

REGIONAL BOARD REPORT

Subject: BCSA Update Paper February 2020	Purpose: For Approval For Discussion For Information X
Prepared by: David Elder	Date: 6 th February 2020
Purpose: To provide an update on Students' Association activity.	
Executive Summary: Overview of engagement activities based on BCSA's operational themes; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme 1 – Education • Theme 2 – Health & Wellbeing • Theme 3 – Student Community 	
Recommendation The paper is for information only	
Previous Committee Approvals: N/A	
Signed: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> Author Principal </div>	

Student Presidents/Officers Update February 2020

Operational Theme 1: Education

- The second student Experience Committee has been rescheduled to Thursday 20th February due to lack of quorum at the meeting. Again, there has been great feedback received from students around Core Skills, Teaching Methods and Student Funding.
- Students have been consulted about Mental Health through a National survey by NUS Scotland. This data will in turn come back to Borders College to help us dig deeper into seeing how we can help our students.
- Students were consulted about college strategic planning in the form of an anonymous survey to allow them help shape the college for students in the future. To date we have over 70 responses.
- The student representative system is working well, with class rep conferences taking place and having good attendance.

Operational Theme 2: Health and Wellbeing

- Free Soup – For four Wednesdays on the run up to and after the Christmas period, we ran free soup for students at lunchtime. The popularity of this initiative as revealed a real need for free hot food during the week.
- Student Mental Health Agreement – at the point of writing this report the SMHA is to be approved by the Equalities committee and then brought to the Regional Board
- Working Partnerships are in operation with Tesco and Asda and the Co-op at Newtown where we collect food items that are going to be disposed, that are near to 'Best Before' dates. These are then distribute to students on a first come first served basis, this takes place Tuesday, Thursday (Newtown) and Friday.
- Big White Wall – we continue to promote this service for all students.
- 30 students are signed up to attend Scottish Mental Health First Aid training with See Me

Operational Theme 3: Student Community

- College Open Day – Over 450 visitors on the day and a team of four Student Officers leading College Tours, it was a busy afternoon/evening.
- Regular clubs – Football, Move it Mondays, Dungeons & Dragons, Anime & Manga and X-Box Club.
- We supported Radio Borders Cash for kids "Mission Christmas" campaign with 5 big bin bags full of presents to donate
- A Parliamentary Hustings was held, where all parties running in the UK elections in the local area were represented by the candidates. This

was a very popular event for students, asking some very interesting and relevant questions to the candidates.

- We supported the College Enterprise Coordinator to organise the Christmas fair on Thursday 5th December
- Sustainability Shop /Foodbank – We now have a shop where students can swap clothing or take what they need and also have shelves stocked with dry/tinned foods for students that need an extra hand to support themselves.

Looking Forward

- Student Presidential Elections 2020-21 – Nominations for Student President will open 24th February and will be elected on the 27th March 2020.