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How do you work with or lead a team?

Effective teamwork begins with strong, intentional leadership, and I believe the most meaningful way to lead is by example. To me, this means consistently putting in the same level of effort, professionalism, and commitment that I would expect from my team. When team members see their leader fully invested, it sets a standard for accountability and helps build a culture of mutual respect. A key part of leading a successful team is ensuring that everyone clearly understands their roles and responsibilities. When expectations are defined, people feel more confident and capable in their work. I strive to create an environment where responsibilities are transparent, goals are shared, and every member feels supported in executing their part. Just as important is fostering open communication. I believe every team member should have the opportunity to express their thoughts, ideas, and concerns. Encouraging discussion not only strengthens collaboration but also ensures that diverse perspectives are heard and valued. This transparency helps the team feel included in the decision-making process, rather than simply being instructed on what to do. Ultimately, my goal is to ensure that everyone feels they play a meaningful role in both daily tasks and larger projects. I want team members to understand how and why decisions are made, and to feel proud of their contributions to those outcomes. By leading with clarity, openness, and shared purpose, I aim to create a team dynamic where individuals are motivated, appreciated, and empowered to do their best work.

What leadership experiences have equipped you for the Speaker of the House role?

I would make a strong Speaker of the House for ASDA because my professional, academic, and personal experiences uniquely align with the leadership, communication, and facilitation skills required for this position. Having worked as a realtor, I learned how to navigate complex conversations, negotiate between differing interests, and maintain clarity under pressure. Real estate demands active listening, impartiality, and the ability to guide groups toward mutually acceptable outcomes. These are skills that directly translate to presiding over reference committee hearings, managing resolutions, and ensuring fair, organized House of Delegates proceedings. My experience as class president has further prepared me for the Speaker role by teaching me how to mediate between students and administration and foster productive dialogue. Serving as a bridge between my classmates and school leadership required diplomacy, transparency, and a commitment to equity; qualities essential for ensuring that all chapters and delegates feel heard and respected during House deliberations. It also strengthened my ability to communicate procedural updates, clarify expectations, and maintain order in a respectful, approachable manner. Growing up in sports also shaped my understanding of fair play and the importance of a neutral facilitator. Referees taught me how crucial it is for someone to enforce

structure while remaining unbiased, consistent, and calm. This perspective aligns perfectly with the Speaker's responsibility to uphold ASDA's governing documents, oversee parliamentary procedure, and ensure that debates remain balanced and constructive. Together, these experiences give me balanced judgment, communication skills, and steady leadership needed to serve effectively as ASDA's Speaker.

What are 2-3 issues important to dental students and/or the position of speaker?

As tuition continues to rise and student loan burdens increase alongside it, upcoming changes to federal loan programs will inevitably become a major focus within the House of Delegates. With so many perspectives represented across districts and chapters, the Speaker of the House plays a critical role in ensuring that debates around affordability, repayment reform, and financial protections for students remain organized, transparent, and rooted in ASDA's mission. The Speaker must guide delegates through the details of each resolution, maintain order during emotionally charged discussions, and guarantee that every voice has a fair opportunity to be heard. By upholding structure, neutrality, and parliamentary procedure, the Speaker helps the House find common ground and craft policy that truly benefits all dental students.

Fluoridation policies continue to be essential as caries rates rise, specially in underserved communities lacking consistent preventive care. At the same time, provider shortages in rural and low-income areas have sparked renewed debate on the role of midlevel providers in expanding access. As these topics appear in House of Delegates resolutions, the Speaker must remain a neutral arbiter, ensuring that students can discuss public health needs, workforce solutions, and ethical considerations without bias or disruption. The Speaker's responsibility is not to influence the stance but to facilitate an environment where evidence, diverse viewpoints, and thoughtful solutions can be shared openly. By maintaining structure and impartiality, the Speaker enables the House to address access challenges with clarity and unity.