

Elevating Student Voices



Superb Solutions for
Students, By Students

Introductions



Student Representatives:

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Student Facilitators:

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Agenda:

1. What is Elevating Student Voices (ESV)?
2. Purpose of ESV
3. Our Concerns
4. Accomplishments and Goals



What is Elevating Student Voices (ESV)?



- ESV is a program that offers opportunities for **young people across the Capital District** to engage in constructive and open conversations about their **diverse life experiences** in their schools and communities and take a deeper dive into issues that are important to them.
- **Student facilitators** are trained to lead group discussions with students from different high schools in order to gain insight into **what other school districts are doing to actively promote diversity** and **foster an inclusive environment** for all staff and students.

Purpose of Elevating Student Voices



Gather: Come together to discuss important issues such as race, equity, mental health, and general wellness.

Listen: To hear life experiences different from your own. To seek understanding, respect, and appreciation for others.

Build: Build our confidence when discussing all issues. Furthermore, leading these discussions in our communities.

Create: To formulate a plan of action that we can implement in our school to make it a safe and welcoming environment for all. One that listens and learns from all individuals, recognizing that our differences are assets not liabilities.

Celebrate: Celebrate students efforts of embracing diversity whilst creating equitable and affirming school environments.

Things We Are Concerned About in Our Community

- School Culture
- Microaggression
- Bullying
- Hate Speech
- Advocating for Student Supports
- Creating Safe, Inclusive Spaces



Last Year's Accomplishments

- Attended yearlong program at Capital Region BOCES.
- Attended Program Summit at Proctor's Theater with keynote speaker Lt. Governor Antonio Delgado.
- Led Faculty Meeting in January.
- Promoted Black History Month.
- Unity Week



ESV Goals for 24-25 School Year

- Share our work with you (SGCSD Board of Education).
- Host Student Circles in our building.
- Share diversity and inclusion-related inspirational quotes with student body.
- Continue Unity Week Celebration in April.
- Promote Multicultural Awareness and Inclusivity (such as Black History and Women's History Months)
- Contribute to Teacher Appreciation Week.





Thank you for listening!

Any questions?