a teamplayer and I will work with other officers to assure the success of the officer panel and the success of the academy as a whole. My ultimate goal as the historian of the Math and Science Academy is to make certain that the upcoming year is filled with memorable moments to look back on.