

**Re: Position of Student Trustee**

**POSITION OF STUDENT TRUSTEE**

Each secondary school ensures eligible students are notified of this opportunity and will hold democratic elections at the local level.

**THE ROLE OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE**

The primary role of a Student Trustee is to represent the 77,000 students of DPCDSB. Student Trustees attend board meetings and committee meetings. They also lead Student Senate, which is a group composed of high school representatives across DPCDSB. As a Student Trustee, you will have various opportunities to enhance your skills, whether it be leadership, communication, writing, and so much more.

A key role is leading Student Senate meetings; through Student Senate, meaningful discussions can take place regarding a variety of issues, initiatives, and ideas that can be shared with other high schools. Key information is then relayed to the board through the Student Voice reports which is a recap on any initiatives Student Senate is planning and any other relevant information. Being a Student Trustee allows individuals to participate in a variety of conferences and meetings such as, OSTA-AECO conferences and OCSTA meetings. Overall, being a Student Trustee is a role that teaches you more about your capabilities, while helping prepare you for the future.

**ELIGIBILITY FOR STUDENT TRUSTEE**

To be eligible for the role of Student Trustee, students must meet the following criteria:

1. A person is qualified to act as a student trustee if they will be enrolled in a senior division of a school of the DPCDSB for the 2024-2025 school year.
2. As of August 1, following the election, students must be registered for a grade 11 or 12 full-time program in a Dufferin-Peel secondary school.
3. Students under the age of 18 must provide written confirmation of support and acknowledgement of the responsibilities from their parent /guardian via the completed forms.
4. Students, if successful, shall sign a Confidentiality Agreement.
5. Students must be willing to commit the necessary time to attend meetings and perform the duties and responsibilities of a student trustee.

**POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

- One student will be elected from the Mississauga Families of Schools
- One student will be elected from the Brampton/Caledon/Dufferin/Malton Families of Schools. (including St. Oscar Romero)

If you are interested in this position, please see the Principal.

### **DUTIES OF A STUDENT TRUSTEE**

- Represent the 77,000 students of DPCDSB at the board level.
- Attend all board meetings.
- Participate actively, pay attention during meetings, use proper etiquette and act professionally.
- Actively represent students' needs.
- Collaborate with a variety of organizations.
- General members of OSTA-AECO, an organization for all Student Trustees in Ontario.
- Present Student Voice Report at regular board meetings.

### **LEAD STUDENT SENATE**

- A group composed of high school representatives (Student Voice Representatives).
- Create an agenda and propose initiatives.
- Lead discussions about areas of concerns.
- Talk about initiatives to implement board wide.
- Provide students with a platform to speak about their concerns and solutions.
- Respond to emails from students, staff, faculty, parents, and outside organizations.
- Network with other Student Trustees and Adult Trustees from across the province
- Respond to any and all emails from board approved organizations and try to collaborate with them.

### **BENEFITS TO POSITION**

- Opportunity to attend professional development conferences.
- Opportunity to develop and enhance essential skills such as communication and leadership.
- Interact and connect with other Student Trustees across the province as well as many other key stakeholders in education.

### **ELECTION AT THE SCHOOL LEVEL**

Candidates who have indicated an interest in the position of Student Trustee and have completed the application forms (including parent/guardian informed permission) will serve as eligible candidates and will be on the ballot for the school election process. All students in the school will be the electoral body. The student with the majority of votes will be named the school's Student Trustee Candidate.

### **ELECTION AT THE BOARD LEVEL**

One Student Trustee will be elected from the Mississauga Families of Schools and one student from the Brampton/Caledon/ Dufferin/Malton Families of Schools, including St. Oscar Romero.

All student trustee candidates (maximum one per secondary school), the current school Prime Minister (or designate), and the Student Senate Representative from each secondary school, will meet with the current Student Trustees and the Student Trustee Liaison (D. Belchior) to elect the student trustees for the upcoming school year.

Student Trustee Candidates (maximum one per secondary school) will have an opportunity to make presentations that speak to their suitability to represent the interests of students on the Board of Trustees. Each candidate will be allotted **three minutes** for this presentation. All candidates must be in uniform for the board level elections. More information will be provided to the candidate prior to the board election on Wednesday February 21, 2024.

The Prime Ministers (or designate) and Student Senate Representative (or designate) of each Mississauga secondary school will elect the Student Trustee from the South; the Prime Ministers (or designate) and Student Senate Representative (or designate) of each Brampton/Caledon/Dufferin/Malton secondary school will elect the Student Trustee from the North, in accordance with Board-approved procedures.

### **Student Senate (Voice) Information**

Positions on the Student Senate will require a separate election at the school level. The **elected Student Senate** member's name must be provided to the office of Superintendent Liaison for Student Senate (D. Belchior), **c/o Christine Paldino**.

You can run this election at the same time as student council or at a different time. Your entire student body should have the opportunity to vote.

Please note, if students on the Student Senate miss two meetings they will be automatically removed from the senate. Should this be the case, we ask the principals to send an alternate member of their choice, preferably the student council president. The student council president *can* be the Student Senate member; however this process should be determined democratically at the school level (through elections).

The newly elected Student Senate member may be invited to attend the final meeting of the year with the current member.

The school that has an elected Student Trustee will also be able to have a Student Senate member. Therefore, three schools will have two members (this includes the school with an Indigenous Student Trustee).

Please contact Superintendent Belchior if you have questions regarding the process for either student trustee or student senate members.

Thank you.

### **Dulcie Belchior, BSc, BEd, MEd, OCT**

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