

Aleph Jake Chansky (Mercer Island – Rainier AZA)

Vision Statement

In my time in BBYO, I've noticed that some positions both on chapter and regional boards seem to garner lower expectations than others. Not in reference to any specific Aleph, but the position of Dover as a whole I have often noticed fulfills the bare minimum of their responsibilities. The Birkat, Shabbat services, the occasional StandUp program. These are the core responsibilities of a Dover. Unlike any other position (maybe besides Mazkir) I cannot think of an instance of the officer holding the position going above and beyond. That is what I seek to change. There's nothing wrong with fulfilling responsibilities, but to better our region I would like to set a trend of creativity and individuality in Judaics. I would not call myself an expert in Judaism, however I do consider myself spiritual and comfortable with my Jewish identity. My long-term goal is to inspire future Doverim and anyone else to put their own innovative touches on a position, but to do that I will reflect my own person into my term as Dover. Aside from leading standard services and prayers, I believe that everyone- no matter how religious they consider themselves- can benefit from being in touch with themselves. We hear it all the time but it is true that teenagers in these times are constantly subjected to sources of stress and anxiety. Over the past year I've learned a lot about this from my close friend, and want to share this through things like meditation, mindfulness, journaling, my love for tea (or the benefits of hobbies in general), and numerous other strategies to be happy. Returning to the standard realm of the Dover, I will strive create more meaningful programs at convention but more importantly work closely with all chapter counterparts to organize social and religious events for almost all the major holidays in my term, as opposed to the occasional Lag Ba'Omer party I've seen in the past.

Mission Statement

To establish a trend of future Doverim using creativity and individuality as well as going beyond fulfilling standard responsibilities to have successful terms as Dover, and to work closely with chapter counterparts organizing events for many major holidays throughout the year.