

February Student Trustee Board Report

Update from the Student Trustees:



- On January 28th and 29th, Student Trustee Nguyen led the morning prayer at the iLITE Conference attended by 6000+ elementary students. During these days, she also coordinated the interschool conference talent show.
- On February 1st, Student Trustees participated in a Trent University Child and Youth Studies course call as panelists to speak about Social Justice, Equity, and Student Leadership.
- On February 1st, Student Trustees met with the OSTA-AECO Catholic Board Council to discuss the upcoming OSTA-AECO Student Voice project
- On February 3rd, Student Trustees met with Trustee Di Pasquale and Karen Enns to discuss menstrual health products for our schools.
- On February 8th, Student Trustees began planning for Voices That Challenge, Student Trustee Elections, and the student LGBTQ+ committee.

CSLIT:

Elementary Affairs

On February 28th and 29th, the Directors of Elementary Affairs hosted the annual Intermediate Leadership In Training Event. This was a two-day online event attended by 6538 elementary students from 124 elementary schools, and it consisted of 106 workshops helped by 63 high school volunteers. Former Olympian, Sarah Wells was the keynote speaker, and the event included a talent show as well as a closing prayer service. On February 4th the Directors of Elementary Affairs also hosted the monthly ECSLIT online meeting. The meeting focused on celebrating Black History Month featuring guest speakers, Michael Grandsoult and Jamila B. which included live performances about important black figures and the power of love.. Superintendent Joe Bria offered words of leadership and shared two leadership quotes with our students as the board welcome. Our Directors of Elementary Affairs will be coordinating high school volunteers for our upcoming Voices that Challenge conference and will be having multiple meetings with high school volunteers in preparation for that event.

Administrative Affairs

The Director of Administrative Affairs continued to work closely with the Student Trustees and the CSLIT Executive to ensure that the monthly CSLIT General Assemblies can take place, through virtual platforms. In addition, the Director of Administrative Affairs has been processing payments for Catholic Student Leadership merchandise and will carry on with this until the end of the school year. Lastly, the Director of Administrative Affairs has participated in a focus group to create more diversity within staff in the TCDSB. The Director of Administrative Affairs will continue to assist the Student Trustees on all CSLIT matters during this time of COVID-19 physical distancing.

Social Affairs

Social Affairs has successfully organized a Valentine themed fundraiser where students were able to order postcards through an online website created by the Social Affairs committee. The fundraiser was able to generate more than \$200 that would be donated to charity. In addition, three random buyers were chosen to win \$25 to spend at small businesses located in Toronto. Social Affairs is continuing to work on potential ideas such as a possible collaboration with the Director of Faith, as well as planning for modified events for Gala and the CSLIT BBQ.

Social Justice

The Director of Social Justice is in the process of transferring funds to selected social organizations to distribute the fundraised money from the COVID-19 mask initiative, to buy grocery gift cards to needy families. The Director of Social Justice and her subcommittee see the need to increase political engagement among youth and have decided to create a podcast to discuss youth's perspective on present day issues affecting our country and the rest of the world. The Social Justice subcommittee is also hoping to raise more awareness on different topics like Black Lives Matter, Indigenous Rights, and various current social justice issues important to teenagers.

Public Relations

In the month of January, the Public Relations team has continued working alongside the Student Trustees, CSLIT Elementary Directors and various CSLIT subcommittees, to advertise and keep students updated on all upcoming events, such as the iLITE, Let's Talk Faith, and monthly general assemblies at the elementary and secondary level. In addition, Public Relations has been advertising events for Black History Month in order to educate students on how important it is to learn about Black history and culture. Coordinators will continue to post and announce the latest information as well as live tweet during events to make sure that students are always updated on all things CSLIT.

Equity

Between December to January, the Equity subcommittee has continued its process of planning its webinar for students new to the country. The Webinar will consist of different discussions surrounding advice, opportunities as a student, and resources to different youth groups and supports. The subcommittee held their 5th and 6th Zen-doodle where students got the opportunity to learn a new art form and discuss different tips and tricks to help with productivity in school and effective study habits. The *Catholic Youth Black Alliance* officially completed the preparations and promotions for their new clothing line that was released on February 19th, 2021. All proceeds from the clothing line will be donated to the Nigerian #EndSars campaign.

From February 1-5, members of the Catholic Youth Black Alliance also hosted five consecutive Black History Month webinars. These daily webinars from 1:00-1:30pm were entitled *Truth, Triumph, and Tomorrow* with guest speaker Matthew Testament Jones from the organization *P.E.A.C.E. - People Everywhere Actually Co-Existing Equally*. These 30-minute webinars have over 3000 views per day and are available to be used as a resource throughout the month of February. They are posted on www.catholicstudentleadership.com. The Black Alliance has also planned their first awareness webinar on February 19th, 2021 where they discussed the different injustices that Black people still face today and the different initiatives we can participate in to help create positive change. On Monday, February 22, CSLIT Executive and members of the general assembly are scheduled to have a focus group meeting with the Superintendent of Human Resources Adrian Della

Mora to discuss the importance of cultural representation among staff as well as ideas to promote the teaching profession to students.

The Asian Core Team is in the process of planning its first Asian awareness webinar. The webinar will consist of different discussions surrounding Asian racism related to the pandemic, culture appropriation vs. appreciation, and Asian representation with the LGBTQ+. The team has also created an Instagram page as a platform to share informative posts, event updates, and awareness.

Faith

The Faith Ambassador has put together opening and closing prayers for each CSLIT and E-CSLIT monthly meetings. These prayers are led by the Faith Ambassador herself or a member of her faith subcommittee. The Faith Ambassador also hosted a *Let's Talk Faith*, which is a monthly spiritual nourishment webinar on January 20th. This meeting's topic was "Teenage Faith" with a guest speaker from Salt and Light media. The next Let's Talk Faith series is on February 17th and the topic will be the nature of "God's Love." Due to the pandemic, the Ordinandi Youth Event is being replaced by a video produced by the Archdiocese of Toronto. Our Faith Ambassador who was supposed to be emcee for the event, was asked to record a video testimonial about her Catholic role models who helped mould her faith.

Angel Foundation for Learning

During January, the director of the Angel Foundation and the AFL board members established a new plan, where the CSLIT AFL director will provide a monthly report addressing students' concerns and the work the recent work that CSLIT contributed during the time. The AFL director will continue to have meetings with their sub-committee and create fundraisers to aid in the Angel Foundation's vision.