

## SUMMARY OF 2023-2024 ECSLIT INITIATIVES & EVENTS

### **Pillars of Focus**

On Wednesday, October 4, 2023, the CSLIT Directors of Elementary Affairs gathered input from 123 students across seven elementary schools. To capture student voices, participants reviewed the three Pillars of Focus developed by CSLIT and ranked them in order of importance to identify local and global issues for the 2023-2024 school year. The Elementary Catholic Student Leadership Impact Team (ECSLIT) used this data to create the three Pillars of Focus.

### **Pillar 1 - Mental Health and Well-Being**

CSLIT leaders collaborated with the Mental Health Team to provide feedback on new mental health support posters created with input from the Safe Schools and Communications departments. They suggested ways to make the posters more appealing for both secondary and elementary students. As a result, two sets of posters were produced—one for elementary students and one for high school students—which will be distributed to elementary schools across the TCDSB.

At the annual Intermediate Leaders in Training Event (iLITE) conferences in January, various mental health and well-being workshops were held, providing staff and students with valuable information and resources.

During our monthly ECSLIT meetings, time was allocated for elementary students to ask high school leaders questions about succeeding in high school. This addressed a common concern for elementary students, and the practical strategies shared by high school peers aim to ease their transition into high school.

### **Pillar 2 - Student Support and Involvement**

One of the goals in our report was to increase elementary school participation in ECSLIT. Participation rose from 4 schools in October to 25 schools by our last monthly meeting.

The ECSLIT report highlighted the need for tutoring services. Through the Focus on Youth program, free high school-led tutoring was offered over the summer to help students prepare for the upcoming school year, with sessions held at Father Henry Carr in the West and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassatti in the East. Promoting this opportunity at ECSLIT and iLITE significantly increased the number of families who utilized the service.

### **Pillar 3 - Equity and Inclusion**

The Equity department collaborated closely with our Directors of Elementary Affairs throughout the year, facilitating workshops for elementary students at our annual iLITE conferences.

At every ECSLIT meeting, youth leaders from diverse cultures were showcased as role models for our elementary students. This not only highlighted the accomplishments of young people from various backgrounds but also inspired our elementary leaders to believe that anything is possible, regardless of their age.