

Peer Mediation

Dear Parents,

St. Charles Borromeo School has started a Peer Mediation program. Peer Mediation is a program that has been shown to enhance school climate, reduce tensions, decrease suspensions and expulsions, and potentially improve academic performances.

Peer Mediators are a diverse group of seventh and eighth grade students selected to receive specialized training in conflict management. Mediators do not solve the problems for other students. Instead, the Mediators help them think of ways to solve problems for themselves in a peaceful manner by using a problem-solving approach that emphasizes listening, understanding the others' perspectives, and clarifying the nature of disputes. Mediators are trained in active listening, paraphrasing, and eliciting feelings and solutions. Typical conflicts handled by Mediators involve misunderstandings, rumors, interpersonal relationships, and arguments.

Those who utilize the program also gain personal insight and skills that enhance their own self-esteem and academic performance. The skills gained from Peer Mediation can be applied throughout a student's personal life and into adulthood.

Teachers, students, the counselor, and parents may request referrals for peer mediation. Should you have any questions regarding this program, please contact me at 985-764-9232 or sbradley@archdiocese-no.org.

Thank you,

Steven Bradley

Counselor

St. Charles Borromeo School