

STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

Date of Meeting: October 28, 2024

Student Trustee: Athena Yu

In this Student Trustee report, I will provide an update on the recent activities of the Vancouver District Student Council (VDSC), including the issues discussed at our October 15th General Meeting, the upcoming CANley Cup initiative, our Junior Executive elections, and the anticipated annual leadership retreat.

The VDSC held its General Meeting on October 15th, with attendance from various student representatives, including the Indigenous Representative, Sustainability Representative, and student reps from every school, as well as the Alternate schools within the district. The council participated in a roundtable discussion to identify and prioritise student concerns. Facilities-related issues were emphasised by multiple representatives, and to follow up, an invitation will be issued to the VSB facilities department for an upcoming VDSC meeting to share information about VSB Facilities processes and school sites. I look forward to continuing this important conversation alongside our newly appointed Facilities Committee representative in the coming weeks.

During the meeting, we filled student representative positions for the district's Standing Committees for the 2024-2025 school year. At our upcoming retreat, we will prepare these representatives for their roles in upcoming VSB meetings and hold additional elections to fill the remaining VDSC Executive positions.

The council also discussed plans for the CANley Cup, an annual initiative encouraging schools to donate non-perishable food items and funds through a friendly inter-school competition. This year, schools that wish to participate may choose to partner with either the Greater Vancouver Food Bank, a local charity, or a food hub in their neighbourhoods. We are excited to see the collective efforts of each school in supporting the broader community.

Building on last year's focus on inclusivity and accessibility in student-led events, our Senior Executives presented five key guiding questions for event planning, promoting, and hosting to help ensure that all events are inclusive and accessible for more students. These questions are also available to the wider student body through the VDSC's social media.

Looking ahead, the council is preparing for our annual leadership retreat on November 19th. This event is designed to strengthen collaboration and encourage idea-sharing. The retreat aims to cultivate innovation and teamwork, helping guide our efforts for the rest of the year.

Thank you to the Board for your continued support of student voices in the district. I look forward to providing further updates on our initiatives and discussions.