

**DATE:** March 8, 2022

**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:** Sean Jones, Julie Marko, Nancy Petersen

**REFERENCE:** [November 30, 2021 Board Report: Student Senate 2021-2022 Work Plan](#)

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## ISSUE

The Student Senate is presenting to the Board of Trustees an update of their work in support of their 2021-2022 Work Plan.

## BACKGROUND

At the November 30, 2021, 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 selected anti-discrimination, mental wellness and transitions in education as their project themes for the year.

## CURRENT SITUATION

The Student Senate has met three times since their last presentation to the Board. In those meetings, the Student Senate agree to try a style of project work different from previous years. Rather than have larger groups for each of their three chosen topics, they formed smaller groups to work on the topics from different perspectives. It is hoped that this approach will allow for greater individual engagement in project work.

Theme	Subgroups (number of group participants)		
Anti-discrimination	Event (8)		
Mental Wellness	Event (6)	Curate Resources (4)	Develop Resources (5)
Transitions in Education	Event (5)	Curate Resources (5)	Develop Resources (5)

Each group completed a detailed project plan, which included a SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound) outcome, environmental scan, project overview, action plan and evaluation plan.

All groups were interested in gathering feedback from students on what topics and activities were of most interest to them, to ensure that the Student Senate work would be meeting the needs of students. The staff advisors suggested that rather than each group issuing a separate survey, having a combined

survey may mitigate survey fatigue and garner a better response rate. At their February meeting, Student Senators worked together to compile a single survey, which was released to schools on February 14. Feedback from the survey will be used to refine project work and inform speaker and resource selection.

At their monthly business meetings, Student Senators have been sharing about events of interest happening at their schools or that they are involved with in the community. Ms. Petersen also provided a presentation on Governance 2.0, a history of the Student Senate, and Ms. Hammermeister, Division FOIP Coordinator and Ms. Beeken, Manager of Information Management, gave a presentation on FOIP and outlined areas for students to consider as they conducted surveys, interviews, and resource materials.

#### **KEY POINTS**

- For their 2021-2022 work plan, the Student Senate selected anti-discrimination, mental wellness and transitions in education as their project themes for the year.
- To carry out their work, Student Senators have formed seven smaller groups.
- Student Trustees will present a final summary of this year's work to the Board of Trustees in June 2022.

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