

# STUDENT SENATE Elections 2023



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GRAND VALLEY  
**Lanthorn**  
Newspaper Supplement

# 2 Student Senate Elections

Grand Valley Lanthorn

## What is Student Senate?

Grand Valley State University's Student Senate works to ensure that the students' voices are continually heard by the university. The Student Senate is open to all majors and is comprised of fifty students who serve on one of six different committees. The committees are Senate Resources, Public Relations, Campus Affairs, Educational Affairs, Diversity Affairs, and External Relations. All six committees work to enhance student life, academics and the overall student experience at GVSU.



## What does the Senate do?

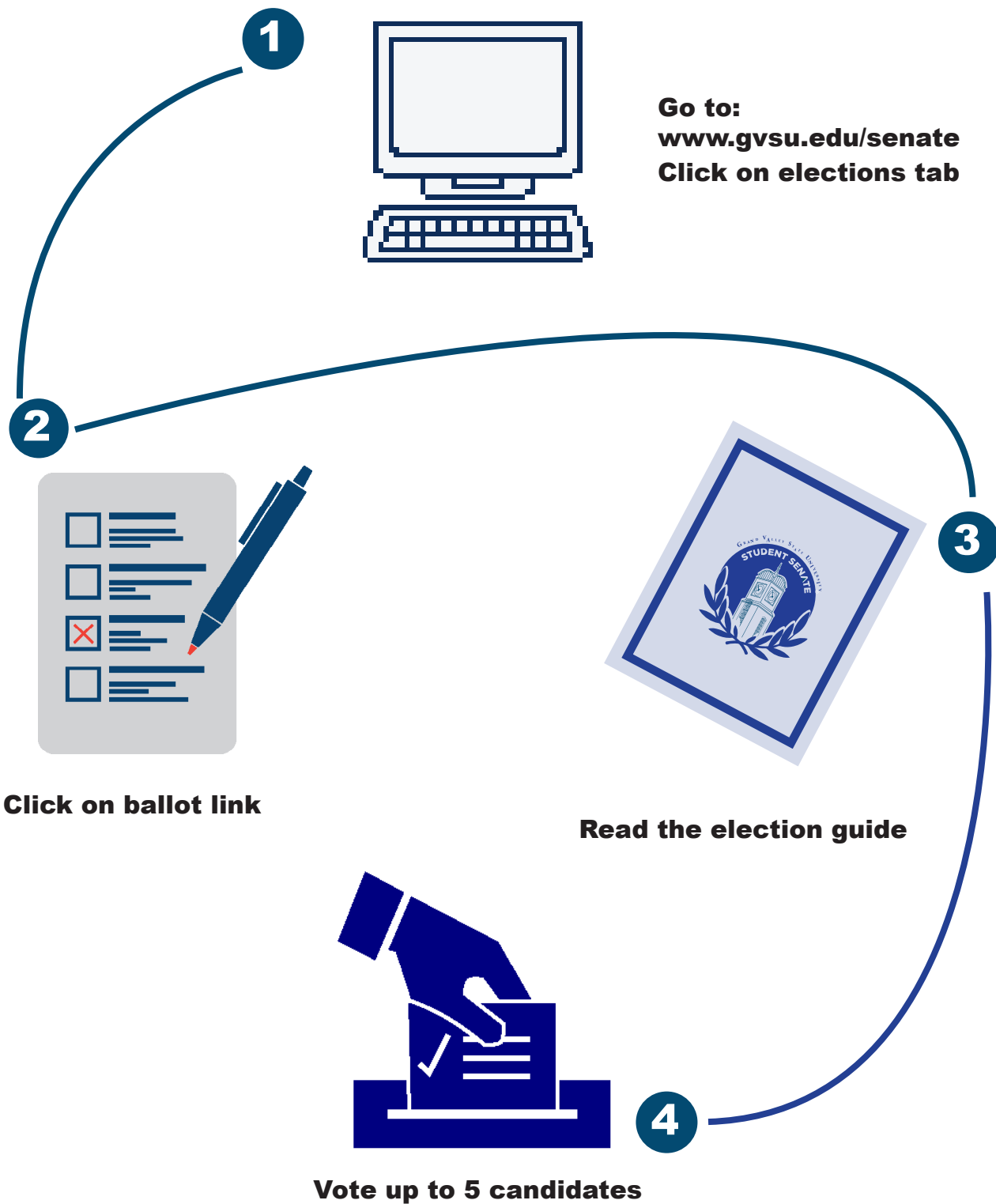
Student Senate works to:

- Investigate & resolve common student problems
- Advocate for the inclusion of students in the decision-making processes of the university
- Promote awareness of the role students play in the community
- Enhance the quality of education, inside & outside the classroom
- Empower students with leadership opportunities

## Want to Get Involved?

Student Senate is here to represent YOU! Stop by our General Assemblies Thursdays at 4:30pm in the Kirkhof Center's Pere Marquette Room and voice your opinions about issues. Additionally, vote for people in this election whom you believe are qualified to serve you on Student Senate.





## Sophia Bates



**Year: Senior**  
**Major: Legal Studies**

### Platform:

- I will create a stronger bond between Student Senate and the student body by using more approachable lines of communication.
- I will foster more relationships between Student Senate and other student organizations through my involvement on campus.
- I will promote transparency and ensure that the student body stays well-informed about Student Senate projects through our social media outreach.

## Brin DeVries



**Year: Sophomore**  
**Major: Public & Nonprofit Administration**

### Platform:

- GVSU has created a diverse campus but what about students with disabilities? How are we included in the diversity and equity initiatives?
- I want to make GVSU a great place for students of all abilities
- I seek to advocate for all students and to give a voice to those who have a harder time being heard



## Mallory Everly



**Year: Junior**

**Majors: Political Science &  
Multimedia Journalism**

### Platform:

If I were to be elected to the Senate body, I would make it my mission to continue the recent restructuring period that Student Senate has entered in an effort to better serve GVSU students as well as make the benefits of Student Senate available to a larger pool of Lakers.

## Jacob Flickinger



**Year: Senior**

**Major: Accounting**

### Platform:

I am rerunning to serve on the Student Senate. I have previous experiences on the Student Senate as a member of the External Relations Committee and the Allocations Committee. My primary missions include:

- Further enriching student life
- Promoting fiscal responsibility
- Aiding in campus safety
- Securing healthy relations between the senate and neighboring governing bodies

## Elizabeth Gira



**Year: Sophomore**

**Majors: Economics and Political Science**

### Platform:

I am a practical woman of integrity and I value results over intentions. If given the opportunity to continue serving on Student Senate, I will cultivate:

- A personalized approach to education for each student to reach their full potential
- Campus dining improvements based on individual student desires
- A unifying presence at GVSU while also celebrating independent thoughts and experiences

## Lina Haas



**Year: Sophomore**

**Majors: Marketing & Global Studies and Social Impact**

### Platform:

My goals are to strongly represent student feedback around campus to insure their needs are not only heard but acted upon, further my relationships with University leaders to voice student opinions on initiatives, and build connections with my peers to find solutions to tackle campus problems. Ultimately, I want to ensure GVSU is an inclusive, equitable institution for all.

## Justin Hahs



**Year: Sophomore**

**Major: Behavioral Neuroscience**

### Platform:

To push for greater accessibility in all campus venues. Serve as a liaison between GVSU students and faculty/administration. Address the campus engagement issue by initiating strategies to get more student participation at campus events. Continue to advocate for affordable textbooks and course materials.

## Magdalyn Hallead



**Year: Sophomore**

**Major: Biomedical Sciences**

### Platform:

Transparency is very important to me and my platform. I believe the students, administration, and university can benefit from being more informed and involved in what the Senate actually does. I will use my experience from my first year on Student Senate, Laker Marching Band, the Finance Office, and Pre-Med Club to lead with professionalism, efficiency, and, most importantly, transparency.

## Yash Hazari



**Year: Sophomore**  
**Major: Computer Science**

### Platform:

If elected I will work to improve GVSU's:

- Parking
- On Campus Dining
- Bus Routes/Schedules
- Course Registration
- Banner Usability
- Blackboard Transition

I will also strive to represent the student body to the best of my ability, and work to make the experience here at GVSU as positive as possible for all students.

## Brock Johnson



**Year: Sophomore**  
**Major: Business Administration**

### Platform:

- Lowering parking costs
- Increasing parking spots on campus
- Getting more food options on campus
- Increasing restaurant hours
- Better security on campus
- Reorganizing package center



## Zuriel Johnson



**Year: Junior**

**Major: Political Science**

### Platform:

In the 2 years of Student Senate I worked with OMA and the LGBT Resource Center.

- I hope to accomplish creating a map for gender neutral bathrooms for Allendale and Pew Campus.
- Work with the library to provide a better book showcase for Black, women, Native American, and Deaf awareness/history months

## Jenna Kuiper



**Year: Sophomore**

**Major: Political Science**

### Platform:

- I strive to make the campus to be further accepting and accessible for all students regardless of any social, economic, or physical restraints.
- I will be a voice for all students that want their concerns addressed in the academic world especially when it comes to teacher-student relations.

## Paris Lawson



**Year: Junior**

**Major: International Relations**

### Platform:

- Focus on student diversity and equality
- Create a culturally diverse and accepting environment in which every student feels heard
- Improve communication between students and senators
- Improve transparency of campus wide safety issues
- Improve campus security concerns
- Meeting the needs of both students and faculty on campus
- Transparency of student wages and student expenses

## Selina Martell



**Year: Senior**

**Major: Marketing**

### Platform:

- Transparency and expansion of resources regarding student expenses
- Advocating for more student programs inclusive of all majors and interests
- Collaboration with all members of Student Senate and campus safety to ensure students have a safe learning environment

## Hogan Milam



**Year: Senior**

**Majors: Political Science & Spanish**

### Platform:

- Increase access to information and resources available to students
- Hold myself, colleagues, and administration accountable
- Ensure tuition dollars and state funds are spent to the benefit of students
- Call on the university to create more and better-paying jobs for students
- Bring a progressive and alternative view to Student Senate, being the first in my family to attend a traditional university

## Alex Olmstead



**Year: Senior**

**Major: History & Secondary Education**

### Platform:

- To work towards making GVSU a safe and accessible place for students of any and all backgrounds
- To get GVSU to pay their student workers a livable wage

### Quinten Proctor



**Year: Junior**  
**Major: Political Science**

#### **Platform:**

As a Student Senator I will work to:

- Ensure GVSU is a sustainable campus
- Improve campus safety and security
- Improve Internet performance/access

### Brandon Schrader



**Year: Sophomore**  
**Majors: Product Design & Manufacturing**

#### **Platform:**

- To continue to build upon my work that I did while part of the senate in 2022
- To be a resource between the students of Grand Valley and the faculty
- To continue my ultimate goal of leaving the university in a better condition than I came into it with
- To try and make an impact in my community and school



## Arnica Sheaffer



**Year: Sophomore**  
**Major: Psychology**

### Platform:

- Expand mental health resources
- Move the tutoring center and mailing center to more accessible locations for everyone
- Add another parking lot or make parking cheaper and easier for everyone
- Make the bus a safer experience for students
- Ensure that the campus is a safe and welcoming environment for all students no matter their predispositions, background, personality, or future goals

## Jonathan Spencer Quist

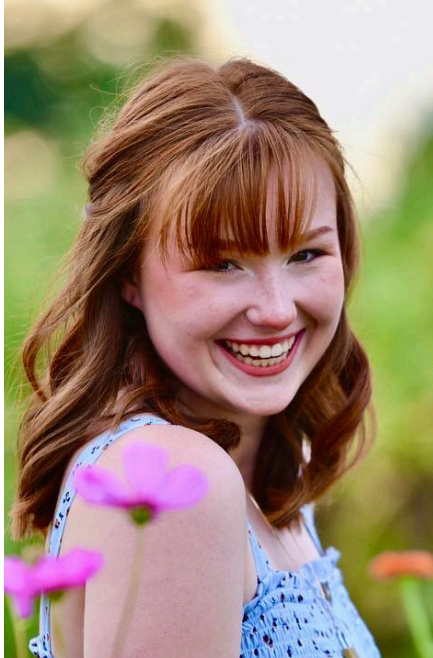


**Year: Senior**  
**Major: Communications**

### Platform:

- Promoting different perspectives and points of view throughout the body.
- Encouraging diversity throughout campus.
- Advocating for increase in student wages and decrease in tuition.
- Making sure people correctly follow the policy and procedures throughout the student body.

## Peyton Rienas

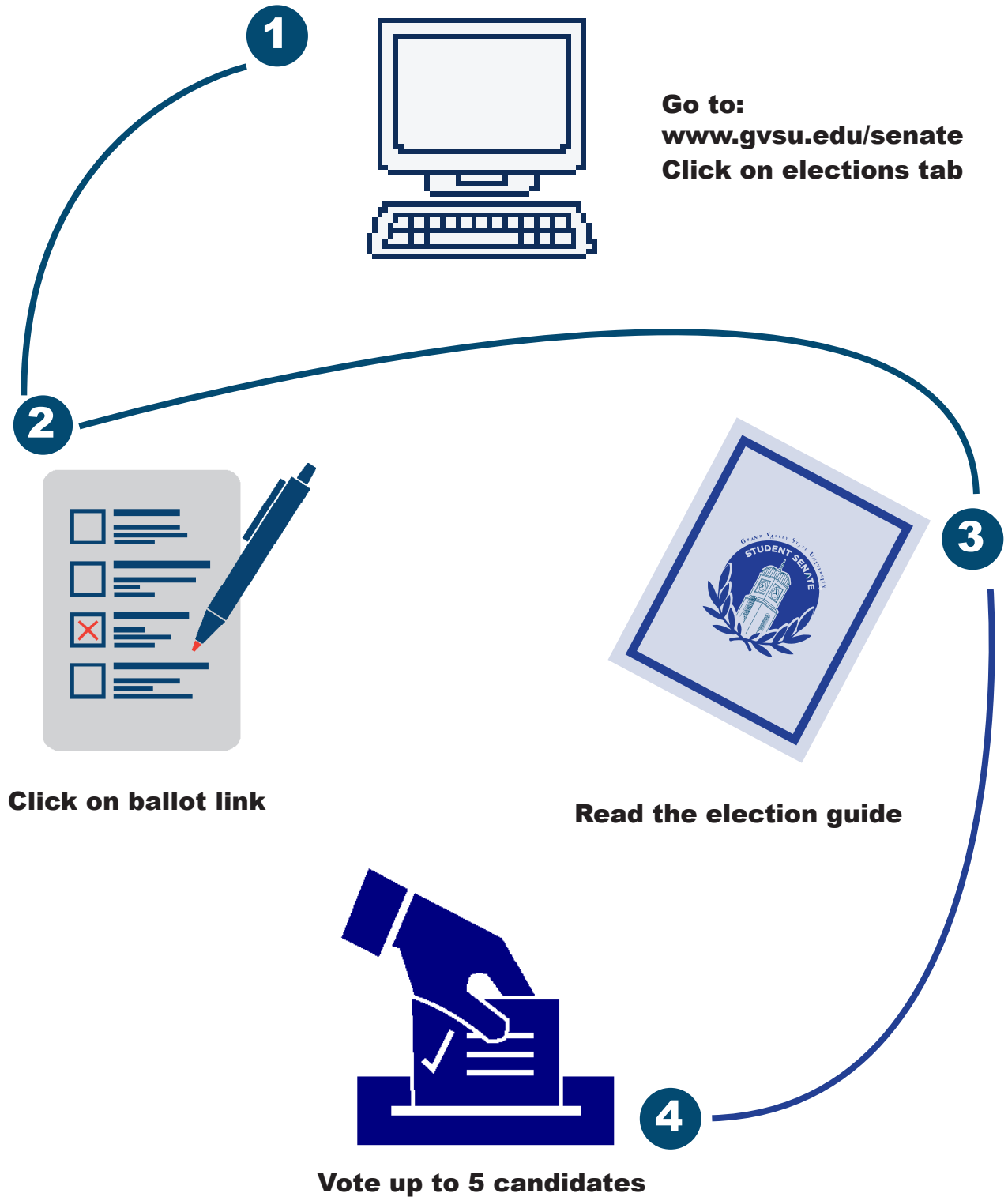


**Year: Sophomore**

**Majors: Product Design&Manufacturing  
Engineering**

### Platform:

As a second year student, I would like to bring a new and different perspective to the Student Senate. I am an engineering major and feel that it is important to have a variety of majors representing the students. If elected, my goal is to write policies that benefit students while also wearing cute blazers.



# STUDENT SENATE Elections 2023

## Have You Voted?

Voting opens Monday, March  
27th at 8:00a.m. and will close  
Sunday, April 2nd at 11:59p.m.

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