

Candidate Statement

Pari Teli



About Me: My name is Pari Teli, I'm 16 years old, and in Year 12. My interests involve drawing, writing, reading, and advocating/creating meaningful change.

My previous leadership experience:

Primary school: I was in the Health committee, alongside the PB4L (Positive Behaviour for Learning) committee. I was the class representative, part of the Enviro-Group and Student Council, alongside part of the Pasifika and Kapa Haka group. I was also awarded DUX in Year 8.

Service to Kavanagh: I joined Kavanagh in Year 9, and since I've been part of the student librarians. This year I've had the privilege to be a 'big buddy' to a Year 7. I wasn't able to secure other positions in previous years, as I felt anxious volunteering, thinking that I wouldn't get it.

Outside of school: I was awarded a scholarship to attend a 4-day conference last April in Auckland held at the Auckland University of Technology. 'Aotearoa Youth Declaration' is organised by UNYouth NZ (United Nations Youth New Zealand). It consists of about 250 delegates, sorted into different *ropii* (groups) based on their interests. In our ropu, we researched, debated and came up with solutions for issues present in New Zealand. The conference's theme was a *whakataukī*

Nii to rourou, nii taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi.

With your food basket and my food basket, our people will thrive.

I was sorted into the Social Development *riipu*, which centered on improving the quality of life for each and every New Zealander, so they can reach their full potential. Each *riipu* came up with three policies, which were later compiled into the final 'Youth Declaration', a document that aims to highlight the policies to those in power; MPs, CEOs, councillors. My *riipu*'s policies were centered on 'equity around the welfare system', 'homelessness and state housing enhancement', and 'societal inclusion', all of which were written with *Tikanga Maori* values in mind.

Why I should be chosen: I regret not being able to be more actively involved in Kavanagh's community, as I think that Kavanagh is a great school, with a lot of potential. I believe I have a new, fresh perspective on issues, acquired from my time in Auckland, and my experiences at Kavanagh. I'm a firm believer of change coming from within, which is why I'm taking the first step towards breaking free from my comfort zone, and applying for this position.