

REPORT TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES April 23, 2019

Deb Crawford, Director of Education

SUBJECT: Student Trustee Elections

PREPARED BY: Scott Johnson, Superintendent of Education

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Board Policy *Sec. A Policy – Student Trustee on the Board*, the St. Clair Catholic District School Board requires two student trustees – one to represent the Catholic school students of Chatham-Kent and one to represent the Catholic school students of Sarnia-Lambton.

BASIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF STUDENT TRUSTEE

School principals were directed to verify that they were to *only* include in the selection process those students who meet these requirements:

1. Be Catholic
2. During 2019 - 2020 term of office, a full-time student in at least grade 11
3. Has access to transportation to attend the meetings in Wallaceburg
4. Has a record of good attendance and hence is likely to be able to honour the time commitment

OUTLINE OF PROCESS

In advance of the selection day, Student Councils promoted among the student body of each Catholic secondary school of the student trustee selection process.

The selection process involved the following components:

1. Welcome by Secondary School Administrator
2. Opening Prayer (Chaplain)
3. Principal's comments: Ministry of Education – Seeking Student Voice
4. Ice Breaker Activities
5. Current Student Trustee Speech on the Role (5 – 10 minutes)
6. Candidate Speeches (3 – 5 minutes)
7. Election
8. Closing Prayer

The election for St. Patrick's High School occurred on April 17, 2019 and the Ursuline College election occurred on April 10, 2019.

STUDENT TRUSTEES

St. Patrick's: Kyra Mevis

Kyra Mevis is a highly engaged and hard working grade 11 Art and Culture SHSM student at St. Patrick's. She feels honoured to have been selected as the Student Trustee for the 2019-2020 school year.

**REPORT:
Student Trustee Election**

When Kyra entered grade 9 she made a promise to herself that she would do everything to make her high school experience memorable. Throughout her three years at the school, Kyra has been highly involved in extracurricular activities and in the daily life of the school. Most notable are 3 years of Muskoka Woods, Student Council, LINK Crew, St. Patrick's productions of *Spotlight on Broadway* and *Footloose*, and hosting morning announcements. Kyra has enjoyed being a member of the school Chaplaincy Team for three years and has been living out her faith by presenting self-written morning reflections to the school. Within her church community, she has taught Confirmation classes for two years and has been a lector for 7. She joined the St. Philips school community at 6 years old after immigrating from Holland and has attended Catholic schools since, so advocating for a faith-filled education is of high importance to her.

With a dream of pursuing a career as a teacher in secondary school education, Kyra hopes that this experience will be one of learning and growth. With great pleasure, Kyra takes on the job of representing St. Patrick's as Student Trustee for the St. Clair Catholic District School Board.

UCC: Ethan Gilhula

Ethan Gilhula is a well-spoken and confident individual who has a strong passion for politics, conservative values and his catholic faith. Ethan is an honour roll student who takes great pride in his academic achievements and civic responsibilities. Ethan has been a member of the UCC orchestra since he became a Lancer, participated in student council and been a member of the UCC badminton team. Ethan is also committed to volunteering with a number of groups within our community including 100 Men Who Care, Restorative Justice CK and CK Mental Health Network. These accomplishments are indicative of the dedication and determination Ethan possesses.

UCC is proud to nominate Ethan Gilhula as UCC Student Trustee.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board recognize the election of Kyra Mevis from St. Patrick's Catholic High School and Ethan Gilhula from Ursuline College Chatham Catholic Secondary School and appoint them as Student Trustees for the period of August 2019 to July 2020.