# the NEW TRIER NEWS



### Women's Day seminars explore facets of feminism

Women's Day moves ahead despite planning challenges

by May Paddor

Girl Up and UNICEF hosted International Women's Day seminars on Mar. 8 with various speakers throughout the day and invited students to come during free periods and teachers to bring their classes.

"The purpose of the day was not only to learn what it means to be empowered, but to celebrate the empowerment of the women who are speaking and build off that energy and work towards a society where women are celebrated and treated equally," said Senior and UNICEF representative for the event Molly Gallagher

Co-head of Girl Up, Samantha Scheinfeld, said that each seminar is very different, and a very wide array of ideas are presented.

"I think it's important for every New Trier student to be exposed to the many different facets of feminism," said Scheinfeld.

Initially, there was a chance that the seminars would be cancelled.

"The administration was afraid that there wouldn't be a diverse body of voices. So we either had to cancel the seminars or push them back until the administration approved all of the speakers," said Gallagher. "Since we had such a dedicated group of girls and teachers working together on planning the seminars, we were able to mobilize and get all of our speakers approved."

The administration wanted to ensure that students would have a choice in attending the seminars if their teachers decided to take them as a class.

'I think it's important to continue to value and support women through this seminar day and for years to come'

"We're not opposed to the day at all. We just need to make sure that the way students access it is not required. We needed to communicate with the teachers that kids have an option to attend together or maybe have an alternate assignment," said Principal Denise Dubravec

Speakers included various teachers, parents and coaches, who spoke about different focuses of female empowerment in various fields.

"It's important for students to attend a day like this because it gives students information. It's not about pushing an agenda, it's about keeping



Allyson Haut of the League of Women Voters discusses the ERA | Guthrie

people informed on the different ways they can empower themselves and empower women," said Scheinfeld.

The speakers gave talks on intersectional feminism, the ERA, and what it means to be a female leader.

"All of the speakers have something different to bring," said Gallagher.

"I went during eighth period and the speaker focused on women in art history," said Junior Sarah Ann Duck. "I really liked it and thought it was interesting how she incorporated some of the AP Art History curriculum into her presentation."

Other speakers included Strength and Conditioning coach Jim Davis, who talked about women empowerment in sports, and Cook County Board candidate Bushra Amiwala, who talked about women and youth in politics.

All the speakers were organized by Girl Up and UNICEF.

"I brought two speakers for periods three and four and worked with them to coordinate showing up and working, getting them approved with the school, and negotiating the logistics, like what supplies they would need," said Gallagher. "There are a lot of logistics that go into it and we needed a large team to make sure that it would go off smoothly."

The organizers reported most sessions were at capacity.

"This year, we had about a hundred students at each seminar. I hope in the future we have hundreds of students at each seminar, because I think everyone should be exposed to the issues our speakers present. I think it's important to continue to value and support women through this seminar day for years to come," said Scheinfeld.

"My session was really full. It must've had five or six classes in it. But I wish more teachers could have brought their classes because I was only able to go to one seminar," said Duck.

In terms of the future, Gallagher hopes that her two years have set a precedent that can continue and become an annual tradition. Gallagher said, "I personally think it's super awesome. More information is always better and more opportunities to celebrate female empowerment is always welcome in my book."

#### Is early decision really the right decision?

## Seniors have the choice of early action and early decision for college applications by Layla Saqibuddin

Every year, thousands of high school seniors go through the hectic process of college admissions.

The first semester of senior year is full of stress over the college application process. The second semester is full of stress over waiting for acceptance letters.

However, some students decide to apply early decision. This arrangement allows a student's chance of getting into a college goes up, but the student's ability to choose another college or bargain and comparison-shop for better colleges with financial-aid deals goes away.

There is, however, another option: early action (EA). Early action plans are non-bidding. You can EA to as many schools as you want, and you don't have to attend.

EA is better if you aren't sure you want to go there, and like ED, you will receive your admission decision in December.

Senior Ilana Nazari, who chose to do early action for one of her

schools, said, "I recommend EA for sure, because it takes a lot of stress off your senior year when you find out early. I didn't personally like the commitment of early decision."

Post High School Counselor department chair James Conroy believes that there is a downside to early decision.

"If you want the best deal of scholarships and money you shouldn't do early decision because you have to live with whatever the school gives you. You won't be able to compare and decide with other schools when applying in this process," said Conroy.

Senior Kelly Olvany agrees, "The scholarship opportunities are tricky for students because not each student and family is given the scholarship and financial aid needed."

Some students think that there are also some disadvantages for early action

"Time management is very important, you must get your applications done early and you must know which schools you want to apply to early. Plus, some schools are restricted early action which means you can only apply there early," said

However, there are benefits for applying early decision.

Conroy said, "There is a smaller

pool of applicants applying for early decision rather than a large pool of applicants who are making a regular decision, which can help the colleges narrow down their choices. Early decision definitely increases your chances on getting accepted to a college."

Olvany cited a few reasons for choosing to apply early, "I applied early decision because it greatly increases your chances. I also wanted to know early and a lot of my schools didn't offer early action. I recommend early decision only if you're sure about the school and the price that it comes with."

'I recommend early decision if you're sure about the school and the price that it comes with'

"Additionally, being able to get excited and joining a bunch of group chats with your future classmates is awesome, everyone is so psyched, plus, I already found my roommate, which is a lot easier," she added.

Conroy highly encourages students to visit the school before

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#### **Club Election Winners**

Student Alliance





Girl's Club Vice President: Andrew Willcox



President: Alice Beberdick
Tri-Ship





Vice President: Connor Room

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Mia Sherin

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