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**Transcript of St. Mark Student Council Officer Interviews With**

**Ursuline Academy and Jesuit College Preparatory School**

**Student Body Presidents**

**November 2014**

**Emily Patton, St. Mark Class of 2011, Student Body President, Ursuline Academy**

1. **What suggestions can you give to 8th graders who are filling out high school applications now?** Make sure you type all of your applications responses in a separate document first, then cut and paste into the application document. My computer crashed during my application process and I lost some of my answers.
2. **What advice do you have for incoming freshmen?** Look into everything. The clubs are a lot of fun. Don’t be nervous. Your fellow freshmen are feeling the same way you are. On the first day of school at Ursuline, I felt overwhelmed, but soon realized that I was going to enjoy it, and I have.
3. **Why did you choose to go to Ursuline?** I wanted a challenge, and I knew Ursuline would challenge me academically. I also love the sisterly bond that the student form and felt a real connection with the school. I like how all of the girls work together.
4. **What do you like about an “all-girl” school?** I think it’s easier to focus without the daily distraction of having boys around.
5. **What other schools did you apply to?** I also applied to John Paul II High School.
6. **How do you balance school work with activities at Ursuline?** I use my planner almost every minute of the day. It keep me organized. I am a cheerleader for Jesuit, I do competitive cheer, and I’m also involved in Student Council, so it’s a lot to keep straight.
7. **Did you hold a position with the Student Council at St. Mark?** No. I tried but was not elected.
8. **Why did you choose to get involved in Student Council at Ursuline?** I really looked up to a girl who served on Student Council at St. Mark so my mom suggested I try at Ursuline. I became the Student Council Treasurer during my freshman, sophomore and junior years at Ursuline before becoming Student Body President my senior year.
9. **What do you do as a member of Student Council at Ursuline?** We hold regular meetings and we do service projects.
10. **How do you think serving on Student Council helps you in high school?** I’ve met lots of people through Student Council and have made a lot of good friends.
11. **What new projects have you done since you’ve been in Student Council?** During Homecoming week this year, we started a “Mom Monday” where students dressed like their moms, and also a “Tomboy Tuesday” where students dressed like Jesuit boys. They paid a couple of dollars to participate which raised money for various student clubs.
12. **Would Ursuline’s Student Council be interested in working with St. Mark and maybe other middle schools in the Diocese on a joint service project?** I think that would be a great idea!
13. **What other fun activities have you participated in at Ursuline?** I went on a mission trip to Nicaragua and loved it!
14. **What is one of your favorite projects that you’ve worked on at Ursuline?** In one of my classes, we had to choose world issue, investigate it and make it known to the entire school. That was a lot of fun.
15. **What is the best thing about Ursuline?** All of the wonderful school traditions that we all get to participate in.
16. **What is your favorite St. Mark memory?** All of the traditions at graduation. It was a very “cool” way to say goodbye to our class.
17. **Are you still involved at St. Mark parish?** Yes, I still attend church at St. Mark.
18. **Where have you applied to college?** I’ve applied to several schools including Notre Dame, TCU and Vanderbuilt.
19. **What do you want to major in?** Business.

**Alexander Erturkuner, St. Mark Class of 2011, Student Body President, Jesuit College Preparatory School**

1. **What advice do you have for 8th graders who are currently applying to high school?** Don’t procrastinate. Get it done early, and take it easy. Luckily, the Jesuit application only had one essay question, so it wasn’t too difficult. The ISEE test was probably the most stressful part of the application process. I took an ISEE prep course and it helped a lot.
2. **What advice do you have for incoming freshmen?** Go in with an open mind. Don’t stress too much. Be relaxed. Everybody is going through the same thing.
3. **Why did you choose Jesuit?** My brother went there and I felt a real connection with the school. I always knew I wanted to go there, and it’s the only school I applied to.
4. **Why an all-boys school?** I love the brotherhood that Jesuit students develop. It’s also easier to focus on school.
5. **What is your favorite subject in high school?** My favorite subject is U.S. History.
6. **Have you done any projects at Jesuit that you especially enjoyed?** During my sophomore year, I helped organize a 5K run for a children’s hospital.
7. **Are you a member of any clubs at Jesuit?** I am part of the Business & Entrepreneur Club.
8. **Do you play a sport?** Baseball.
9. **How do you balance your time in high school?** It can be a challenge, but if you stay organized, it helps. We also have moderators at Jesuit who can help.
10. **Did you hold a position with Student Council at St. Mark?** I was a Home Base Representative for Mrs. Pantuso’s class.
11. **Why did you decide to run for Student Council in high school?** I thought it was a great opportunity to meet people and to further myself.
12. **What is the process to run for Student Council at Jesuit?** First you have to get 50 signatures from classmates. Then you write an essay, do an interview, and then elections are held.
13. **Have you added any new Student Council projects this year?** We are raising funds to benefit different clubs at Jesuit.
14. **Why did you choose to run for President of the Student Body instead of another office such as Treasurer?** At Jesuit, you can’t choose during your freshman, sophomore and junior years. The person who gets the most votes during the school election becomes the President, the second most votes Vice President, etc. Then in the senior year, you can run in pairs for Student Body President/Vice President.
15. **Would Jesuit’s Student Council be interested in doing a joint service project with St. Mark and possibly other middle schools in the Diocese?** Absolutely. We would love to try to coordinate something. We will be meeting with the Ursuline Student Council soon and can discuss it with them as well.
16. **Are you still involved at St. Mark?** I still attend church at St. Mark.
17. **What is your favorite memory from St. Mark?** Spending time socializing with my friends during P.E. class and DPL sports.
18. **Where have you applied to college?** I’ve applied to a few schools including Texas A&M and The University of Texas.