**1. Describe an example of your leadership experience in which you have positively influenced others, helped resolve disputes, or contributed to group efforts over time.**

My passions for making an environmental difference on my school campuses began about four years ago when I decided to create an environmental club at Carmel Middle School with the help of school staff members. The CMS environmental club is what started my passion for making change in my school district and influenced me to join the environmental club at Carmel High School.

When I began attending CHS, I joined the already existing environmental club on campus. During my first two years in the club, I helped coordinate native plant sales with plants donated from MEarth and participated in club activities such as designing reusable water bottles and distributing them to students on campus to reduce plastic water bottle use.

Moreover, I became vice president of the environmental club my junior year, and I proposed constructing a garden on campus to beautify the school and to teach students about sustainable farming. After being turned down by the administration for permission for the project once, I finally got it approved towards the end of the school year, and I began creating the vegetable and native plant garden over the summer of my junior year. I am now president of the environmental club, and I am leading a variety of different projects on campus. Besides the garden project, I have had the installation of a cistern water collection system for use in educational purposes and irrigation for the school garden approved by the CHS administration, and it will most likely be installed early 2017.

 Ever since I established the CMS environmental club, I have been passionate about organizing students around environmental causes and working with my school district to encourage it to make more environmentally conscious decisions. Overall, from the time I have spent in participating and leading school environmental clubs, I have gained valuable leadership skills as well as experience in alleviating environmental problems.