

Dhruv Dobariya

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EDUCATIONAL

RIVER HILL HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 2027

Unweighted GPA: 4.00 Weighted GPA: 4.92 SAT: 1570 National Merit Semifinalist Service Hours:275

PUBLIC POLICY & ENTREPRENEURIAL LEADERSHIP

Illuminate Maryland | *President & Student Lead*

(January, 2025 – Present)

- Conceptualizing legislation with Delegate Forbes to create a Financial Literacy Course for Student Service Hours, aimed at expanding student access to practical economic education through a state-recognized service program.
- Advocated and lobbied in support of Ho-Co 5-26 (Passed) through youth testimony, helping bring the voting age down to 16 years old for Board of Education Elections - impacting 20,000 kids in the county
- Lead the Maryland Clean Schools Coalition, a 17-organization partnership focused on improving school air quality, building conditions, and student engagement
- Managing major regional outreach, including hosting a Howard County Executive Youth Forum event for 100+ attendees and 200+ virtual attendees, where we are leveraging the 2026 County Executive and Council races to press candidates for concrete commitments.
- Featured on Baltimore Sun & Baltimore Banner & CBS News

Electrify HoCo / Electrify Our Future | *Student Advocate*

(May 2025 – Present)

- Advocated for 2025 Countywide Better Buildings Act Campaign to advance clean energy building codes in Howard County through the (CB24-2025-Passed) legislation.
- Led a student petition campaign with over 130 signatures in support of building electrification policy, prompting engagement with county council members and stakeholders; efforts were featured in a Maryland Matters article titled “Howard County needs to do the right thing and discourage natural gas in new construction”

Maryland Business Honor Society | *Co-Founder & President*

(December, 2024 – Present)

- Established and expanded the organization, launched 25+ official chapters across Maryland schools, partnering with 50+ businesses, leading 100+ students, within 4+ counties.
- Led strategic advertisements to generate \$1000+ in revenue through partnerships with local businesses/restaurants

Firefly Club | *Vice President*

(May, 2025 - Present)

- Partnered with local animal shelters, foodbank, library system and senior centers, participated in 15+ major events, giving back 100 hours to the community, and donating 200+ lbs. of food
- Growing Organization to reach larger member counts through networking with other environmental organizations

Howard County Student Committee of Equity | *Policy Committee Co-Chair*

(October 2025 - Present)

- Raised awareness of student rights: 504 Plans, IEPs, anti-discrimination, educational equity, and mental health.
- Led efforts to make county education policies accessible to students and partnered with DEI liaisons

Chesapeake Climate Action Network | *Datacenter Analyst*

(January 2026 - Present)

- Coordinating CCAN official Lobby day and garnering youth to highlight key bills: Renew Act, Cherish Act, Affordable Solar Act, Climate Crimes Accountability Act, Transportation and Climate Alignment Act.
- Established and expanded a youth program, launched initiatives through Maryland schools, coordinating with 25+ high schools, leading 50+ students, within 4+ counties.

Maryland Financial Literacy Legislation | *Author & Organizer*

(November 2025 - March 2026)

- Conceptualized House Bill 0943, implementing financial literacy as a graduation requirement for Maryland highschools
- Testified to Maryland Ways & Means (E&M) committee within a panel including Delegate Forbes and NGPF answering questions from legislators and utility lobbyists

Exelon | *Policy and Legal Shadow**(July, 2026 – August 2026)*

- Selected to engage with BGE CEO Calvin Butler on emerging challenges at the intersection of artificial intelligence, labor relations, and energy policy.
- Analyzed how organizations balance technological innovation with workforce development, regulatory considerations, and community engagement.
- Explored AI applications in energy operations, renewable integration, and strategies for building a resilient modern energy grid.

Office of Natalie Ziegler, Maryland State Delegate | *Internship Director**(Summer 2025; 2026)*

- Coordinated and led the Howard County Youth Pitch Competition, bringing together 5 environmental organizations, more than a dozen local students, and state delegates to generate legislative solutions for reducing litter.
- Conceptualized and testified on legislation addressing litter prevention (Ho-Co 6-26), with the goal of improving community health and safeguarding local communities.
- Researched approaches for integrating AI in K–12 education, reviewing pilot programs across the tri-state region
- Conceptualized and developed the Maryland Artificial Intelligence Worker Protection Act (MD-AIWPA)

Office of the County Executive, Howard County | *Summer Intern**(Summer 2025)*

- Led quantitative analysis of affordable housing in Howard County, consolidating 20 years of data from Rental Housing Surveys, Development Monitoring Reports, and MIHU program records into an Excel database.
- Synthesized complex housing policy data by reviewing the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's 2025 Statewide Housing Needs Assessment; produced a policy memo highlighting key Howard County findings with plain-language explanations for leadership.
- Created actionable deliverables including a master dataset of affordable units by type, year, and community, and a one-page policy brief translating technical statistics into insights to inform the County Executive's housing priorities.

AWARDS & HONORS**Money Moves: A High Schooler's Guide to Budgeting, Saving, and Smart Spending | *Author****(April 2025)*

- Created and published a personal finance guide simplifying budgeting, saving, and smart spending for high school students; shared with peers and educators to promote financial literacy.
- Collaborated with a business professional to ensure content accuracy and incorporate real-world insights into teen financial literacy tools.

Yale Entrepreneurial Society | *Fellowship Ambassador**(April 2024)*

- 1 of 8 students selected globally for the YES Highschool Fellowship AI Cohort
- Pitched an AI health bot that will act as a mental health support which would benefit people's mental health at the reach of their phone
- Engaged in entrepreneurial development during the weekly classes.

Howard County Independent Research Program | *Researcher**(September 2025 - Current)*

- Conducted academic research on the relationship between Congressional behavior, financial legislation, and public trust in U.S. capital markets.
 - Authored meta-analysis synthesizing peer-reviewed literature on congressional insider trading and the 2012 STOCK Act.
 - Conducted primary research interviews with my Advisor Prof. Kent Kauffman, Purdue University.

Future Business Leaders of America | *Competitor**(August 2023-Present)*

- 3x Champion 1st Place: Coding and Programming (2024;2025) & Career Portfolio (2026)

Future Health Professionals (HOSA) | *Competitor**(August 2024-Present)*

- 2x Internationalist for the International Leadership Conference-Community Awareness (2025;2026)

National Personal Finance Challenge | *Competitor**(March 2026)*

- Placed top 4 out of 314 teams in the State of Maryland in the Maryland Personal Finance Challenge

The British Psychology Olympiad | *Competitor**(February 2026)*

- Achieved 2nd overall among 4,000+ international entries from 30+ countries outside the UK