

Current Grade:

9th

Boarder or Day: Day

Student Signature

Brianna Stodghill

Date

4/20/23

Advisor Signature

[Signature]

Date

4/20/23

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: **Brianna Stodghill**

Applying for **President** or Vice President:

1. What are THREE (3) goals you would devote your time to pursuing as a Class Officer of Stu Gov?
 - a. **Greater Access, Transparency, and Engagement between Student Government Representatives and students**
 - b. **Increased focus on student advocacy as a focus of Student Government**
 - c. **Promote cultural responsiveness to address issues important to students, and improve racial awareness, student unity, etc.**

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)

"Community is about more than belonging to something; it's about doing something together that makes belonging matter." -Brian Solis

This quote illustrates my approach to leadership in the sense that I don't see governance as something to be accomplished by one person. A leader should be a reflection of the people they serve. Leading shouldn't happen from 'above', it should be carried out among and with the people. A leader who empowers those they represent by bringing their concerns and goals to the forefront and then responds to these needs together with the student body is what true community is based on. In addition, creating community and serving the community is important to me. In my opinion, the guiding principles of meaningful community based leadership is transparency, community involvement, and the incorporation of the views and voices of the student body in everything we do.

3. List THREE (3) skills or qualities you possess that you would utilize in your work as a Class Officer.

- a. Invested
- b. Honest
- c. Responsive

4. 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 your class?

I believe the greatest desire of my class is to be heard and understood. Many students in the VWS Class of 2026 have personally shared with me issues they have experienced with teachers, class workload, and the overall campus culture. In addition, Student Government has been, to a large extent, focused on the planning and execution of recreational activities, leaving many of the more focal issues within the student body left unaddressed. In the coming year, I want to address these issues; bringing forward the issues that are important to us. Making all student voices heard by administration is important to me.

5. Please address each scenario with a paragraph response. During a class meeting, your class expresses an overwhelming desire to change a major school rule.

- a. Scenario 1: You believe the request is realistic, aligns with Webb's mission and values, supports your class, and will improve your class's Webb experience. How would you address this desire? In other words, what would you do in response to their request?

In response to this request, I would first talk with the Lead Class Advisor and then bring up for discussion during the student government meeting to evaluate whether or not this is of interest among other grades as well. If this is indeed of interest to the broader study body, I would work with the Student Government Execs and officers to develop and carry out an implementation strategy with input from the students. If, however, the issue is not relevant to the entire student body, I would instead schedule a meeting with Dean Lantz, Dr. Smith, the lead class advisor, my other grade level officers, and any other faculty member needed to address this major rule change request. During this meeting, I would present the concerns expressed by our class related to the rule in its current form. Based on input from the students, I would provide the motivation/explanation for the revision, detailing the impact the rule is currently having on the students. And lastly, I would detail how the rule change is in keeping with Webb's mission and our values, and how it will improve our class's Webb experience. The goal at the end of this meeting would be to either

have a resolution that achieves the goals of our class, or a framework that provides the foundation needed to work towards achieving this goal. Either way, transparency and regular communication with my class body will be critical as we continue to work toward strengthening our community connections.

- b. Scenario 2: You believe the request is UNrealistic, does NOT align with Webb's mission and values, does NOT support your class, and will NOT improve their Webb experience. How would you address this desire? In other words, what would you do in response to their request?

I would address this desire by first sharing with the class that the requested rule change is unlikely to be adopted by the school, and then by providing the supporting evidence to help the class understand why I believe this is the case. I would then suggest that we brainstorm as a class other ways to address the root cause of/motivation behind the request. It would be important to think through/strategize next steps to resolve the request, given that the proposed rule change would be something that the entire class was motivated to see implemented. As the current class President I have learned that such requests (requests that are unlikely to be adopted) must be reimaged to align with Webb's mission and values and that these requests are not the result of student negligence. After working together as a class to reformulate the request, I would bring it forward to the Lead Class Advisor and my Vice President. The goal here would be to negotiate this more feasible approach, an approach that would ultimately benefit the students and address their concerns.