

November 24, 2016

Dear CAIS Colleagues,

### **Find your Roots as an Individual and Citizens**

Registration for the 2017 CAIS Senior Student Leadership Conference has officially opened.

From Wednesday, April 26 to Sunday, April 30\*, 2017 (\*departure date), TFS - Canada's International School is looking forward to hosting this year's conference which will provide 100 student delegates with an amazing opportunity to find their roots while interacting with like-minded participants representing schools from all across Canada.

We aim to empower student leaders to make an impact in the world. Hearing from motivational speakers and participating in a variety of activities and workshops, student delegates will cultivate their identities, advocate pluralism, inspire connections, and sustain engagement.

#### **1. Cultivate Identity**

Identity is the concept one develops about oneself. While it consists of aspects that one cannot control, such as sex, colour of skin, family, place of birth, it is also comprised of elements that are cultivated during one's existence, such as interests, aspirations, beliefs, and choices one makes in life. Coming to the realization that one's identity is forever in flux is fundamental to the growth mindset and empowers individuals to develop new interests, new skills and to create opportunities for improvement within themselves and the community.

#### **2. Advocate Pluralism**

Pluralistic societies are those in which many cultures do not simply tolerate or accept one another, but live interdependently, while recognizing and celebrating the differences that make them a community. Pluralism requires education, open communication, building connections, and engaging in interactions. Advocating for pluralism and modeling pluralistic relationships lead to the reduction of stereotypes and discrimination and build peaceful societies.

#### **3. Inspire Connections**

Albert Einstein said, "A human being is a part of the whole called by us universe." As part of that whole, and in an increasingly interdependent world, it is important to create connections with other beings that lay the foundation for cooperative and collaborative existence on earth. Bonds with other beings, including animals and plants, are fundamental to human well-being, and support the development of empathy and understanding, which are crucial to the creation of environmentally sustainable, pluralistic and peaceful societies.

#### **4. Sustain Engagement**

Being curious about others and the world in which we live, engagement becomes possible. Every leader has a responsibility to assist others with meaningful, purposeful action while being empathetic, enthusiastic, and optimistic. As a citizen, one shows respect towards others and engages in bettering society.

#### **Registration Details:**

Please visit the registration page [here](#). The cost is \$460 per person which includes one ticket to the semi-formal, dinner banquet and dance on Saturday, April 29.

If you have any questions or comments, please email me at [jgorry@tfs.ca](mailto:jgorry@tfs.ca). CAIS Senior Student Leadership Conference will be one of the most engaging learning opportunities of the year. We look forward to learning with you in April.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Judith Gorry', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Judith Gorry, Director of Student Life  
Chair, CAIS Senior Student Leadership Conference  
TFS - Canada's International School