

DATE: March 5, 2024

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Student Senate 2023-2024 Work Plan Update

ORIGINATOR: Karen Mills, Director Board and Superintendent Relations

RESOURCE STAFF: Naimo Bille, Sean Jones, Nancy Petersen, Wanas Radwan

REFERENCE: [October 4, 2016, Board Report – Strategic Plan Update: Student Senate 2016-17 Work Plan](#)

ISSUE

The Student Senate is presenting an update on their work plan for the 2023-2024 school year to the Board of Trustees.

BACKGROUND

The Student Senate serves as a youth engagement model to promote active student participation in youth governance within education and to provide the Board of Trustees with a meaningful way to access student voice. To help guide the direction and energy of the Student Senate, they establish a yearly work plan that focuses on real-life application projects that are informed by the voice of their peers. The Student Senate reports on their efforts to meet their work plan goals at three public Board meetings throughout the year.

CURRENT SITUATION

In their October and November meetings, Student Senators used a project planning template to define their projects. By the end of the November meeting, they had decided to pursue four projects: a Club Summit one-day conference; a podcast discussing mental health, media coverage, and body image issues youth face; a brochure to highlight digital learning tools; and a workshop to ignite students' passion for education. Time was set aside at the Student Senate meetings on December 12, January 10, and February 7 for groups to work on their projects.

The Student Senate meetings also provided opportunities for Student Senators to expand their knowledge. On November 8, staff from the Division's EnviroMatters Office provided a presentation on EcoSchools and environmental initiatives being taken in the Division. At the December 12 meeting, Trustees joined Student Senators for supper and conversation that covered a wide range of topics. At their February 7 meeting, staff from the Division's TIPS (Technology, Integration & Planning Supports) Team spoke about digital citizenship. This team will be joining the March 13 meeting to continue this discussion.

KEY POINTS

- Student Trustees are undertaking four projects: a Club Summit one-day conference; a podcast discussing mental health, media coverage, and body image issues youth face; a brochure to highlight digital learning tools; and a workshop to ignite students' passion for education.
- Student Senators have had opportunities to learn more about Division initiatives via guest presentations at their meetings.
- Student Trustees will report on the culmination of their work at the May 28, 2024, public Board meeting.

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