

Abhiram Gaddam

Instagram: @abhiforsmob

Student

EXPERIENCE

Brand Representative

Hollister Co., Salisbury, Maryland

Sep 2023 - Present

Assembly Worker

MaTech Solutions, Salisbury, Maryland

Jul 2023 - Sep 2023

Internship Student

Sentinel Robotics Solutions Group, Wallops Island, Virginia

Jun 2023 - Sep 2023

Volunteer

TidalHealth, SALISBURY, Maryland

Jun 2022 - Aug 2022

Volunteer

GULLS Robotics, SALISBURY, Maryland

Jun 2022 - Aug 2022

Volunteer

HALO, SALISBURY, Maryland

Jun 2021 - Aug 2021

Volunteer

Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art, SALISBURY, Maryland

Jun 2021 - Aug 2021

EDUCATION

High School Diploma

Parkside High School, Salisbury

Service Hours: 200+

GPA 4.0

Expected graduation May 2025

Relevant Coursework

- College Board SAT Score - 1560
- AP Physics 1
- AP United States Government & Politics
- AP Calculus AB
- PLTW - Principles of Engineering
- Journalism
- AP United States History
- AP Statistics & Probability
- AP English Language
- PLTW - Introduction to Engineering & Design
- PLTW - Digital Electronics

Extracurricular Activities

- Wicomico County Robotics Club - Team Captain, CAD Designer, Engineering Notebook Keeper, Middle School Team Mentor (5 yrs)
- Mu Alpha Theta National Honor Society - Student Member (2 yrs)
- Stock Market Club - Co-Founder and Team Leader (2 yrs)
- Math Team - Competitor (2 yrs)
- Parkside Mock Trial - Attorney/Witness (1 yr)
- First Lego League - Mentor (2 yrs)
- Science National Honor Society - Student Member (2 yrs)
- Leo Club - Member & Volunteer (2 yrs)
- National Honor Society - Student Member (2 yrs)
- Robot Combat Event - Competitor (1 yr)

AWARDS

- VEX Robotics Competition World Championship Qualification
- Certificate of Recognition from the City of Salisbury for VEX World Championship Attendance
- College Board AP Scholar Award
- Academic Excellence Award

Hi everyone! My name is Abhiram Gaddam, and I'm so excited to be running for your next Maryland SMOB! I'm a junior at Parkside High School in Wicomico County, part of the Eastern Shore area. It's a part of Maryland with a rich heritage, but being left often overlooked we are not exposed to opportunities like SMOB or MASC, or even given the same resources as other areas. My background growing up in a community like this has instilled in me a deep commitment to represent the voices of the underrepresented. I've witnessed firsthand the impact of these challenges on our education, coming from such an area. However, I think it's crucial to recognize that students from underserved backgrounds, whether in Wicomico or across the state, share common struggles. The issues of imbalance resource allocation, limited access to advanced courses and extracurriculars, and more resonate beyond just the Eastern Shore.

For me, this opportunity is not just a candidacy; it's a pledge for me to represent the goals, challenges, and diversity of Maryland's student body on the highest platform for state education. As your Maryland SMOB, I'm here for all of us, regardless of where we're from. That's why I aim to approach the position of SMOB as a link between the Board of Ed and the students, and advocate for measurable changes that can be implemented soon. My devoted responsibility is to represent the future students of Maryland schools by creating a resourceful environment which they can all thrive in. The policies we enact now will have a greater impact on the current children that are soon to become student leaders in their communities.

Hearing the voices of those who feel overlooked and ensuring that their concerns are at the forefront of educational discussions is my highest priority. Transparency, accessibility, and inclusivity are the pillars that guide my approach to student advocacy. I recognize the need for and will work to create policies that address the root causes of educational disparities and create measurable, positive changes for all students in Maryland. If selected as SMOB, I am committed to thoroughly listening to the needs of the student body, ensuring that each student's voice is not only heard, but valued.

The role of a student member on the Maryland State Board of Education is all about advocacy. Advocacy for the youth of Maryland and for the diverse voices that make up our state. I bring a fresh perspective to the table, one that reflects the rich diversity of our state. My vision for all Maryland schools is simple: every student should be given the same opportunities to reach their highest potential. I want to be the person that shows that our unique backgrounds are our strengths, not our limitations.