

Helping Students Help each other

Peer Mediation there when needed

By: Laura Eastes

THE PEER MEDIATORS were always there to help all students in solving their problems peacefully and preventing further conflict. Peer Mediators were trained for 18 hours in conflict resolution skills and fully qualified to help in any situation.

The Peer Mediators had more to go through than just the training to become a mediator. Students filled out applications at the beginning of the year. The applications asked for three signatures of staff members, who would recommend the student to become a mediator. The students interested also had to pledge to be alcohol and drug free and write an essay

explaining why they would want to be a mediator and what skills would they bring to the mediation group. After this in-depth process, **Mrs. Sue**

Koehler, adviser, picked the cream of the crop and the training began.

The Peer Mediators took a lot of time out of their everyday life to help the students. Their contributions to the mediation process were extremely successful.

The Simple Facts on Peer Mediation

- 1 Peer Mediation was open to all students who wish to solve problems peacefully.
- 2 Peer Mediators were trained with 18 hours of conflict resolution.
- 3 There were 30 trained mediators.
- 4 The peer mediation process was confidential and no adult was present during meetings.

I am a Peer Mediator because I like helping others solve their problems and I feel the process really works in finding peaceful solutions.

> Jenn Cook, 11

Mentors

Freshman enter school

With ease thanks to upperclassmen mentors

By: Laura Eastes

THE FRESHMAN MENTOR PROGRAM was a new program for the school. The idea for the mentor program came from **Kristen Barngrover, 10**, who thought a club should be started to help freshmen become more acquainted with the school. Student Council Adviser and math teacher, **Mrs. Jennifer Ulland**, agreed and loaned her talents to Barngrover. Together they created the Freshmen Mentor program.

The program was designed for upperclassmen to become a mentor to an incoming freshman and tell them all the necessary stuff about the high school. The club was approved last spring,

and applications to become a mentor came in. Many students applied and all were accepted. When freshmen orientation rolled around in the end of summer, all freshmen had been assigned mentors. Ulland and Barngrover passed out the names to freshmen and some of the mentors were on hand to meet their classmates.

The program was a new and great way for freshmen to get to know the school they would be attending for four years.

I feel that The Freshmen Mentor Program was such an awesome opportunity to really positively influence kids who are really just trying to find who they are at that point. I feel like I got out of it as much as they did.

> Amy Donofrio, 12

Freshman Mentor Program

- 1 All freshman were assigned to a mentor.
- 2 Any sophomore, junior or a senior who applied for the program could become a mentor.
- 3 Mentors were given the names of four or five freshmen.
- 4 The freshmen were given the names of their mentor as well.