

March Student Trustee Report

Ontario Student Trustee's Association-L'Association Des Élèves Conseillers/Conseillères

On February 18th-21st in Ottawa, Student Trustee Karina Dubrovskaya attended OSTA-AECO's Board Council Conference. The conference was full of great keynote speakers: Karina Gould (Member of Parliament, Burlington Riding), Senator Larry Campbell, Mayor Jim Watson and John Moses (Federal Aboriginal Affairs Directorate). The Student Trustees had breakout sessions to work on their independent council initiatives and to network.

The Catholic Board Council is busy planning the Ontario Catholic Student Youth Day and is preparing to release a video with this year's theme:

Opening the Doors of Mercy.

In addition, all of the Student Trustees filled out the Ontario Student, Parent, and Educator Survey (OSPES) which creates real data for other stakeholders in student voice to use and elevate the credibility of student voice.

Additionally, Student Trustees are working on expanding the Student Trustee role across Canada.

February General Assembly Review:

The GA was full of exciting speakers! Theresa Nguyen, representing Model City Hall, spoke of opportunities for youth civic engagement. Stephanie Blight, from Children's Miracle Network, spoke of a fundraising opportunity through the Dance Network. Robert Raisp encouraged student leaders to attend the annual Jesus Lift Higher Rally, and Nena Pestano and Melissa Smith McGuire represented the Canadian Blood Bank.

The audience were informed about great volunteer opportunities from a school dance-a-thon to donating stem cells through One Match. The students were inspired to make a difference in their own community and world wide!

Student Trustee Elections

Student Trustee applications have opened! Grade 10 students who are interested in serving a two year term must send their application to gregory.rogers@tcdsb.org by March 29th and the elections will be held April 26th. More information can be found on the TCDSB Website:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/OpportunitiesForStudents/Pages/Election-of-Student-Trustees-for-2016-2017.aspx>

CSLIT NEWS:

- The CSLIT executive are in the middle of creating a promotional video for student leadership within TCDSB!
- High school Camp Olympia weekends and host schools:
Cardinal Newman **April 29th - May 1st**
St. Patrick's **May 6th - 8th**
Bishop Allen May **13th - 15th**
- Superior North Programs will run **May 15th-19th**.
- Tanzania program will run **August 1-20th**, students can still apply and earn two high school credits!

Subcommittee Reviews:

Social Justice

The Social Justice Subcommittee is preparing for their largest event for Development and Peace, in the form of a dodgeball tournament at Cardinal Carter Academy for the Arts on **April 14th** from 4-6.

An eco action team has been started, the team will tackle eco-friendly options within our schools such as, composts and re-implementing the water bottle free school policy. Following Trustee Davis' motion to become a net-zero energy school board, this team is working on student initiatives to lead the way in schools.

Equity

The Equity Subcommittee is currently planning for its workshop regarding their work at the Voices That Challenge Conference. There, they will share their experiences in regards to student leadership as well as provide students the tools necessary to bring the ideals of equity back to their own schools.

The committee hosted an event in support of the Jack Summit for Mental Health on **February 26th**. They set up stations and activities around St. Joseph's College School with the underlying message of mental wellness presented with them.

From here, the Equity Subcommittee plans to look into the possibility of volunteering at places such as the Good Sheppard, St. Francis Table, etc.

As giving back to those less fortunate is very much in line with both the committee's Catholic values as well as the ideals of equity, these activities will be rewarding for both the student leaders and those that they are helping out.

Social Affairs

The Social Affairs Subcommittee is organizing a board wide dance-a-thon fundraiser along with Children's Miracle Network and is donating the funds to SickKids. The Director of Social Affairs has been in close contact with representatives with the representatives from Children's Miracle Network and have developed a several deadlines to make this event a success.

Angel Council

The Angel Council recently celebrated Believe in Angels Week alongside the Angel Foundation for Learning. In addition, they are working with the Social Affairs Committee to plan the upcoming CSLIT Gala in May to raise additional funds for AFL.