

Here is the untouched version of my speech that I had written down on a piece of paper in front of me:

My fellow classmates, the current sophomores and soon to be Juniors of the class of 2026. By this point I would hope that you already know my name, but if not—allow me to introduce myself—Daniel Yodfat. Zero score and 1 year ago, I ran for your presidential class officer and as Thomas Jefferson put it, “The failure of one thing is repaired by the success of another.” Today, I stand before you to deliver this speech with not only the intentions of becoming your next president of the class office, but to also make a lasting impact and a change in this school towards improvement. Yet, I would first like to bring attention to a different concept. Of those of you here, I would estimate that only 90% of you are listening to the words I am saying. Of this 90%, I would guess that half of you will forget most of what I am saying within a few minutes. Of the other half, probably only 10% of you will truly take in the message of this speech and allow that to influence your vote rather than use the bribes or sweet delicacies. 4.5% of our student body accounts for only 12 students and even if I were to triple that value, it wouldn’t account for 15% of the whole student body. What I ask of you today is to make a small change and simply listen to the message I send within the next minute of this speech. In return for the numerous small changes you make now, which will turn into votes in the next few weeks, I promise to commit myself to this position and make the necessary changes and actions to improve the school and its community for next year.

The first change that I will push to make is fixing one issue described by both staff and students as a massive problem. This is the lack of paper within the school. Whether it is toilet paper, paper towels, tissue paper or even printer paper, there simply is not enough within the school. My main goal to accomplish during next school year as a part of the class officers is to increase the school's quantity of these paper supplies so no student has to run to the nurse’s office for a box of tissue nor lack the paper towel to dry their hands after using the bathroom.

On top of that, I will continue to improve the school to the best of my ability through cooperation and coordination with the other class officers.

As of now, you may only have one question left to ask me, “But, why should I vote for you as President?”. To that question—I answer—I will deliver to this school a passion, commitment and determination as strong as a hydrogen bond which all students in APUSH may have seen earlier this year with the study guide I made. Actions as efficient and effective as President FDR’s first 100 days of the New Deal, yet mine span across the full 180 days of the school year. Improvements to the school displayed on a graph that can only be described as exponential. Communication and understanding between the officers and the student body will flow as fluently “casi tan bien como mi español”. I will continue to provide a plethora of evidence showcasing my leadership skills from group projects, to volunteering experiences, and to helping around the house with my two younger siblings. This evidence should be enough to provide an adequate line of reasoning for your analysis.

Make a small change now with the culmination of your votes to allow me to create the large necessary change to improve this school.

With that all said and done, I implore you to make the right decision when the election date arrives and vote for me, Daniel Yodfat, who will improve the school over the course of this next year as your future president of the class officers.

Here is the actual speech I gave with annotation:

Good afternoon, my fellow classmates, the current sophomores and soon to be Juniors of the class of 2026. [polite opening] By this point I would hope that you already know my name, but if not—allow me to introduce myself—Daniel Yodfat. [A quick introduction which gets straight into the bulk of the speech]

Zero score and 1 year ago, I ran for your presidential class officer and unfortunately failed to achieve the position. [Quick refresh showing that I ran last year and now I am running again] Yet, as Thomas Jefferson put it, “The failure of one thing is repaired by the success of another.” [Shows my personal growth] So today, I stand before you to deliver this speech not only with the intentions of becoming your next president of the class office, but to also make a lasting impact and a change toward school wide improvement. [Broad phrase to show what I want to do, intentions are later specified]

Yet, I would first like to begin by bringing attention to a different concept. [Switches topics to the attention grabber] Of those of you here right now, I would estimate that only 90% of you are listening to the words I am saying. Of this 90%, I would guess that half of you will remember what I am saying within just a few minutes and of the other half, I would guess that only 10% of you will truly take in the message of this speech and allow that to influence your vote rather than use the bribes or sweet delicacies [reference to last year's election where people used donuts and I did not]. This 4.5% will only account for 12 students and even if I were to triple that, it wouldn't even account for 15% of the student body. (From here to the next parentheses was improvised on the spot Some may question why I decided to include this thought provoking, yet possibly controversial statistic and that is for a very simple reason. It's a wake up call. [Very strong single line] I want all of you, right now, here in the audience facing me to be comfortable enough to speak with me and bring up your seemingly insignificant perspectives because, to me, every single voice is significant and important and has to be heard. [establishes the idea that I want you to listen to me now so as president I can listen to you] ) So, what I ask of you today is to make a small change and simply listen to the message I send within the next minute of this speech and in return for the numerous small changes you will make now, which will turn into votes in the next few hours [little break in speech because voting is the same day as voting which I wasn't aware of until that day], I promise to commit myself to this position and make the necessary changes and actions to improve the school and its community for next year.

The first change that I will push to make is fixing one issue described by both staff and students as a massive problem. [Establishes a Specific goal of mine and shows that I listen to the study body. The complaint was very common. This is the lack of paper within the school—whether it may be toilet paper, paper towels, tissue paper or even printer paper, there simply is not enough within the school. My main goal to accomplish during next school year as a part of the class officers is to increase the school's quantity of these paper supplies so no student has to run to the nurse's office for a box of tissues nor lack the paper towel to dry their hands after using the bathroom. [Uses more broad language to get the point across, you don't need anything crazy specific in your speech]

On top of that, I will continue to improve the school to the best of my ability through cooperation and coordination with the other class officers to make next year as great as possible. [Transition to final section while adding more about what I will do]

So as of now, you may only have one question left to ask me, “But, why should I vote for you as

President?”. [rhetorical question I ask and answer in the last section of the speech] To that question—I answer—[I make “jokes” about each class while also explaining for about why I can fit the best] I will deliver to this school a passion, commitment and determination as strong as a hydrogen bond [chemistry reference, but crowd erupted upon hearing hydrogen “bomb” not hydrogen “bond” so it worked out in the end] which all students in APUSH have already seen earlier this year with the study guide I made [directly references what I have already done for the student body]. I will deliver actions as efficient and effective as President FDR’s first 100 days of the New Deal, yet mine span across the full 180 days of the school year [crowd erupts again here for the APUSH reference]. I will deliver improvements to the school displayed on a graph that can only be described as exponential [small continued chuckle for the math class reference]. I will deliver communication and understanding between the officers and the student body [spanish section was removed due to the small portion of the student body who will get the joke]. I will continue to provide a plethora of evidence showcasing my leadership skills as your future president based upon group projects, volunteering experiences, and helping around the house with my two younger siblings [references what I can do based upon what I have done]. This evidence should be enough for an adequate line of reasoning [AP seminar reference that leads to the final section with more crowd participation].

What I ask of you now is to make small changes now with the culmination of your votes to allow me to create the large necessary change to improve this school [reverberates theme of small culminations lead to big changes].

With that all said and done, I implore you to make the right decision this afternoon and vote for me, Daniel Yodfat [puts up speech paper to reveal my logo on the other side], who will improve the school over the course of this next year as your future president of the class officers [this last section could not be heard or said over the applause].

Thank you all, have a good afternoon. [polite closing]

#### Some Context:

The speeches were supposed to take a total of 20 minutes, by the time I started my speech it had already taken an hour

I was going last, I had guessed this but I only knew for certain upon entering the auditorium.

The adult running the program (who you can briefly hear at the end of the recording) asked that the crowd save their cheers for the end, what happened during my speech only happened during my speech with the crowd cheering in the middle.

- I also did not hear the person shouting: “that’s my president” until hearing the recording. I genuinely don’t know how I missed it

The speech is split up into 5 main sections: an introduction, attention grabber, main focus, memorable ending, official closing.