

the NEW TRIER NEWS



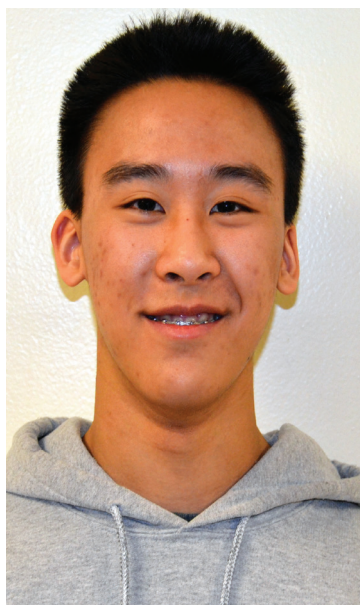
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Zervas

Student Alliance announces new officers

New president and officers start planning for the next year

by Jessa Snower



New president Jacob Imber (left) and vice president Bill Yen (right) | SA

Student Alliance is prepared to make a big difference next year and support the needs of the student body with the new leaders that were chosen in the election, Friday March 10th.

The 2017 Student government will be led by president Jacob Imber. Imber's main goals for next year are to implement at least one day every semester where teachers can't assign homework.

"This is a project that student alliance has taken on in the past, and I feel confident that we could get it passed with hard work and strong support," Imber said.

His other goals include allowing food and drink in the library, improve wifi connection and most importantly Imber wants to make sure the student body is being heard.

Every project Student Alliance wants to accomplish has to be approved by administrators. Each member of Student Alliance has to be comfortable with a project and then

present it to the administration so they can choose whether to implement it. Sometimes it can take several school years but the members say it's worth each of the board members contributing and communicating with the administrators.

This year 1,329 sophomores and juniors voted making it a 70 percent voter turnout. This was 13.5 percent more than last year.

This year's turnout is good for the club and shows how students are

able to get involved by voting and have a say in the student government.

The club this year created a vision statement, which read in part, "We strive to advocate on behalf of all student voices to enhance the New Trier experience." This statement captures what the club hopes to accomplish in future school years.

"The sponsors' goal is to support the Student Alliance by helping them seek new opportunities to actively live out that vision. This could

involve engaging more students, use of the new building and new facilities, and continually enhancing our PR to reach more of the student body," Sponsor Stacy Kolack said.

Voters have a big responsibility in determining the new leadership of the Student Alliance. These leadership roles are important for the clubs of the activities program.

"These clubs serve the student body at large so responsible, reliable and passionate students are needed to lead these groups. The students' vote is a critical part of this process, and should be based on who the students truly feel are the best candidates for the job," Kolack said.

Junior Ellie Pass said, "I did vote and I think it is important for there to be a student government because the students have a representative who provides a voice."

As a student not in the club, one of the ways to be involved in student government is to participate in voting.

"I think it's important to vote because we are given the opportunity to express our opinion by voting for who you think would make the most positive impact or change in the school," Junior Catherine Morris said.

The Student Alliance has succeeded in making students' voices

heard. They created a bulletin board near the second floor rotunda so people can send in suggestions. Imber worked with food providers to bring in new food including pasta, sushi and other options to the cafeteria.

He also helped unblock social media from the school's Wi-Fi and met with administrators about the current advisor system.

Last year, the club came up with a project for #hashtaglunchbagchicago, where the grade raised more than 4000 granola bars and over 1500 decorated bags for homeless people in Chicago.

On Friday, SA extended the Porta-Potty contract for fall and spring athletes and worked with PPS to fix more than half of the water fountains and bathrooms in the school.

"I think we would make a great team. I have gotten to know Jacob this year as a member of the board. I would be able to complement his leadership with my different perspective," Vice President Bill Yen said.

"I could not be more excited to serve as next year's president. I hope that anyone with ideas or concerns feels free to contact me in person or through student alliance, and I look forward to working with the entire New Trier community," Jacob Imber said.

DECA leaves state tournament with big returns

Five students qualified for internationals with many placing in top ten

by Mia Sherin

DECA, New Trier's resident business club, returned from their state conference on March 11th with success.

With a handful of students snagging a spot in the top ten of their event and five students placing in the top four, sponsors and students alike were proud.

The five students were Seniors Michelle Buyer, Grant Smith and Drew Kepes, and Sophomores Declan Graver and Connor Hester. By placing in the top four, these five students qualified for Internationals and have the opportunity to continue to compete on an even higher level.

Junior Maya Mozolewski has been an active member of DECA since sophomore year, and this year she attended State for the first time.

For her event, Mozolewski competed with partner and fellow junior Emma Olson in the Travel and Tourism event.

She expressed that she loved the event, but one hiccup occurred when the event ran out of judges, so two security guards from the hotel filled in.

However, this setback did not affect her overall experience, and one highlight of hers was the team atmosphere.

"Everyone hypes each other up.

New Trier is always the loudest and most obnoxious team when cheering, so if one person in our group gets called up on stage, the whole section screams and cheers. We are always excited whenever a fellow trevian does a really good job," she said.

Junior Alex Boudos feels that it has been a very positive learning experience. He said, "DECA is great because it gives you an opportunity to learn about the business world through workshops and speakers we run."

At State, Boudos competed in the Sports and Entertainment Marketing event with junior Quinn Sheehan, who he originally joined DECA with back in their sophomore year.

Boudos spoke more about the experience of the State Conference:

"State is great experience because I got to go down with Quinn and get real world business problems, think of solutions, and give presentations with limited time and loads of pressure." He added, "Also, going down with friends and great teachers makes the experience very fun too."

Not only did the students enjoy attending this conference and cheering on their peers, DECA advisors Bob Bollweg and Melissa Duffy were very proud of the team and the work ethic they demonstrated.

Bollweg said he was most proud of "seeing the kids wake up and being dressed professionally, networking, and having that real life business experience is pretty unique to DECA and is valuable.

One person who Bollweg was specifically proud of was senior



From Mar. 9 to Mar. 11, DECA went to state and returned with many students placing in the tournament | Bollweg

Michelle Buyer.

"It's her third year in DECA, and the last two years I think she got top ten, but never actually medaled. She finally got third place, and I'm proud of her," he said.

One downside that Duffy highlighted was the limit on the number of students the club is allowed to take. They have experienced a lot of growth recently, but the team is only allowed to bring 40 students to State.

"That's the one thing that's really hard," Duffy said. "We can't

take everyone who wants to go."

The schedule for the weekend was packed, and the business began upon arrival on March 9th when the students took an hour long, 100 question cluster exam. The following day began with the economic exam, and later on Friday the students participated in two role plays.

In this role play, the students receive a certain scenario and are given 30 minutes to prepare an answer or best solution. Then, they present this solution in front of a judge, who is typically someone

from the community in that area of business.

The students are scored based on performance indicators, such as presentation skills or how their solution relates to marketing.

Now back from this intense competition, the team members clearly have numerous achievements.

From placing in events to cheering on their teammates, DECA left with a feeling of success, and Boudos concluded that State "was a really great experience to better our business skills."