STUDENT GOVERNMENT (STU GOV)

EXECUTIVE OFFICER (EXEC) APPLICATION

What does it mean to be an Executive Officer of Stu Gov?

Being an Executive Officer (Exec) at The Webb Schools means you are an elected representative of the entire student body. To serve effectively in this role requires the Exec's commitment to prioritize leading by example through shaping and embracing the goals, values, and mission of the Webb Schools in words, action, and spirit.

Holding an executive position in student government means the student body has entrusted you with the responsibility to be their voice, and the power to wield it mindfully, respectfully, and effectively. To serve as a Student Government Executive Officer means more than simply leading school assemblies and running Student Government meetings. It means you understand and embody the Four Pillars of Student Government -

- Service
- Advocacy
- Joyful Engagement
- Collaboration

What are the responsibilities of a Student Government Executive Officer?

- Train and Lead Student Government Officers and Commissioners
- Serve as a role model for the student body
- Act as an ombudsman
    - for the Student Body to communicate their hopes, wishes, thoughts, and concerns to the deans;
    - for Student Government Officers and Commissioners to communicate goals, ideas, questions, and plans to the deans and the student body.
    - for the deans to communicate information, hopes, feedback, and concerns to the student body.
- Organize and Execute community events
- Inspire and Encourage behavior that aligns with the Four Pillars of Student Government
- Plan, Attend, and Lead
    - Weekly Meetings with the Student Government Advisor(s)
    - Weekly Student Government Meetings
    - Bi-Weekly School Assemblies
- Collaborate with other Heads of Webb Leadership Groups

What positions are available for the 2023-2024 Academic Year?

- Student Body President
- Student Body Vice President

How can I apply to be an EXEC?

- Attend Info Session: Wednesday, Feb. 15 @ 2:45pm (Flex Time) in Hooper
- Complete the Application: Applications due Wednesday, March 1 @ 10:00P. Submit application to Mr. R (krosenfeld@webb.org).
- Campaign: March 6- 10; Applications will be posted to the WCC
- Interview with Mr. R, Dean Lantz, and current Execs: March 13-17
- Present Your Speech -
  - WSC: March 23
  - VWS: March 24
- Voting: March 27- 30 (@ 6 pm voting will close)
  - Results will be announced on the 31st

Campaign Guidelines

- Posters may be posted in community spaces with blue painter's tape and with permission by the adult supervisors of the community space.
- No more than ONE (1) campaign email may be posted to STAS each day during campaigning week. (Reposting – We are discouraging reposting of campaign emails to eliminate over-cluttering STAS.)
- No passing out gifts (candy, gifts, snacks, favors, etc.).
- No negative campaigning allowed. Candidates in violation of this guideline will likely be disqualified from the election.

Speech Guidelines

- Focus on goals and vision
- Focus equally on content and delivery
- No passing out candy, treats, gifts, favors
- No more than 2 minutes in length
- No negative comments or character attacks on current officers or other candidates
- No use of profanity or derogatory language
- Avoid unrealistic promises (ex. "If you elect me, I will eliminate Lights Out and homework.")

Application for Webb Student Government Executive Officer (EXEC)

Name: William Koo

Current Grade: 10   Boarder or Day: Boarder

Student Signature William Koo   Date 2/26/2023

Susanna Linsley

Advisor Signature _____ Date _____3/1/23

Answer the following questions as completely as possible.

Please note: These answers will be posted on the Webb Canyon Chronicle (WCC) during campaigning week.

Candidate Name:

1. What are THREE (3) goals you would devote your time to pursuing as an Executive Officer (Exec) of Stu Gov?
   a. To emphasize well-being and help students get the help they need. I think many students don't reach out when they need help, and having a more viable system to help them would be benefactory to the community
   b. To work on the community budget and spendings, as in the past there were moments in which the community struggled economically (I.e. Hoco).
   c. To provide more fun and engaging activities where students can connect with each other and help students have the fun they need at an academically stressful place like Webb

2. Find and transcribe a quote that you believe best exemplifies your approach to leadership. Be sure to cite the person who is credited for the quotation. (Ex. "It is better to lead from behind and to put others in front, especially when you celebrate victory when nice things occur. You take the front line when there is danger. Then people will appreciate your leadership." —Nelson Mandela)

"Leadership is not about titles, positions, or work hours. It's about relationships." - (Jim Kouzes)

3. List THREE (3) skills or qualities you possess that you would utilize in your work as an Exec.
   a. I am able to adapt to change quickly, due to being in many different places throughout my life. As a new Exec, I will be able to quickly find ways to solve new problems, and to provide for the community even with different affairs

b. I am very vocal, which can help in emphasizing if I find a problem in a new policy and can provide new ideas to others very easily. As an Exec, I will be able to suggest different proposals regarding different problems.

c. I am social and love meeting new people, and can help and talk with students, and help others adjust to the school environment. I could give comfort and joy to different students.

4. According to Warren Bennis, pioneer in the field of modern Leadership Studies, "Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality." In 1-2 paragraphs, describe your vision for the 2023-24 school year and how you plan to "translate" it into reality?

Webb has always been a second home to me, and I had found great importance in finding problems which could be solved by the community. After being at Webb for almost 2 years, I have had a lot of things in which I wanted change to occur, however was minor enough to ignore and forget about as I knew Webb would eventually fix it as time goes by. There was, however, one aspect at Webb which I found to be a huge problem: the vast separation of students. Many times, especially for my grade, many students want to remain in their own cliques and groups, and don't bother themselves to ever reach out to other students. Even for me, I usually only hang around with a group of people, and even if I wanted to reach out to others I couldn't because of the "clique" I was already in. Calling people "NPC" (Non-playable Character) has become very commonplace in our community, and I think clearly represents the division between one person to another. I think this is apparent even in schools apart from Webb, however I want Webb to really feel like a community. Even though it would be hard for our school to adjust it first, I think REALLY getting to know more people and making more connections would make the community much tighter and help strengthen the Webb School life as a whole.

In the 2023-2024 school year, I would try to advocate for any sort of event which connects different students in different groups. Having them work together to solve something, or to learn new things with them could all be helpful in bringing different students together. I always found these activities very exciting, as I could meet new people and get to know who they really were, and it was so interesting to see how different they seemed before and after I got to know them. Another important steppingstone is the community dinner, and I feel like if they switched up the seating every week or so, it would help students get to know others much better. Community dinner helped me make new friends I had never thought of being with, and realized how important it was to connect with people I did not know with. Having a more frequent way of connecting with others, especially while eating, would be helpful in connecting the community. Finally, as the VWS and WSC combine in the following years, I think it would be helpful for Webb to connect the WSC and VWS more, as it would be helpful for the transition if the 2 classes knew each other before the schools collide.

5. Which of the Four Pillars of Stu Gov resonates most with you, your values, your interests, and your goals – Service, Advocacy, Joyful Engagement, or Collaboration? In one paragraph, please explain your connection with this pillar.

I think the pillar which resonates with me the most is collaboration. I find collaboration the most important aspect of getting things done the right way, as collaborative work includes different perspectives and ideas which can combine to form a perfect solution. From when I was young, however, I had always struggled with collaboration. I was a quiet kid and worked best alone or with a teacher. I always became quiet when I had to work with others, and even though I most of the time had an opinion about the assignments, I would keep quiet and follow along their way. However, as time went on, I became better at communicating my thoughts to my

peers, and I began to become better at working with others. This, in turn, also improved my social skills, and helped me state my opinions and thoughts, and made my personality sparkle much more than before. I feel like collaboration is key in many aspects a community needs to have and could help students connect with others easily than it was before.

6. Senator Diane Feinstein is attributed with saying, "Ninety percent of leadership is the ability to communicate something people want." What do you believe is the greatest desire of the student body?

I think the biggest thing the student body wants is less stress. Stress, due to school and personal conflicts, are very common in high school, and I believe more in a boarding school like Webb. The stress of work, the stress of adjusting, the stress of expectations, the stress of social issues, all are apparent especially in the boarding community, where many live apart from their parents. I believe lessening the stress, either with more communication and fun activities, could be very foremost for our community's wants.

7. If you were given one school day, a budget of twenty thousand dollars, and complete authority to plan a program for the entire community...
   a. What would be your goals for the day?
- To provide fun and exciting activities with high importance of connecting students
- To help new students link with new friends and teachers, and help them feel comfortable in a new environment
- To help Students relieve their stress, and take this day off to take their mind off whatever they are stressing about
- To help student leaders lead the activities and practice their leadership
- To help teachers get to know the students, and to make connections even before the classes start
- To help new students understand the campus better, and get used to the vibe
- Finally, TO HAVE FUN!

   b. What would the agenda/schedule look like?

8:30 am: Optional breakfast

9:00 am: Finding activity group (lead by PAs) in Centennial field

9:10 am: Introducing each other, short fun group activity such as hot potato

9:45 am: Set up sign-up sheets, sign up to different activities

10:00 am to 10:45 am: 1st activity begins, teachers lead the activities

10:50 am: Community snack, with snacks provided by the dining hall staff

11:10 am to 11:55 am: 2nd activity begins

12:00 pm: Lunch, switch up PA groups

1:00 pm to 1:45 pm: 3rd activity begins, with the new PA groups

2:00 pm to 2:45 pm: Final activity begins

3:00 pm: Community competition (arm wrestle)

3:00 pm to 5:00 pm: Free time, new students explore campus with Prefects and DSPs

5:30 pm to 6:00 pm: "Community dinner" (but not really), where everyone eats dinner but not assigned

6:30 pm to 10:30 pm: Community welcome back dance at the Upper Dorms, led by Stugov.

11:00 pm: Check in, lights out for freshmen.