Vancouver School Board

Board Meeting Report by Mia Liu

Sept. 26th, 2022

Hello everyone,

I am Mia, a grade 11 student from Lord Byng secondary.

Today, I will introduce myself as the new VSB student trustee and provide an overview of VDSC’s recent updates.

I am very fortunate to be a part of VDSC - a council that never lacks the will to act and the drive to impact. Like all of us, I look forward to a year of cooperation, initiative, and positive change, with so many of us equipped with different perspectives, striving towards the same goals together.

Aside from VDSC, I also sit on the Byng student council and the RCMP National Youth Advisory Committee. My experiences in student government taught me that it is not enough for us to simply identify issues and demand change; rather, we must use the opportunities provided to turn pressing complaints into feasible solutions and tangible action. To me, VDSC is that opportunity for the student voice; the student trustee position is also that opportunity.

In this upcoming year, I strive to conduct interviews with typically underrepresented students in our district to get to know their priorities and concerns in the most authentic form possible. I also hope to integrate student voices into the VSB policy-making process and garner publicity for updates in the education plan. In doing so, more of us students will know that even if change is not immediate, there is a group of dedicated individuals meeting late at night in a dim-lit room on Broadway for us, and just for us.

Early this September, our senior exec team launched our year by posting an introductory video explaining VDSC’s structure and function. The video has since accumulated over 7,400 views on Instagram. Hopefully, our advertising efforts can help spread awareness of VDSC’s purpose, mission, and values to let students know that their voices are taken seriously by both the district council and the board of education.

The first VDSC meeting will take place tomorrow, September 27th. I will be back next month with more updates concerning VDSC initiatives and junior exec elections.

Lastly, I’d like to thank all my VDSC members and the board for this opportunity. It is truly a pleasure to be here.

Thank you.