

Ava Davis
Student Board Member Application
17 May, 2024

To The Shasta Union High School District Board of Education,

My name is Ava Davis, and I am currently a junior at Foothill High School. I am interested in serving as a Shasta Union High School District student board member. A little about myself: I was born and raised in Redding and moved to Palo Cedro when I was about 5. Although I have yet to live outside of the Redding area, I still have some unique experiences. I have traveled all over the world, from Europe to Africa and even to some countries in the Middle East. These travels have provided me with multiple opportunities to learn from others, recognize my own ethnocentric views, and develop a growth mindset. This has aided me in understanding and helping others. In addition, it has given me a cross-cultural understanding and a drive to help others.

Currently, I am attending Foothill, but I am also taking college classes at Shasta College in an attempt to complete my associate's degree when I graduate high school. After high school, I plan on attending a four-year university where I will study dentistry and eventually become an endodontist. I plan to travel the world once I have completed all my schooling and help those who cannot afford or do not have oral care. Through my travels, I have seen firsthand how many people suffer from oral pain because they do not have the supplies or the ability to have good hygiene. I want to help those people, particularly those in developing countries, who are struggling and work to contribute to the health of others.

I am interested in serving as a Student District Member because I want to serve as a voice for others and be more involved with my community. I believe the Board will give me an insight into school operations, helping me gain a deeper understanding of how schools operate and the challenges involved in educational administration. Working with the Board will also help me understand diverse viewpoints, as it will help me understand and appreciate diverse views and the complexities of the decision-making processes.

Regarding qualifications, I believe I am very competent to fill this role. My involvement in extracurricular activities, particularly my leadership roles, is a testament to my dedication and leadership skills. I have participated in four sports, two year-round and two of them are seasonal. I am a proud member of the Youth Action Council (YAC), Peer Court Student Advocate, Interact Club President, Science Club Vice President, Recycling Club president, member of the Superintendent Advisory Committee, California Association of the Student Councils outreach director (CASC), NSHSS, and Honors Society. I have had four years of ASB, including the

positions of the Student Perspective, Sophomore Class President, and Senior Class Vice President. These experiences have not only enriched my high school journey but also equipped me with the necessary skills to contribute effectively as a Student Board Member.

Additionally, I volunteer year-round at Haven Humane Society and spend a month during summer helping the youth train dogs to aid them in adoption. This experience has not only given me a deep understanding of community needs but also instilled in me the importance of service.

I believe that this commitment to service is a testament to my dedication and will be a valuable asset to my role as a student board member. That being said, I can offer the Board a holistic perspective, advocacy skills, and team dynamics that will benefit the district. My involvement in multiple sports, leadership positions, and clubs provides me with a broad understanding of the varied interests and needs of the student body. I also have experience advocating for peers as a Peer Court Advocate and CASC outreach director, equipping me with strong advocacy skills and effectively representing and articulating student concerns and interests. Next, I have excellent team dynamics from my extensive experiences in sports and group activities that demonstrate my ability to work collaboratively, an essential skill for effective board participation. Above all, I understand students' daily challenges with balancing academics, extracurricular activities, and personal life, allowing me to advocate for policies supporting students' well-being and time management.

If I were to be granted this position as a student board member, there would be multiple skills and experience that I would gain; however, the most significant impact of working with the Board would be gaining new perspectives, with an understanding of how the Board can be utilized to help others, fostering new relationships, and critical thinking skills. This would help me analyze complex issues and contribute to discussions that will sharpen my critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. I would also gain the idea of contributing to the greater good for all students in the district, and it will encourage me to have a lifelong commitment to community service and civic engagement. Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,
Ava Davis



Foothill High School

Kevin Greene, Principal

Shawn Anstine, Assistant Principal

Kevin Strohmeyer, Assistant Principal

To the SUHSD Board of Trustees:

May 15, 2024

The purpose of this letter is to recommend Ava Davis for the position of “student board member” for the Shasta Union High School District Board for the 2024-2025 school year. You will not find a more qualified individual than this young lady. Please allow me a few minutes of your time to tell you about Ava.

Ava has been a golfer on our Varsity Girls Golf team the past 3 seasons. She is very bright, knowledgeable in the game, and succeeds on the course in a variety of situations. She is viewed by her teammates as a leader, and sets the tone for all players. Her play on the course earned her all-league honors this past year, and she also qualified for the Northern California finals in Berkeley last fall. She also led her team to the section finals as a Sophomore for the first time in school history. We can’t wait for her senior season this fall.

Ava is also an excellent student. Her overall G.P.A. is 3.9, and if you add in the “weighted” scores, it is around 4.1! Ava is an exceptional student in the classroom, and when you factor in her studies, and athletics, she is off the charts. She is also an accomplished athlete in martial arts. I believe she is currently a brown belt, and will soon test for her black belt. Ava is one of the most well-balanced, driven kids, that I have ever had the pleasure of working with.

As you can see, Ava is an accomplished teen, but these accomplishments do not tell the whole story. Her goal is to serve others. She is very active in student government. She will be the Foothill senior class Vice-President next year. She’s also an officer in CASC (California Association of Student Councils). She enjoys serving others and representing all. In addition, if I needed someone to feed my animals, or house-sit while on vacation, I would call and ask Ava. Not only would she say “yes”, but I would have no reservations about Ava being responsible for my house and animals. In fact, my wife adores this young lady, and trusts her explicitly.

I strongly advise you to appoint Ava Davis to our school board. As a student, she is unmatched. Ava will represent the students in the district well, and she is not afraid to speak up, or have an opinion on issues. She will be an active, full participant in being on the board. She will engage the five adults she serves with, and truly strive to understand the issues and functions of the school board. I could not be prouder to recommend her, or write this letter on her behalf.

If I may answer any questions about Ava, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A. Layne McLean

Business and Technology Teacher

Foothill High School

lmclean@suhsd.net – personal cell 530-945-3309



Foothill High School

Kevin Greene, Principal

Shawn Anstine, Assistant Principal

Kevin Strohmayr, Assistant Principal

March 20, 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write this Letter of Recommendation for Ms. Ava Davis. In my career in education of twenty plus years, she stands out as being one of the best students I've had the opportunity to work with. Not only is her personality infectious, she's extremely dedicated, inspiring, bubbly, empathic and athletic just to name a few characteristics. In addition to being an amazing young lady, she's also very intelligent. Currently she's enrolled in three AP courses and thus far in high school, she's taken 11 other AP/Honor courses while maintaining a 4.3 GPA.

Ms. Davis has been involved in the following activities during the first three years at Foothill High School: interact club president, honors society, girls golf, ASB, VP of science club, superintendent advisory council member and sophomore class president just to name a few activities. Just this year, Ms. Davis was our only female golfer to make it to the state level and played a great round of golf! It goes without question that Ms. Davis is heavily involved and is an excellent ambassador for Foothill High School. It goes without saying that regardless of what Ms. Davis does or pursues, she's going to be successful in all aspects of life. It's obvious that I think very highly of Ms. Davis and I'm excited that we have the great pleasure for one more year as a student at Foothill.

In addition to all the accomplishments, Ms. Davis works at Cosh Chiropractic Care and Wellness Center as an assistant in the front office. She also volunteers as a counselor of camp-love-a-pet from Haven Humane, dog walker at Haven, CASC conferences and Interact outside of school. She's also passionate about arts and crafts, has a deep love for animals and enjoys being with her friends. Ms. Davis is adventurous and loves trying new things.

Ms. Ava Davis truly is a unique and wonderful young lady and will always have my respect and support. Without question, she exhibits all the characteristics of a young adult that is going to be extremely successful and have a positive contribution in all endeavors. Please do not hesitate to contact me at kgreene@suhsd.net if you like to discuss Ms. Ava Davis further.

Kevin Greene

Principal
Foothill High School