

Voices That Challenge:

On March 22nd, student leaders came together at St. Michael's College School for the annual Voices That Challenge Conference. The Conference included guest speaker Craig Kielburger, from Me to We/Free The Children and former child soldier, Emmanuel Jal. The day was filled with powerful messages and meaningful workshops from students such as Robert Adragna, who attended a Students on Ice trip as well as Neil McNeil's Chaplaincy team. The students left the day, proud of CSLIT and ready to make a change. This conference provided the student trustees with valuable information in regards to a plan of action for the year to come.

March General Assembly:

On March 29th, students across TCDSB came to the CSLIT General Assembly. The GA included guest speaker Nicole Bazzochi from Trek for Teens: a foundation that raises funds and awareness for homeless youth within our city. Schools are now getting together to volunteer for the upcoming Trek Day. The GA also included "Meet Our Candidates" night where students got the chance to meet their Student Trustee Candidates for 2016-2018 through a series of rapid-fire questions.

Student Trustee Elections will be taking place on Tuesday, April 26th starting at 4:30 in the Catholic Teacher's Centre. Schools such as Senator, O'Connor, Cardinal Carter, Notre Dame, and Archbishop Romero are all represented in our candidates. They will be presenting a speech and will answer a series of questions pertaining to the role. We will host a minimum of 17 schools to vote for a candidate who will serve a two-year term, using a ranked ballot voting system.

CSLIT Promo Video:

The Public Relations team has created a video showcasing catholic student leadership across our board. The video has been released to all of our social outlets including: Youtube, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. Many students, educators and even parents have applauded the well created video. OAPCE have contacted the student trustees themselves, to speak about CSLIT and E-CSLIT at their conference, as well as to show attending parents the positive impact their own children are making within the board through leadership. If you would like to watch the video, feel free to search "Official CSLIT Commercial 2016" on Youtube!

Subcommittee Reviews Faith:

The Faith subcommittee has been busy working on the upcoming Province-wide mass, in collaboration with Geoffrey Grant, Greg Rogers and Fr. Obinna. There is a

possible partnership with Development and Peace for an 'action' component following the mass.

Angel Council/Social Affairs:

The Director of the Angel Council has been working with the Director of Social Affairs for the month of March to plan the upcoming Gala that will support the Angel Foundation for Learning. They are in the process of finalizing a central venue and are brainstorming themes for the event, including an 'Eco' theme and a 'Night in Vegas' theme. They are hoping to have tickets ready for purchase by April 26th and will continue to sell under the intention of a 'Camp Olympia Reunion' so that we can see a maximum amount of people attending.

Social Justice:

This month the Social Justice Subcommittee had their annual dodgeball tournament Dodging For Justice in support of Development and Peace's campaign to support incoming Syrian refugees. The students who attended were given petitions via email by D&P to sign and bring back to CSLIT's April general assembly. The petitions, which will be signed by the participants and minimum 14 others, will be sent to the House of Commons in Ottawa to possibly be discussed by MP's. Also, the Social Justice subcommittee is awaiting confirmation from Habitat4Humanity to finish building the home at the Scarborough build site that students worked on in December.

Equity:

The Equity Subcommittee has been working hard to prepare a good basis for the foundation of the committee in following years. This past March marked the first round of Equity presentations in support of the Anti-Homophobia campaign, hosted by Madonna Catholic Secondary School. In reflection on the work that has been done thus far and continues to be worked on (such as the Inclusion & Belonging Retreat, the Anti-Homophobia Campaign, etc.), the committee is in the process of deciding how to improve upon the work that has been done in following years while maintaining continuity from the committee this year. The committee will be having its closing meeting in May and will be encouraging its active members to apply for the position of Director of Equity for the 2016-2017 school term. Until then, they will be meeting online or briefly to discuss plans of action to propose for the coming year.

Elementary Affairs:

During this month of April, the Directors of Elementary Affairs, hosted the last E-CSLIT meeting of 2016 on April 6th. In preparation for the event, we were thankful to have Louise Russo share her beautiful story with us. We also had another amazing guest speaker, Jam Gamble, an TV host, entrepreneur, a connector of people, ideas and energy. She shared some of her best high school tips and life success hacks with ECSLIT. We played Simon Says for an ice breaker had challenges for these young student leaders, the chair challenge. The teachers and Jam herself tested the chairs built by our innovative ECSLIT kids! We will be posting a blog with pictures of our last face to face meeting. We are excited to see ECSLIT leaders at Camp Olympia in May.