

Dear NSBSD School Board,

Greetings to you all. My name is Magdelina Stringer, I am fifteen years old and am a sophomore this 2021-2022 school year. Throughout my school career, more specifically, from the fifth grade up until now I have been a member of my school's student government and have been a part of our volleyball team all throughout middle school. Being in positions such as student council has helped me grow my leadership skills, problem solving skills and most importantly, helped me gain interest in doing what I can to make our schools, and our communities a better place for our youth.

Schools are such a huge part of youth's lives, as we learn here, make friends, build interests and hobbies, and overall work towards our futures. Considering the impact school has on our lives, I believe that it is extremely important that students have a part in determining how their school life works. I decided to run for student representative in hopes of doing my part in making sure that that happens. Due to Covid-19, life changed abruptly for students here in the North Slope as well as across the world. We are still facing the pandemic today and youth are still facing the increase of mental health issues that the pandemic has caused. My main goal as student representative will be to work towards improving student's mental health by using feedback from students across the district.

The issue of mental health is multigenerational and multifaceted, and I am sure it will take more than one or more student representatives to properly address this. However, I am certain that with Trishelle's experience and my plans, we can streamline our efforts to reach out to students, elevate their voices and establish community partnerships to address this far-reaching issue of mental health on the North Slope.

Thank you,
Magdelina Stringer