

My name is Sydney Pike and I am currently a student at Cypress College studying Political Science. I am extremely passionate about student advocacy and have sought to fight the many barriers that community college students face on a daily basis. I am inspired to represent and elevate the voices of those who are often underrepresented or struggle to be heard or supported. I am dedicated to advocate for issues that many students face including mental health, accessibility of resources, and food insecurity. I am motivated to become the Region VIII Communications Officer to continue the integrity and image of our region, increase student engagement, provide greater accessibility of information, and most importantly to help unite and connect all of the colleges in the region.

The position of Region VIII Communications Officer comes with a great deal of responsibility and commitment. Based on similar leadership positions I have previously held, the organizational, planning, and time management skills learned through each make me the ideal candidate for this job. Early this year, I was appointed as the delegate of Cypress College's Associated Students. As the delegate for Cypress College I was able to represent thousands of students from all different walks of life and able to be the voice that represents them at the Region VIII Delegate Assembly and at General Assembly. This position has allowed me to speak on important issues that are taking place within my college and has provided me the opportunity to collaborate and share ideas and information with other colleges in my region.

As the current Executive Vice President and President elect of my college's SBA, I have been able to work with a diverse group of people, organizations and institutions which has allowed me to connect, expand, and network with each. This position has made me well-versed in proper email, letter, phone, and social etiquette required for this position. Further, my experience from each prior leadership position has made me an excellent planner and organizer including fundraisers, bonding events, volunteer events, and even banquets.

In addition to these positions, I acted as the main communications coordinator for my high school newspaper and instagram account. I was responsible for creating flyers and social media advertisements for different campus events as well as to update our school newspaper's website with new articles and information. I am running for this position because I would like to continue to see the student voice at work. With this position, I look to bolster further participation in the SSCCC and to continue my work and engagement in promoting student advocacy while connecting with new people to establish a team of dedicated student leaders.

If I were to be appointed to this position, I would prioritize outreach and engagement, networking, and lastly the management of maintenance of our Region VIII's image and activity. If I were to become Region VIII's Communication Officer it would be my goal to try to have all the colleges active. I would focus on each college and provide them with the necessary information and resources that are pertinent to ensuring representation within the Region. Having all colleges active will ensure proper representation but also growth through the sharing of ideas and resources. I look to unite all of the colleges in Region VIII in order to connect and bring us closer together to better accomplish our goals of equity, collegiality, and excellence. I think it is crucial to be able to network and stay connected with other regional communication officers. I

believe that transparency and collaboration are an essential part of this position. I would ensure both and cultivate an environment and space where I could communicate openly, freely, and effectively with other communication officers, my fellow region officers, delegates, and local SBA's. Our region is something to take great pride in because of all the hard work that our delegates and their SBA's do. I would be sure to continue this and to provide much needed resources, updates, and attention to these accomplishments and work.