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*HOTO Prompt: How are you using your role as editor to prepare for the upcoming year and keep your club connected, even during a quiet summer?*

### **HOTO: Laying the Groundwork for a Stronger Year**

As the new Editor of Goose Creek Memorial High School's Key Club, I have one idea in mind: to build a more unified, informed, and energetic club, even when times are slow right now. During the summer, things in Key Club slow down at our school, which might sound like a buzzkill—but I have begun to consider how I can utilize this time to prepare, plan, and brainstorm ways of communicating more effectively when the school year picks up again.



Since we don't have recurring events or projects over the summer, I'm trying to figure out ahead of time what I can do to improve next year. I've been considering what I noticed last year—how some of our members were excluded, how our amazing events weren't always given the right attention or turnout, and how some members were less active than they could have been. I want to improve on that this year. My role isn't to make newsletters and posts—it's to infuse energy into the way we tell our club's story and ensure everyone feels included.

Even if there are no summer activities, I believe that this time is valuable. It allows me to get ideas on how to make newsletters more engaging, demonstrate what we do better through projects and meetings, and keep our social media up to date so that people do not forget us. I'd like to experiment with new ideas, hear ideas from other officers, and even prepare templates beforehand. That way, when we begin the year, I won't be running around—I'll be prepared.

Above all, I desire members to be able to hold their heads high belonging to Key Club. That pride doesn't start with service hours or honors—it starts with the sense that they are part of an organization that notices them, believes in them, and appreciates what they have to offer. As editor, I might be the one hiding behind the flyer or the screen, but my actual work is ensuring no one feels left out of the story we're creating as a club. This summer may be subdued—but not necessarily boring. For me, it's a fresh beginning. And I'm ready to put something worthwhile into it.