

D'ARCY MCGEE HIGH SCHOOL
PRESENTS :

VALEDICTORIAN 2024



Allow me to introduce Monica Andrews, our valedictorian for 2023-2024. Monica's journey at our school has been a testament to her exceptional growth and transformation. Her dedication to our students and passion for creating positive change within the Western Quebec School Board has been unwavering. Monica's involvement in the Environmental and Humanitarian Group and her role as Captain of the Pride Club are clear indications of her commitment to inclusivity and making a difference.

Monica's student-led initiatives and her role in co-facilitating staff seminars for professional development have not only showcased her leadership and communication skills but have also made a significant impact. Her influence on our students and staff is commendable, and her ability to effect change beyond the school walls, as demonstrated in her interactions with our WQSB Board members, is a source of pride for our school community.

All her pupils who have worked beside her for all these years have admired Monica's ability to create a safe and inclusive environment for them. When she brought the idea of a free Period underwear program for the school, this demonstrated her empathy and how she addresses social concerns. Many Symmes and D'Arcy McGee students participated in this program and were very grateful that Monica had brought this concern forward.

These past few years, Monica has shown us a deep appreciation and understanding of the importance of education and advocating for others.

Here are some of her favourite quotes:

"I can't be in this world without trying to change it" and
"After all, in private, we're all misfits."

I asked Monica about her future plans, and she was excited to share. She hopes to pursue her studies at Heritage College in Social Science and Math and, hopefully, continue after that at Concordia University (Montreal, Quebec) in Human Sexuality. She hopes to receive her PhD in Sexology and study the complexity of human sexuality.

To conclude this article, Monica was voted by her fellow Grade 11 students because she exemplifies the spirit of advocacy. Her amazing journey through the school community can be the perfect example of how she will excel in her future pursuits and create a significant impact and contribution to our society.

Thank you for being part of our school community, and D'Arcy McGee staff and students thank you for all the excellent things you have done.

Sincerely,

Miss. Kate White & the Admin Team.