



# Catherine Tiddy

**Social media**

Instagram: @catherinetiddy Twitter: @catherine\_tiddy

**Grade**

Junior

**School**

Myers Park High School

**ES/MS**

Sharon Elementary School and Carmel Middle School

**Favorite place in  
Charlotte**

As I was born and raised in Charlotte, I have had the time to experience the various sources of light in the area. Above all, my favorite place in Charlotte is the Plaza Midwood area. Beyond the shopping opportunities and delicious meals provided, the movement of life and art is incomparable.

**When not at  
school, am**

When I am not at school or working, I am either playing volleyball, shopping, or writing. As I have played volleyball since the 7th grade, this interest has quickly grown into a passion and an excellent opportunity to work with talented teammates. Shopping and dressing uniquely allows me to express myself artistically and collaborate with others that love fashion. Finally, whether I am writing poetry or essays, I enjoy crafting my experiences, emotions, and struggles into words that may connect with others. In summary, no matter the task, I enjoy spending my time collaborating with others.

**Leadership  
experience**

As the co-district lead for Diversify Our Narrative, a student-led initiative fighting for the inclusion of diverse materials in the curriculum, I have organized a group of volunteers and spoken at school board meetings, in the Charlotte Observer, and on CNN, fighting to promote a diverse lens.

**Why I want to  
serve**

The power of the student voice is undervalued in many spaces and I hope to make a difference in the district while advising other students to

	do the same. This position would allow me to reach a broad range of students in the district and empower them to advocate for their own education.
<b>#1 thing to achieve CMS vision and mission</b>	To provide the best education for every child, the curriculum must allow students to look through various lenses. The importance of representation must be recognized and the histories of diverse communities must be valued similarly. The inclusion of anti-racist materials is essential.
<b>K-12 opportunity for success</b>	More can be done to ensure that each student has an equal opportunity to succeed. We must focus on equitable education rather than equal education as every student requires individualized resources. Providing an identical education to each child ignores the presence of unique needs and talents.
<b>What does CMS do well? What could CMS do better?</b>	As a district, CMS provides unique courses that prioritize life readiness and guide students to higher-level education and careers. However, CMS could do more to ensure that students understand the presence of these courses and to influence the often times exclusive culture of them.
<b>CMS success I will help lift up</b>	The presence of the Social Studies Engagement Team should be celebrated as it marks a step toward an inclusive narrative. As a member of this team, I would love the opportunity to promote the work of this group through the CMS instagram and welcome increased student involvement with the group.
<b>CMS issue I will help solve</b>	As the daughter of a teacher and as an informed student, the trainings that educators are subjected to tend to lack the input of both teachers and students. Opportunities for students and educators to share their needs must be promoted, such as surveys and open discussions with the board.
<b>Other info</b>	I believe that my experience as the digital intern for Our Turn, an organization fighting for education reform, will allow me to better the online presence of CMS and promote student engagement. I am excited for the opportunity to work with the school board and represent the student interest.