

March Student Trustee Board Report

Update from the Student Trustees:



- From February 18-21, Student Trustees attended the annual OSTA-AECO Board Council Conference where they heard from various guest speakers, hosted their working group breakouts, and had insightful conversations with other Ontario Student Trustees
- On February 22nd, the Student Trustees along with the Executive Council and other student leaders met with Adrian Della Mora to further discuss diversity within the TCDSB Staff Hiring process
- On February 27th, Student Trustees met with the Toronto Youth Cabinet to discuss period poverty
- On March 1st, Student Trustees met with the OSTA-AECO Catholic Board Council to discuss upcoming initiatives for the council
- On March 2nd, Student Trustees met with Michael Penafiel from ShareLife and other GTA Student Trustees to discuss a Toolkit to help school in their efforts to support ShareLife
- On March 3rd, Student Trustee Nguyen met with the Directors of Social Affairs and Faith to begin planning for Faith Camp
- On March 5th, Student Trustees, along with the CSLIT Executive council carried out the 2021 Voices That Challenge conference, where they were able to collect student voice to begin the process on the 2021-2022 CSLIT Pillars of Focus
- On March 9th, the Student Trustees and the Directors who are helping with the 2SLGBTQ+ Student Committee to begin planning the first meeting for the committee, as well as reading through all of the applications
- On March 10th, the 2SLGBTQ+ Student Committee met for the first time to discuss the purpose of the team, as well as brainstorm ideas for the committee to carry out
- On March 12th, the CSLIT Executive council met for their monthly meeting
- On March 30th, the CSLIT General Assembly will meet our 2021-23 Student Trustee Candidates

CSLIT:

Elementary Affairs

The Director of Elementary Affairs hosted the ECSLIT monthly online meeting on Thursday, March 4th and were offered words of leadership from Trustee Ida LiPreti as the board welcome. Over 70 elementary students were present to engage virtually, learn a leadership lesson from the keynote speaker, Andrew Baptiste, and play games. The Directors of Elementary Affairs were responsible for coordinating high school volunteers in workshops for the Voices That Challenge virtual leadership conference on Friday, March 5th. Meetings with over 60 high school volunteers were held in preparation for the day of the event. The annual elementary SMILE Camp was hosted online this year from Wednesday, March 17th to Friday, March 19th. Ten high school volunteers and over 60 elementary students attended the camp to listen to keynote speakers and build their confidence as leaders.

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. Furthermore, the Director of Administrative Affairs has been working on creating events as a part of the Mental Health and Well-Being pillar. 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 is in the process of planning three initiatives for the month of March. The first initiative is in collaboration with two other CSLIT exec members to deliver handwritten cards to elderly living in retirement homes during Covid-19. The second initiative is in collaboration with the Faith Director to help deliver a virtual Faith Camp. The last initiative for this month is to increase engagement within the CSLIT community by creating entertaining content through the CSLIT TikTok account.

Social Justice

The Director of Social Justice, along with the subcommittee's current project is creating a documentary series on the effects of COVID-19 through the perspectives of teenagers. The Director of Social Justice has created a three-part series, with the first one set to launch through the use of Instagram on March 26, 2021. The first section includes introductions from speakers, one-line questions, a roundtable discussion on the realities of COVID-19, and an exclusive interview with the Director of Social Justice.

Public Relations

For the month of February, the Public Relations Team has continued their work in advertising for CSLIT-sanctioned events, such as the CSLIT GA, Let's Talk Faith, the ECSLIT GA, and Voices that Challenge. The successful advertisement was achieved through close collaboration with the Student Trustees, CSLIT executive council members, and the Directors of Elementary Affairs to create eye-popping advertisement pieces, and broadcast events on social media platforms, such as Twitter, in order to spread the word of the wonderful nuances of each respective event. Furthermore, while numbers have dwindled slightly due to the shift of events from in-person to virtual, the Public Relations Team has continued working hard on maintaining Catholic Student Leadership throughout the board, as well as helping perpetuate and nurture its nuances through advertisement.

Equity

Between the months of February to March, the Equity subcommittee has had their "Helping hand for Newcomers" webinar for students who were new to the country or for those in need of resources. This webinar consisted of different discussions surrounding advice, opportunities as a student within the workforce or extracurricular, and resources to different youth groups and supports. The subcommittee also held their 7th and 8th Zen-doodle where students got the opportunity to listen to a presentation about different mechanisms that help increase the quality of life throughout this pandemic and learned 2 different art forms. 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 going back to Nigeria to donate to EndSars. The Black Alliance has also had their first awareness webinar "Hear

me out” on February 23rd, 202. They discussed the different injustices that BIPOC students still face today through a red table talk and the different initiatives we can participate in to help create change in our society. The Asian Core Team held its first Asian awareness webinar. The webinar consisted of different discussions surrounding racism throughout the pandemic, culture appropriation vs. appreciation, and Asian representation with the LGBTQ+. The team has also created their Instagram page as a platform to share awareness posts and updates.

Faith

The Faith Ambassador has constructed monthly prayers for CSLIT GAs, E-CSLIT GAs, and monthly Let’s Talk Faith spiritual nourishment webinars. The Faith Ambassador hosted their fourth Let’s Talk Faith based on God’s Love for Us, which included games, guest speakers, and prizes. The Faith Ambassador is planning to work with their subcommittee to host another Let’s Talk Faith spiritual nourishment webinar in March, based on Leadership Through Service. The Faith Subcommittee is also planning to host a virtual alternative to a Faith Camp Retreat later on this month.

Angel Foundation for Learning

During the month of February and March, the Angel Foundation Director and his sub-committee have been planning their new fundraiser for the Easter season. They will be selling Easter baskets/cards as a way to raise money for the AFL equity fund. This fund organized by students will help to support a more equitable and belonging life in the TCDSB so that students all know that they are meant to be here no matter their background, culture, etc. The Easter initiative will continue till the end of march and items are being promoted to all ages, including TCDSB staff. The AFL Director has also attended the monthly Board meeting, contributing with his recently formulated board report addressing the student matters in the TCDSB to help aid the Angel Foundation’s mission to aid students. For the rest of the month, we will continue the fundraiser and support the vision that the Angel Foundation stands for.