



# Ursuline College Chatham

## STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

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## SECOND SEMESTER- So Soon?

Second semester is nicely underway at UCC, and this marks the halfway point in our school year. Final exams have been completed and report cards have been distributed. This is now a time for new learning opportunities, to experience new teachers, to try new courses and to maybe even connect with new Lancers. For some of us, this is the beginning of the end...the last new start we will have at UCC as we prepare to graduate and to continue studying at a post secondary college or university. Although the courses and teachers may be new and different, the opportunity to experience a well-rounded education has remained unchanged. UCC has so much to offer both in the classroom and out with clubs, athletics, and the arts.

In the month of February, Valentine's Day was celebrated with a dress down day and student council provided the opportunity for Lancers to purchase a rose for someone special. The committee for this year's prom began to plan for this big event on June 8th, and our teams were very successful in curling, basketball and volleyball. At UCC and throughout our elementary schools, SCCDSB celebrated the achievements of black Canadians during February which is Black History Month.

**A Responsible Citizen**  
A responsible citizen who gives witness to Catholic social teaching by promoting peace, justice and the sacredness of human life.

**A Caring Family Member**  
A caring family member who attends to family, school, parish and the wider community.

**A Collaborative Contributor**  
A collaborative contributor who finds meaning, dignity and vocation in work which respects the rights of all and contributes to the common good.

**An Effective Communicator**  
An effective communicator who speaks, writes and listens honestly and sensitively, responding critically in light of gospel values.

**A Reflective, Creative And Holistic Thinker**  
A reflective, creative and holistic thinker who solves problems and makes responsible decisions with an informed moral conscience for the common good.

**A Self-Directed, Responsible, Lifelong Learner**  
A self-directed, responsible, lifelong learner who develops and demonstrates their God-given potential.

**A Discerning Believer**  
A discerning believer formed in the Catholic Faith; community who celebrates the signs and sacred mystery of God's presence through word, sacrament, prayer, forgiveness, reflection and moral living.

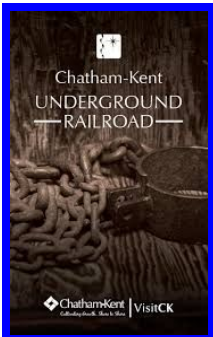
# LEAD LIKE JESUS



There is so much to learn about black history right in our own backyard. There are three excellent places to visit for a look into the past: The Buxton National Historic Site and Museum, The Chatham Kent Black Historical Society and Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site.

Between 1840 and 1860, enslaved Africans followed the North Star on the Underground Railroad to find freedom in Canada.

This was not a railroad but was actually a secret network of people, routes and safe houses that helped people escape slavery and reach the US northern free states and Canada. In the late 1800's, Chatham-Kent was a destination for these fugitive slaves seeking freedom and hoping for a better life. The Underground Railroad was the largest anti-slavery freedom movement in North America, having brought between 30,000 and 40,000 fugitive slaves to Canada.



UCC had the privilege of welcoming Dr. Bryan Walls, historian, author, and lecturer, to speak to Lancers about Black History Month. Dr. Walls shared with us his ancestry and the story of how his great-great grandfather, John Freeman Walls, escaped slavery because of his courage, strong faith, and the actions of good people. Dr. Walls' highlighted the importance of the Underground Railroad in Canadian History but also in today's society.

Mr. Dula reminds us that the Underground Railroad represents that different nations of people have escaped slavery throughout history, and that our world continues to struggle with various forms of slavery in contemporary culture. Canadian Black History continues to be recognized at UCC with the help of a senior student, Amani Zantoko, who has organized many of our reflections and celebrations.



*"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the full staircase."*

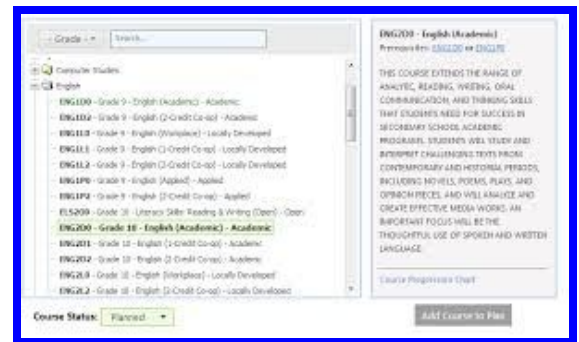
- Martin Luther King Jr.

# CURRICULUM CONCENTRATION



In February, there is an emphasis on studies in the past, present and in the future. At the start of February, we completed our final exams from semester one, began our new classes for semester two, and students in grade 9 through 11 will soon start selecting their courses for the 2019-2020 school year.

In order to help with decisions, our guidance department will visit classrooms to discuss the advantages of using MyBlueprint. This is the online software tool that students use to make these course selections. An important part of this selection is pathway planning. Students need to seriously consider what their future story looks like.



Mr. Power strongly suggests that parents take the time to discuss these plans with their Lancer. Discussing future goals and the pathway plans required to reach those goals helps students determine their best course selections. Mr. Power advocates that these discussions between parents/guardians and students will take some of the anxiety out of making these important decisions. It is important to note that the courses selected in MyBlueprint in the coming weeks will determine what courses are offered at UCC next year.

# THOUGHTEXCHANGE

On January 9th and again on February 15th, I had the honour of attending the Thoughtexchange workshops at our CEC. Mrs. Crawford was pleased to share that more than 2,300 from our SCCDSB family shared 3,344 thoughts, and



starred 111,700 ratings. This online sharing and learning will help us to prepare for the future, to build together our Catholic education, and our new strategic plan for our Catholic education over the next five years.



# EXTRA-CURRICULAR

“EXTRA”- curricular activities continue at UCC:

- Prom Committee
- French Culture Club
- Rugby
- Wrestling
- Basketball
- Curling
- Hockey
- Me to We
- Weightlifting
- Yearbook Team
- Reach for the Top
- Games Club
- Volleyball
- Art Club
- “In The Heights” Musical - music, drama, behind the scenes (makeup, costume, set...)
- Music Department: pIUCC, jazz band, concert band, mass choir, Creative Music Group



# UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 5 Volunteer Fair
- March 6 Ash Wednesday Prayer Services
- March 7 Dress Down Day
- March 7 Departure for Spain & Portugal
- March 11 March Break
- March 21 Hot Dog Day
- March 27 OSSLT

SEPTEMBER 2018							OCTOBER 2018							NOVEMBER 2018							DECEMBER 2018													
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**E** Exam Day (Secondary)  
**H** Holiday  
**P** Professional Activity Day

First Day of Classes September 4, 2018  
 Christmas Break December 24, 2018  
 January 4, 2019  
 March Break March 11-15, 2019  
 Last Day of Classes June 27, 2019

Mark your calendars!

