

# 2025 STATE OFFICER CANDIDATES

## Aavi Shah

**Chapter: Pinnacle High School**

Hello, Arizona DECA! My name is Aavi Shah, and I am a junior at Pinnacle High School. As the current President of my chapter, I have dedicated myself to fostering leadership, innovation, and success within DECA. Now, I'm ready to take that passion to the statewide level. With my Shift Gears With Shah campaign, powered by the G.E.A.R. initiative, Grow, Energize, Achieve, and Reach, we can accelerate Arizona DECA toward new opportunities, stronger connections, and greater success. Let's shift gears and drive toward a future of excellence!



## Abigail Herrera

**Chapter: Ironwood High School**

Hey Arizona DECA! My name is Abby Herrera, and I am so super excited to announce my ongoing campaign for the '24-'25 Arizona DECA State Officer Team! My campaign follows the motto "Swinging into the Abbyverse"-- where I'm focused on Weaving connections, Empowering others, and Brightening futures! (W.E.B.)! I'm a junior at Ironwood High School, where I serve as the Vice President of Public Relations and Social Media, and I also serve as Vice-Lead for the Public Relations State Council! Be sure to check out my campaign page @abbydeca for more information about me, my mission, and how we can swing into the future of Arizona DECA together!



## Amaya Rosenda Fisher

**Chapter: Casa Grande Union High School**

Hello Arizona DECA, my name is Amaya Rosenda Fisher, I'm a junior at Casa Grande Union High School, and I am excited to be a candidate for the 2025-2026 State Officer Team. As the Vice President of Finance for my chapter, DECA has influenced me in the best ways. It helped me grow from being shy and antisocial to becoming more confident and outgoing. I am excited to inspire others to reach their full potential and teach them to Fish 4 Success!



## Anika Kulkarni

**Chapter: Arizona College Prep High School**

Hey Arizona DECA! My name is Anika Kulkarni, and I'm beyond excited to be running for the 2025-2026 Arizona DECA State Officer Team! I currently serve as Arizona College Prep DECA's VP of Community Service, and I've been a DECA member since my freshman year. Throughout my DECA journey, I've made countless memories and lifelong friendships. DECA has become my second family, and I couldn't be more grateful. As your state officer, my goal is to bring a little magic to DECA—helping you unlock your potential and achieve all your goals. I want to create a magical environment in DECA where you grow not just as a competitor and leader, but as a person as well. Follow @decanika.az to see my ideas and goals for making Arizona DECA truly magical. Let's embark on this journey together—Hop on the DECA Express, Vote Anika for Success! Let's make this year truly magical—I can't wait to meet all of you at SCDC! (Also, fun fact: I love Harry Potter!)



## Eric Boateng

**Chapter: Boulder Creek High School**

Hi Arizona DECA! My name is Eric Boateng, I am a Junior at Boulder Creek High School and a 2 year DECA member. I serve as Boulder Creek DECA's Vice President and Arizona DECA's Fundraisers Director! As state officer, I aspire to create more leadership opportunities for Arizona DECA members to take advantage of, advocate for an ambitious and competitive environment, as well as help pave the way of Arizona DECA's future by championing hard work, determination, and achievement within DECA's student body! Don't hesitate to go to @deca.ericboat for more campaign material and information, and as always Climb A.B.O.A.R.D with BOATeng!





# 2025 STATE OFFICER CANIDATES

## Gage Enger

**Chapter: Centennial High School**

Hi Arizona DECA! I'm Gage Enger, a junior at Centennial High School, and I'm excited to be running for Arizona DECA State Office. Over the past three years in DECA, I've had the opportunity to grow, learn, and connect with so many amazing people, and I'm eager to take that experience to the next level. My campaign slogan is "Engage with Gage: Elevate, Network, Guide, Advise, Grow, & Empower"; I believe that DECA is all about building relationships, learning from each other, and empowering one another to reach new heights. If elected, my goal is to help every DECA member grow, both personally and professionally, and to create a community where we can all thrive together!



## Ignacio Perez Soto

**Chapter: West Point High School**

Hey Arizona DECA, my name is Ignacio. I'm a junior from West Point High School (No not the military one). I am currently our chapter's Vice President, but I am aiming to be your future state office team member. My main goals as a state officer would be to empower smaller chapters and amplify student voices at the state level. To do this, I am proposing cross chapter mentorships and a student senate made up of chapter officers. I want to build a DECA where everyone can succeed, it would be an honor to be your state representative.



## Isaiah Halonen

**Chapter: Centennial High School**

Hello Arizona DECA, I am Isaiah Halonen. I am a junior at Centennial High School and the President of my chapter. When I started my DECA journey I was only there for the Donut; but as time has passed, DECA is now the reason I go to school. The thing that started and keeps my passion and love for DECA is the people, I have loved every opportunity I have had to expand my network in DECA and I hope to enable others to do the same. With this, I would love to implement more communication-skills based speakers at our conferences and take influence from Patrick Lester to make a "Talking Tip Tuesday" to post on the AZ DECA Instagram. I hope you help me Ignite your Interactions with Isaiah!



## Karina Kapadia

**Chapter: Mountain Ridge High School**

Hello Arizona DECA! My name is Karina Kapadia, and over the past two years with Mountain Ridge DECA, I've gained invaluable experience in leadership, communication, and personal growth. DECA has shaped me into the leader I am today, and now, I want to give back by empowering members across Arizona to reach their full potential. As a state officer, I will work to strengthen our DECA community, amplify member opportunities, and ensure every student feels supported in their journey. Together, we can break barriers, push our limits, and take Arizona DECA to the next level!



## Kendra Wilson

**Chapter: Casa Grande Union High School**

Hey Arizona DECA, my name is Kendra Wilson, a sophomore at Casa Grande Union High School, and I am so excited to say that I am running to be one of your 2025-2026 AZ DECA state officers! Currently, I am my chapter's Vice President of Hospitality, and Arizona DECA's Creativity Coordinator on the Public Relations council! My campaign, "Ka\$h it in with Kendra", emphasizes the importance of Kompetiton, Ascending, Service, and Hospitality! I can't wait to meet you all, learn about your DECA journey, and show you how we can Ka\$h it in together!





# 2025 STATE OFFICER CANDIDATES

## Lily Smith

**Chapter: Pinnacle High School**

Hi Arizona DECA! My name is Lily Smith and I am a junior at Shadow Ridge High School. I have been in DECA for 3 years, the Vice-President of Marketing for my chapter, and the Content recruiter for the Arizona DECA Public Relations Council. My goals if I am elected are to focus on member's needs and help Chapters as much as I can!



## Samuel Animas

**Chapter: Dysart High School**

What's up, Arizona DECA! My name is Samuel Animas, and I am running to be a part of the 2025-2026 Arizona DECA State Officer Team! I am currently a junior at Dysart High School and serve as the Vice President of Public Relations for my chapter. I aspire to be the voice of the people, to lead, and to make a lasting impact on Arizona DECA. I am deeply inspired by how diverse, welcoming, and empowering this organization is, and it would be my absolute honor to contribute to its amazing legacy. If elected, I will dedicate myself to representing every member, amplifying your voices, and helping Arizona DECA continue to thrive. Let's make this year unforgettable!

## Sehath Jaladi

**Chapter: Mountain Ridge High School**

Hi there Arizona DECA! My name is Sehath Jaladi and I'm a junior at Mountain Ridge High School. I want to be a state office so I can bring about change and help our members from across the state score all their goals. I've been in DECA since freshman year and have learned the true passion, dedication, and effort it takes to achieve success.

Over my term, I am aiming to improve communication, increase collaboration, boost retention, and innovate DECA. I'm extremely grateful for having this opportunity to run for state office and want to give back to DECA and everyone who has helped me become who I am today. Thank you so much and Score with Sehath!!



## Shubham Gupta

**Chapter: Arizona College Prep High School**

Hey Arizona DECA! I'm Shubham Gupta, a current junior at Arizona College Prep High School, the finance director for ACP DECA, and your finance council's team lead, serving on it for the second year. I'm excited to announce my campaign for the 2025-2026 school year, and I look forward to SAIL with you to success for Arizona DECA State Officer. As I strive to steer, achieve, inspire, and lead, my hope is to foster collaboration of ideas across the state and advocate for more career opportunities. Make sure to stay updated on my campaign by checking out my booth at SCDC and at my Instagram, @instamegupta!

**Voting Delegate - Candidate Speeches - Friday 2/28 @ 8 AM**

**Candidate Booths - Friday 2/28 @ 10 AM-12 PM & 1 - 3 PM**

**ONLINE VOTING (VOTING DELEGATES ONLY) FRIDAY 2/28  
FROM 3 PM - 6 PM**

**GOOD LUCK TO ALL CANDIDATES!**