

Sagar Sanghvi

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Background

Throughout the past year and my years in Student Government, I have learned a lot about the issues at hand in our county. I have learned about closing the achievement gap, budget deficits and about policy issues. My knowledge and my opinions have helped me to succeed in representing the student body. This past year I created a Student Advisory Committee in order to help make my decisions better. My passion for education and my dedication to success for every student has been the backbone of opinion as a representative of students. With the help of the student body and my strong opinion on the Board, I hope to continue to complete these goals and provide the best education for every student.

Education

2001-present Colonel Zadok Magruder High School (Grades 9-10)
Grade Point Average: 3.97
Cumulative Grade Point Average: 4.67
1999-2001 Redland Middle School (Grades 7-8)
1998-1999 Rosa Parks Middle School (Grade 6)
1992-1998 Cashell Elementary School (Grades K-5)

Leadership and Accomplishments

1998-1999 Rosa Parks Student of the Year Award
Class of 2005 Vice President
1999-2001 Redland Middle School Student of the Year Award
1999-2000 Member- Council On Instruction
Class of 2005 Vice President
Secretary- Montgomery County Junior Councils (MCJC)
2000-2001 Maryland Leadership Workshops-MLW attendee
President- MCJC
President- Redland Middle School SGA
2001-2002 Montgomery County Region (MCR)
Deputy Special Elections Committee Chairman
Maryland Association of Student Councils (MASC)
State Legislative Affairs Coordinator
2002-2003 President- MCR
Member- Shared Accountability Workgroup
MLW Advance Leadership Workshops attendee
2002-2004 Member- Spanish Honor's Society
2001-2003 Member- High School Task Force
President- Class of 2005
2001-2004 Member- Ahimsa Youth Organization
Trainer- MASC Legislative Session
2000-2004 Executive Member- MASC
Trainer- MASC Middle School Conference
2003-2004 Student Member on the Montgomery County
Board of Education (SMOB)

*Community Service: 648 hours- These hours have been completed through my work in Student Government along with my work with different community service groups.

Platform

I Support:

- Full Voting Rights- Student Member
- Cell Phone Policy for Middle School Students (similar to HS policy)
- School Beginning- After Labor Day
- Technology Use in Schools
- Funding for Schools in Needed Situations
- Alternate Schedules/Later Start Times - resulting in smaller class sizes
- New and Up to Date Curriculum which encompasses Technology
- A consistent grading policy that in some way incorporates student effort Weight of Exams: 25%
- Pilot Program for Double A Exam Exemption
- Vocational Learning Programs
- Consistent among our schools on a county-wide basis

I Oppose:

- LC Policy- Attendance is necessary for students to learn effectively, but the LC Policy is not effective and is not good for students
- Weight of Exams: 30%
- High School Assessments and other standardized tests- students should not have to take a test to define their academic careers

My platform is based on research and information that I have seen over the past few years. I believe these positions reflect student views, and I know they will help to cause change in the school system.

Question 1: The strengths of our county revolve around our open mind and initiative to lead the way. The past few years MCPS has implemented new policies and presented new ideas that have been followed by others. Our weakness, however, is in the massive communication barrier between the Board and community. Because our county is so big, only feedback after every big decision will ensure success. I propose that after every big policy decision, we have an "impact analysis", where different county stakeholders come together and inform the Board of the impact of any decision.

Question 2: The SMOB is in charge of representing the entire county, not just the students. I feel like through the PTA and through the different unions the Board can reach out to adult groups. Many students may be wondering what I have done to reach out to students. Since it is nearly impossible to go to more than a few schools, I have created a Student Advisory Committee; a forum where students from all over the county can discuss issues. I can get feedback from their discussions and use it as fuel for my opinions on any issue.

The candidates' profiles have been prepared by the candidates and do not necessarily represent the views of the Special Elections Committee (SEC). The Montgomery County Region of the Maryland Association of Student Councils (MCR), or Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). The SEC cannot assure the accuracy of the statements contained in this document. Published by the SEC of MCR in cooperation with MCPS.