

DATE: February 25, 2020

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Student Senate Work Plan Update

ORIGINATOR: Karen Mills, Director, Board and Superintendent Relations

RESOURCE STAFF: Marnie Beaudoin, Sean Jones, Nancy Petersen

REFERENCE: [October 22, 2019 Board Report: 2019-2020 Student Senate Work Plan](#)

ISSUE

The Student Senate is presenting to the Board of Trustees an update of their work in support of their 2019-2020 Work Plan.

BACKGROUND

At the October 23, 2018, public Board meeting, Student Trustees brought forward a report to the Board introducing their Student Trustees and executive. At that meeting, the Student Trustees also shared with the Board that the Student Senate had decided to make the focus of their work this year the organizing of a symposium on life skills for Division high school students.

CURRENT SITUATION

In the fall, the Student Senate struck committees to support three key areas of the symposium: logistics, program and promotion. Each committee then selected Committee Leads.

At each monthly Student Senate meeting there is time designated to committee work. The committees have used this time to identify and work towards the key activities they wish to accomplish by the symposium. The work of each committee is supported by District staff.

The symposium will be held at Victoria School and the Centre for Education on Thursday, April 30. The Senate will be partnering with Career Pathways to include the Career Pathways Networking Lunch as part of the symposium.

The following is an overview of the work currently underway for each committee:

- The Logistics Committee is finalizing the field trip forms and registration process, and organizing student volunteers.
- The Program Committee has confirmed the symposium streams: Financial Literacy, Insightful People, Mental and Physical Health, and Student Perspectives.
- The Promotions Committee has created a title and branding for the symposium, along with a promotion calendar and tactics.

The Student Senate has also discussed and provided input on the following topics:

- The Division's exploration of a six-block day, where students are provided with opportunities to undertake a more flexible schedule
- Changes being contemplated for the Division's transportation fees and services
- What is essential for the basic education of an Edmonton Public school student. This conversation was led by Board Chair Estabrooks, with Trustees Stirling and Janz.

KEY POINTS

- For their 2018-2019 work plan, the Student Senate established that their key focus will be planning a Life Skills Symposium.
- To prepare for the symposium, they have formed three committees: Logistics, Program and Promotions.
- In addition to preparing for the symposium, the Student Senate has provided input on the Division's exploration of a six-block schedule for high schools, and what is essential for the basic education of an Edmonton Public Schools student.
- Student Trustees will present a final summary of this year's work to the Board of Trustees in June 2019.

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