

# SA's newest president takes office

*Andrew Scarafile, recently elected Student Alliance President, begins his legacy*



Junior Andrew Scarafile (center), New Trier's 2015-2016 Student Alliance President, with fellow junior SA members Bethany David and Amanda Wong | Scarafile

by Katherine Rhea

Debate team member and library employee Andrew Scarafile was recently elected class of 2016 Student Alliance President.

Scarafile has served in student

government for multiple years.

"I have always been interested in student government," said Scarafile. "My freshman year I was president of student senate and sophomore and junior year I served on the Student Alliance board."

Now, as president-elect of Student Alliance, Scarafile thinks he can be an effective voice for the student body. He believes he can make changes that not only he would like to see, but that the majority of the student body would like to see as well.

Sophomore year, Scarafile was a Student Alliance board member, and by junior year he was head of the Policy Committee. Leading projects such as the renovation of the second floor rotunda (adding refurbished seating and outlets attached to the seats), Scarafile has already made his mark at New Trier.

According to Scarafile, he knew he wanted to run for president when he completed his first project as president of Student Senate.

"My freshman year I ran Spring Fest. We raised record numbers and I was even in a dunk tank. I knew that if I was able to do this, then imagine what I could do on Student Alliance Board, or even as president," said Scarafile.

As president, Scarafile said he hopes to find a new food vendor,

as Aramark's contract is up for renewal; to improve the process for student athletes taking leave from kinetic wellness; and to revise the extracurricular code.

"There are a lot of inconsistencies with the discipline policy in the extracurricular code," said Scarafile. "We want to better define punishments in the extracurricular code. For example, offenses for the same violation have different punishments depending on the person."

As of now, students involved in multiple activities will receive consequences for all three activities while a student in one activity will only be punished for that single activity.

Student Alliance would like to limit consequences for one activity per offense rather than all activities being banned due to one offense.

The extracurricular code improvements are not only limited to discipline, but also to when the discipline takes place. If a student is in violation during their off-season, according to Scarafile, their

punishment takes place during their next season. Student Alliance is debating whether the student receiving delayed consequences is fair.

Food services is another issue Scarafile is examining. As of recently, Scarafile has already put together a committee that has toured schools, searching for a better food vendor.

"One of our big issues with Aramark was the non-compete clause. Students could not raise money by selling the same foods that Aramark sells. We are looking for a vendor that will not have as many issues with students, along with better quality and better prices." Some of the contenders include Chartwell and Organic Life.

While Scarafile has his work cut out for him, he feels that he can truly make a difference by providing a voice for the student body. "Inspiration comes from within; you have to drive yourself if you want to succeed," said Scarafile.

"I am a very driven person and know I can use that drive to help New Trier."

## The college counselor debate

*Questions raised over the advantages and disadvantages of having an out-of-school counselor*

by Michael Blickstein

New Trier is known for having not only a high graduation percentage, but also a large percentage of students who go off to higher education.

While some students know exactly where they want to go and what they want to do, while many students need help to figure this out.

"I've only met with my counselor once, but he did help me a lot. He confirmed that where I want to go is a good fit for me, and I can imagine other students have successfully narrowed down their array of options with the help of the New Trier college counselor," said junior Jacalyn Joseph.

Post High School Counseling Department Chair James Conroy explains, "New Trier's counseling service won't just hold your hand and do everything for you. Often, the outside services can hold your hand too much. We worry about students who have their hand tightly held throughout the process because no one is going to be there to do it for them in college."

Despite the fact that private college counselors can be effective, they can also cost thousands of dollars for their time, and they often aren't even certified counselors.

"All of New Trier's counselors are certified by the state of Illinois and the service is free," Conroy continued "The outside counselors are far from free and often they don't have certification in any state and their methods don't work."

However, some students don't always find New Trier counseling helpful. "My sister used the New Trier service and it didn't really help her at all beyond the necessary measures," said junior Chris Artinian. "She wanted to go to about seven different schools and her counselor here told her she wouldn't be able to get into any of them. Her top choice

was Marquette, and she's going there now."

Some students choose to use both services in tandem. Often times, their schedules don't match up properly and the private counseling help can be beneficial.

Senior Thomas Hanley explained, "The school service felt impersonal. Granted, they did a great job at actually helping me figure out where I wanted to go, but Amy Simon [College Counseling] helped a lot too."

These other services offer a more tailored and one-on-one experience when it comes to the college process.

"We help with essays and psychological tests and with different levels of testing to find out which schools are best for you," said Nancy Crowley of US College Counseling.

According to Conroy, PHSC spends time with each student to discuss options. "If a student says they never want to see snow again, we know where to send them. We also work with the parents who often veto things like that for various reasons, and with all of this information in place, students do research and find specifically which school is a perfect match for them."

New Trier's model for college is "College is a match to be made, not a prize to be won," and for a school of high-performance, this slogan is important to remember so that students aren't overwhelmed.

"Finding a college that's right for you does take a lot of research and a lot of time, and New Trier's service guides students more than actually doing it for them," concludes Conroy.

"We think that guiding students through the process is more effective at helping them find a school that's right for them rather than the best school imaginable, and our results are generally incredibly positive."

## Horne recognized with a big win

*Kinetic Wellness teacher wins the SHAPE America National Health Education Teacher of the Year Award*

by Nora Crumley

This past March, New Trier KW and health teacher, Andy Horne, won the SHAPE American's National Health Education Teacher of the Year Award.

Horne, who is famous for his scholarly health related raps, is also a past winner of the Midwest District Health Education Teacher of the Year.

On Mar. 20, Horne was honored by the Society of Health and Physical Educators, otherwise known as SHAPE America.

"I didn't get into teaching to win awards," said Horne, "to be recognized is truly an honor and a humbling experience."

This award did not come as a surprise to many of Horne's students, who believe the health teacher deserved the award.

"He is a phenomenal teacher," said sophomore Alyssa Coffey. "He cares and listens to you not just as a student, but as a person." Coffey also added, "He listens to your ideas and is available for students."

"He makes class fun. We don't just sit there," said Senior Lois Suh, "Mr. Horne is also very good at breaking the ice and getting kids more comfortable in his class."

Many other students also sang Horne's praises, including Sophomore Kami Grochowski, "he has a positive attitude, and a unique way of teaching that helps students understand the material."

Sophomore Hannah Coffey added, "He is very chill and approachable. Mr. Horne understands what we are going through."

Students praised him on his ability to explain concepts and the knowledge of his subject area. Senior Michael Burke said, "Mr. Horne deserves this award because everyone really enjoyed his class and he made the awkward topic of sex less uncomfortable to talk about. I



Andy Horne performs his STD rap at Dance Day on Dec. 17 | Trevia

think all the students really benefitted from Mr. Horne's teaching style."

Andrew Milne, a coworker of Horne who wrote his reference for the award, said, "He is awesome, and he really cares about his students and puts them at the center of everything he does. He is willing to be creative and take risks in the classroom because he wants you to take risks as a student."

Horne wanted to become a health teacher because the profession entails both of his passions: working with kids, and health and fitness.

"Health is relevant and real; it goes beyond the classroom," said Horne, "Health is a topic that you are going to have to deal with in your life no matter who you are."

Horne said his goal is to get students excited about health. "I want my students to be able to access where they are with their health and where they can improve their health. I want them to make decisions that can improve their health. If you don't

have good health then you can't enjoy your life," said Horne.

Horne credits a part of his success to the environment here at New Trier. "I'm surrounded with people who make me better, who push me and who show me new things," said Horne. "My colleagues and the administration here at New Trier allow me to take chances and to be myself."

"Mr. Horne is the best of the best," said Milne. "He makes me a better teacher."

### The New Trier News Twitter Ticker

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