

Sophia Lee is a senior at Haverhill High School and currently serves as the Class of 2026 Senior Class President. Throughout her four years, she has held several elected leadership roles, including Freshman Vice President, Sophomore Class President, and Student Council Secretary. In these roles, she strengthened collaboration between Student Council and Student Government, expanded communication through social media, and worked to empower a more inclusive leadership team.

Sophia is also deeply involved in service and diplomacy. She is Vice President of Key Club, where she helps lead schoolwide service initiatives such as food drives, Red Cross blood drives, and the Backpack 68 Program, which provides food and hygiene essentials to students facing food insecurity. She further develops her diplomacy and public-speaking skills through Model UN, attending annual conferences in New York City and earning an award at the UMass Lowell conference in her sophomore year.

Beyond HHS, Sophia serves as the Community-Based Director for FOCUS, a national student-founded nonprofit focused on career exploration for students. She oversees more than 15 chapters across the U.S.—including in states like California and Minnesota—meeting monthly with chapter leaders to support venue coordination, guest speaker outreach, and the planning of bi-monthly workshops. She is also Co-President of Haverhill's local chapter.

Sophia has been a competitive dancer at Karla Pattavina's Dance Academy for most of her life, training 22 hours per week in ballet, contemporary, lyrical, jazz, hip-hop, and musical theater. She has co-choreographed award-winning routines and is part of a team that has won multiple national titles. In addition to dance, she is an avid writer and has earned three Gold Keys, two Silver Keys, and three Honorable Mentions from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.

Sophia is currently conducting an independent research project—advised by district leaders, HHS staff, and members of the diversity subcommittee—examining how socioeconomic and environmental factors shape students' perceptions of education and motivation. Her goal is to produce a publishable paper that can support district-level and statewide equity initiatives.

Since 2022, she has worked with EdInquiry's Biggest Winner Math Challenge, beginning as a student, then serving as a Teen Leader and eventually being selected for the statewide Head of the Class Teen Council. She co-taught three enrichment classrooms each summer, supporting about 90 students in under-resourced communities. In June, she was invited to speak at the Massachusetts DESE Board meeting to advocate for expanded enrichment funding and was nominated to the DESE Gifted and Talented Advisory Council.

Sophia is also heavily involved in career-oriented and community-centered initiatives. She helped behind the scenes in the launch of H-Camp, a free mentorship program connecting HHS seniors with alumni to support college essays, test prep, and scholarships, and she leads outreach and social media engagement for the program. She also founded her own photography business, delivering affordable portrait and event photography to students who cannot typically access professional services.

Her academic achievements include receiving the Harvard Book Award, earning recognition as an AP Scholar with Distinction, and induction into the National Honor Society, National English Honor Society (where she currently serves as President), National Science Honor Society, and National Foreign Language Honor Society. She is fully bilingual in English and Korean. In college, she plans to study public policy, international relations, or education reform, with the goal of improving educational equity and access across communities.