July 2019

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

An important component of our District’s approach to enhance positive school climate has been the Peer Mediation program operating at the middle and high school levels. Peer Mediation involves a structured approach to teaching students pro-social alternatives to managing their disputes and resolving their conflicts. This is a voluntary program available to any student who chooses to participate to solve a problem or conflict with a peer.

Peer Mediation is a proactive approach to resolving minor conflicts, which may have the potential to intensify and become more serious disciplinary matters. Peer Mediation does not replace our implementation of the student code of conduct. Students who violate our code of conduct will be subject to the consequences outlined in the code.

Each year we train a cadre of student (peer) mediators and faculty sponsors to operate this program at our school. Peer mediators are trained to guide their fellow students through a structured interaction in which each participant has an opportunity to express his/her view and to propose solutions to the problem. A faculty sponsor is assigned to each session and remains in an adjoining room, thereby available to assist if requested. The goal of each mediation session is for students to gain a better understanding of each other and to reach an agreement about how to handle the problem in the future. Students who choose to participate in mediation have an opportunity to learn critical listening and communication skills that can be carried with them throughout life.

Our goal is to make this program easily accessible and available to any student who requests it. However, if you prefer that your child(ren) not participate, please inform us by contacting the Activities Office at 610-240-1018.

We are proud of our efforts in this important aspect of school life, and we look forward to continued implementation of the program. If you would like more information about Peer Mediation at Conestoga High School, please contact the Activities Office.

Sincerely,

Amy A. Meisinger, Ph.D.  Chris Groppe, Ed. D.
Principal  Director of Individualized Student Services