

# NSCAP Student Civic Leadership Academy

First Literacy Grant, 2019



# Teaching Team

Kate Harrington

- Level 4 ESOL teacher
- Academic and Career Advisor

Karen Blanchard

- Level 1 ESOL Teacher

Jessica Cardin

- Level 3 ESOL Teacher
  - In-house Technology Expert
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# Curriculum

## Format:

- Series of 5 “Lunch and Learn” workshops spread throughout the academic year
- Field trip to Immigrants’ Day at the State House (March 4, 2019)

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# Curriculum

## Session 1:

- “Advocacy 101”
  - Students met a NSCAP graduate who has become deeply involved in community advocacy work
  - Students discussed and brainstormed a list of issues relevant to their communities
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# Curriculum

## Session 2:

- “Understand and Educate”
  - Students met with Sen. Brendan Crighton to learn about the legislative process
  - Students researched proposed legislation and related it to their daily lives
  - Students voted to select the most relevant topics
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# Curriculum

## Session 3:

- Field Trip to Immigrants' Day at the State House!

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# Curriculum

## Session 4:

- Letter Writing
  - Students learned the format of a business letter
  - Students used an online tool to identify their own local representatives
  - Students wrote letters to their representatives to express their opinions and request action on issues
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# Curriculum

## Session 5:

- Discrimination Workshop
- Guest speaker from MCAD informed students on how to identify and respond to issues of discrimination

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# Curriculum

## Session 6:

- Year in Review
  - Students gathered photos and documents from Civic Leadership Academy sessions
  - Students worked with Jessica to create a link on program's Weebly page
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# Program Highlights



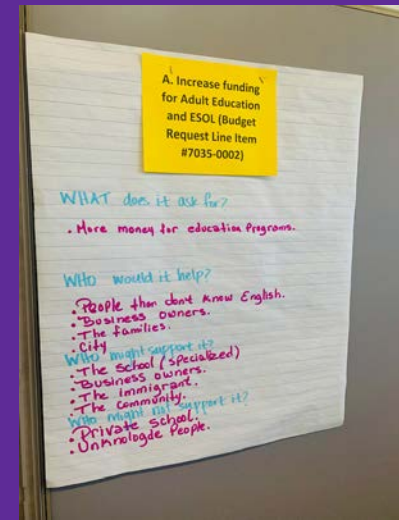
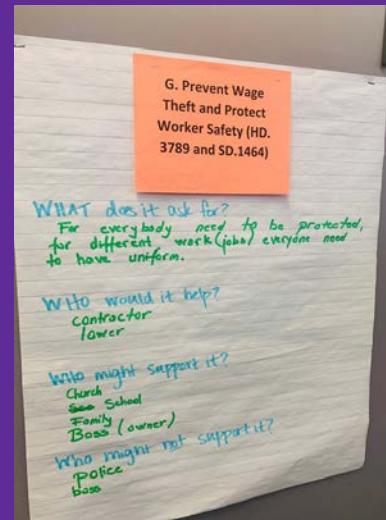
# Community Advocate: Vilma Zomosa



# Student Perspective: Raquel Valero



# Researching Important Issues



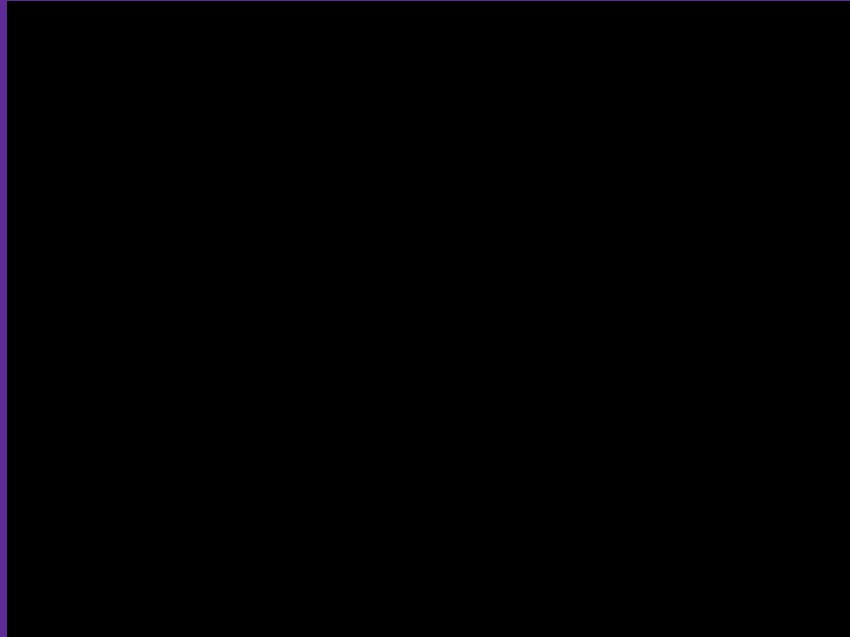
# Meeting Senator Crighton



# Immigrants' Day at the State House



# Student Perspective: Raquel Valero





# Takeaways

What surprised us and what we learned



# Challenges

- Timing
- Commitment and Attendance
- Field Trip: Weather!

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# Successes

- Students were grateful for the opportunity to discuss “burning” issues
  - Students of ALL LEVELS felt empowered because they were able to:
    - Engage with government representatives
    - Write professional sounding letters
    - Create a webpage
    - Teach each other how to advocate for themselves and others
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# Final Word: Raquel Valero

