

## Professor Burke-Gaffney's comments on the SGH Presentation I

On Monday, February 15th, 2016, Professor Brian Burke-Gaffney from Nagasaki Institute of Applied Science, an advisory committee member for the SGH Project, reviewed and commented on the year-long project.

### **Good points about the SGH Project**

- 1 Every group successfully set a research theme to tackle regarding a global problem from Nagasaki.
- 2 Every presentation was vividly made with face-to-face communication for Year 10 students.
- 3 The introduction speech at the beginning of each presentation was excellent.
- 4 The students seemed to have enjoyed working on their research despite the time constraint.
- 5 The question-and-answer sessions after each presentation were respectful both for the presenters and the questioners.

### **Suggested points for improvement**

- 1 It would be better if the students themselves read academic papers and explore things rather than depending on the online information.
- 2 Some groups lacked logicity in their conclusions.
- 3 Some groups ended up reading up the prepared texts.
- 4 Some stage performances were irrelevant.



## Debate Challenge!

Year 10 students are learning debate in English Expression I class, in which the students, in groups of five, take a affirmative or negative stance on a topic and collaborate to defeat their opponents with logical and persuasive speeches. First, they did their research on the current events (see below), using the tablet PCs. Then, they developed their arguments by making hypothesis, collecting data, preparing for refute, and so on all in English before they actually debated. Some students commented "I would like to speak without depending on the script," "I was able to take a different perspective on the global issues. I want to try it again."

### **Debate Topics**

- 1) Japan should accept 800,000 Syrian refugees in 2016.
- 2) Developed countries should give financial assistance to developing countries to help them reduce global warming.
- 3) The Japanese government should require that 50% of companies' executives are women.
- 4) Uber should be allowed to operate in Japan.

