



name: **Burns, Ryan**

office: **President**

sponsor: Larry Dean

school: Summit Country Day

grade: 11

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## Classics/JCL Experience:

Years of Latin/Greek: **6+**

State Conventions attended: **4**

National Conventions attended: **2**

Will you attend all Executive Board Meetings, Fall Forum 2019, and State Convention 2020? (Y/N): **Yes**

Will you attend the 2019 National Convention at North Dakota State University in Fargo, ND? (Y/N): **Yes**

## Experience/Activities:

Club Offices: 2016-2017 Gubernator: organized two officer socials during the year and took minutes at many meetings; 2017-2018 Treasurer: organized spirit at state and attended most events and meetings in both years; 2018-2019 Second Vice President: headed the committee for making club projects, including but not limited to music video, commercial, club project, and banner

Relevant experience or traits, general and with specifics for the given Office:

I am a referee for basketball games at the YMCA, and this involves much communication between me, my supervisor, and the other referees as we figure out schedules and how the gym needs to be set up at a given time; through this experience I have developed communication skills with adults and peers, and I have learned to communicate within a group of people with the same goal. These traits are important to the office of President. As the Summit Treasurer, I led and organized a delegation of forty students in spirit last year, giving me a thorough understanding of what it takes to organize large groups. I currently serve as Second Vice President on the Summit board, where I lead the creation of all the club projects for Summit. This entails finding times for our board to work on these projects and delegating roles to other members of the board to do the banner, club project, music video script, etc. This role has given me relevant experience in efficiently managing a large number of projects, preparing me well for the office of OJCL President. As OJCL South Gubernator, I organized three service events and the south pre-nationals picnic. Planning these events have given me valuable experience in communicating with adults both inside and outside the OJCL, and I plan to use these communication skills throughout my presidency. In addition, as OJCL South Gubernator, I organized Ludi sign-ups for Ohio at national convention. This gave me experience working and communicating with my peers and working through issues that came up throughout that process, important qualities vital to the office of President. The President of the OJCL should be a good communicator with both peers and adults and a great leader, and I think I would bring both of these qualities to the office if elected.

School & non-school related activities/sports/etc.:

I play baseball for Summit, and I skip a weekend of practice every year to come to state convention, and it will be no different in the years to come. I volunteer at the YMCA, and I have already scheduled volunteer dates around Changeover Meeting, Fall Planning Meeting, Winter Planning Meeting, Fall Forum, NJCL convention, and next year's OJCL convention. If elected, I can attend all meetings, Fall Forum, and both

the state and national conventions. I plan to prioritize my role as OJCL President and take responsibility for my important duty to this great organization.

## **Executive Board:**

Ability to communicate with students and adults (chaperones, sponsors, teachers):

My experience at the YMCA being a referee for basketball games has given me valuable experience communicating with both peers and adults because of how much set-up there is for the gym. In addition, I play baseball, and I communicate often with coaches and teammates about various scheduling issues that arise because of OJCL or other activities. I am very comfortable with working with students from all over Ohio because of my time spent getting to know friends from various schools and geographic areas at the state and national conventions. The OJCL has offered me a welcoming community, and I am excited to meet more passionate classics students from Ohio at this convention. As OJCL gubernator, I got to know many more peers from the Cincinnati region because of my leadership in organizing service events and the pre-nats picnic. Organizing Ohio's Ludi at nationals introduced me to many more people from Columbus and Cleveland, allowing me the opportunity to connect with students from all three regions of Ohio. I have met many kind and considerate teachers and adults through local certamina and state and national conventions, heightening my comfort level in working with adults across Ohio. Organizing service events in the past year has further improved my communication skills with adults because coordinating these events involves numerous planning emails to work out dates, times, and important details.

What have you done to understand the duties of the office you are seeking?

I have read both the Constitution and By-Laws in full, and I have focused in on the duties of president to understand all elements of the office. I have also talked to both former OJCL president Joseph Delamerced and current OJCL president Grant Bruner about improvements and modifications they think would be beneficial to the office. Additionally, I had the opportunity to witness and understand all aspects of the office of OJCL President during my time on the OJCL Executive Board.

Do you have any goals/ideas for the Executive Board and/or the OJCL? Please be specific to the office you are seeking.

Better utilize the email list that is compiled at Fall Forum of local officers. Send out informational emails once every two weeks about events and deadlines, and start sending them out more frequently as state convention nears. Improve the OJCL calendar on ojcl.org by updating it with deadlines and dates of important events. Update the website with important events as they arise. Send an email to club leaders for integrating the OJCL calendar into their own google calendars, so they can access OJCL deadlines from their phones. Create a new colloquium at state convention for club leaders to sit down with the OJCL President and talk about how to improve communication and their own clubs. Sell OJCL merchandise, such as wristbands and shirts, at Fall Forum. Because National Convention costs more this year than it did last year, I want to make delegates more aware of scholarships to National Convention.

Why would you like to become a member of the OJCL Executive Board?

I was on the board last year and had a great experience serving the OJCL, and I want to do so much more this year. The OJCL has been such a welcoming and empowering community to me, and I want to carry on this reputation and attitude of the OJCL.

Other Biographical Information/Comments:

None.