

Sierra Student Leadership 2016-17 Application First Year Leadership Student

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Helen Keller

PLEASE READ THIS APPLICATION CAREFULLY AND PROOFREAD IT BEFORE TURNING IT IN. AN INCOMPLETE APPLICATION WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

In order to be a member of the Leadership Class, you should be identified as a leader (by your parents, teachers, and peers), be a great positive role model for other students, love being involved in student activities, and be willing to commit your time (**before, during, and after school** to improving schoolwide activities.) You must have an exemplary student behavior record, and maintain a 2.5 gpa with no F's in order to maintain your position. These things are a **MUST**. If you agree to be a member of the Student Leadership Group at SMS, you will be required (as part of your grade) to give up time as needed. **By participating in this class, you agree to attend all Leadership Class sponsored events and activities – missing these due to other commitments and appointments is not an excuse. You will be graded for your participation in all events because applying to be in this class says that you will commit to attending all events. Taking family vacations, attending appointments, and participating in sports practices will not be excused absences and will affect your grade. You must schedule these events around your Leadership commitments. You will be presented with a calendar well in advance of the start of the school year.** If you are a person who has a hectic schedule before/after school, leadership would not be a good choice for you. If, however, you have time to dedicate to leadership, keep reading!

This class will be very interactive. We will be reading, doing cooperative activities, improving our leadership skills, and implementing what we have learned in schoolwide activities. We will also make class presentations, schoolwide presentations, and even statewide presentations (at the CASL State Leadership Conference held each Spring). Our number one goal in doing all of this is to help you to grow and develop as young leaders. This will help you to develop both as an individual, and as a productive member of a group.

The rewards of this group are amazing! You should develop personal Leadership skills, learn how to make large group presentations, and possibly even participate in regional, state, and national leadership conferences. Furthermore, you will learn the importance of community service within our school and larger community.

All leadership students are also required to attend the summer leadership training event. This is an integral part of the teambuilding process, and therefore is a must. We anticipate that the **dates for this mandatory event will be held in August – approximately one week before the start of school – exact dates will be published at the end of the school year.** Students should plan to be there for the entire day/evening on those dates – these may involve weekday and/or weekend dates. Please initial here to indicate that you have read the application so far and are still interested. _____

If you have read this far, and are still interested, good for you! Please complete the application below and turn it in to Mrs. Gadeke by **April 19, 2016.** (NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED) **EARLY applications are strongly encouraged!!** ☺

This application is for students who are applying for a first year to the SMS Leadership Class.

PLEASE PRINT NEATLY IN PEN – do NOT write answers in pencil.

Candidate's Full Name _____

Current School _____

Address: _____

Stockton, CA (zip) _____

Phone Number _____ Email address _____

Candidate's Section: You may answer in the space provided, or type your answers and staple them to the back of the application

1. Who is the best leader you know and why?

2. Why do you want to come to Sierra Middle School (or – if you attended 7th grade here, what are the things you value about our school?)

3. Who do you admire? Why?

4. Name your favorite teacher (from your entire school career) and explain what made him/her special.

5. Describe what school spirit means to you.

6. How important is it that our student leaders set a good example all of the time at school? Why?

Sierra has a uniform policy. **Are you willing to follow this policy every single day (except on free dress days)? Explain your answer.**

7. Are you willing to schedule your doctors appointments, dental appointments, dance/play/cheer/sports rehearsals/practices and vacations around our Leadership Schedule – this includes summer and school activities?

8. Describe your leadership qualities to us.

9. Do you have any leadership experience (in school or outside of school.) If yes, please explain.
10. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about yourself?

Essay Question: Student, in no more than 300 words, explain why you want to be a member of the 2015-2016 SMS Leadership Class. Please type or neatly print your answer and attach it to the back of this application.

Student Section:

I, _____, understand that there is a time commitment involved with my participation in SMS Student Leadership. I am willing to give up time as needed before, during, and after school so that I will be a productive and important member of this group. I will maintain an excellent behavioral record with no referrals and/or suspensions, etc. I will also maintain at least a 2.5 gpa with no F's. I understand that the Leadership Class plans all school events, and that if I agree to this responsibility, **I will be at ALL events (including dances, rallies, etc.) and that I will participate in all schoolwide contests (poster, door decorating, dress up days, etc.), and that this participation will be an important part of my Leadership Class grade.**

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

Parent's Section

Tell us what you believe are your child's outstanding qualities that will make him/her an asset to the Leadership Class at Sierra.

I, _____, understand that there is a considerable time commitment involved with my child's participation in SMS Student Leadership. I also understand that there is a behavior and minimum grade requirement for participation in the class. I also understand that once my child has committed to involvement in SMS Student Leadership, the group will be counting on him/her to fulfill his/her responsibilities. I feel that my child will be able to handle the time commitment involved, and that he/she will be an asset to the group! **I also understand that my child must participate in all events (including dances, rallies, and the mandatory summer training, etc.) and enter all school wide Leadership Class sponsored contests, and that this will be an important part of his/her Leadership Class grade. We understand that our child will receive a copy of the Leadership Class schedule for the year, and will make all appointments (doctor, hairdresser, dentist, cheerleading/dance/play rehearsals, family vacations, etc.) on dates that do not conflict with the student activities scheduled for the year. My child's grade will be affected if we choose to miss or arrive late/leave early from these events/activities.** We also understand that if our child is an ASB Officer, he/she must be an active member (who is enrolled in) the Leadership Class .

Parent, please read carefully, consider this seriously, and discuss the time commitment and the requirements with your child before agreeing sign. Participation in the Leadership Class is voluntary, but once your child has committed, the contract will be enforced.

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Teacher Recommendation:

Please note that **we will be in contact with your teacher(s) and/or principal** in order to verify that you are a qualified applicant. Students must meet high behavioral and scholastic standards in order to qualify. Teacher recommendations will be confidential and will not be shared with the applicant.

Please list all of your current school teachers (include music, PE, etc.).

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Grades/Citizenship

Please attach a copy of your report card for this year (most recent) to this application.

THIS APPLICATION MUST BE TURNED IN WITH A SELF ADDRESSED, STAMPED BUSINESS SIZE ENVELOPE STAPLED TO IT. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED OF YOUR ACCEPTANCE STATUS IN THIS ENVELOPE.

When you have finished this application, please proofread all answers and make sure you have fulfilled all requirements. Incomplete applications will not be accepted for consideration. We expect that there will be more applications than available spots for leadership. The most complete applications from the most qualified candidates will be selected to fill these spots.

You will be notified of your selection status on or about May 5, 2016. *If you are accepted, it will be conditional, based upon your district placement at/acceptance to Sierra Middle School.*