

Application Due ASAP or by 10/14/11-sign up for interview when you submit your application

Peer Leadership

Open to 10-12 graders

Kinnelon High School

Heidi Cosmi-Godau
Advisor

Dear Applicant and Parent/Guardian,

Enclosed you will find the Peer Leadership Application packet. Please read all the forms carefully. If you believe that you have the commitment, ability and desire to support the mission and goals of Peer Leadership, complete the attached application packet and return all forms to **Mrs. Godau's office ASAP or by 3:00 PM, October 14, 2011. No late applications will be accepted under any circumstances.** Timely submission demonstrates seriousness of purpose.

All forms must be signed by the student and his/her parent/guardian to be considered for acceptance

Common Questions about Peer Leadership

What is Peer Leadership?

Peer Leadership consists of carefully selected students who lead a year long freshman orientation, participate in other programs that promote positive academic and social decision making, and address/prevent harassment, intimidation and bullying behaviors. There may be programs delivered to the incoming 9th graders while they are at PRM and during Freshman Orientation in the last week of August. The structure of the program consists of approximately eight student Peer Leadership Advisory Board members, approximately thirty Peer Leaders and one adult advisor. The Advisory Board leads in the selection and training process of the entire program. All the Peer Leaders facilitate the freshmen orientation program. The advisor will provide overall direction, training and support to the program. The Peer Leaders go through an extensive training process that prepares them to run programs with small groups of freshmen.

How are Peer Leaders trained and what type of time commitment does the program require?

First year start up: Begin November 2011-April 2012

- *The initial training is mandatory and will likely take place during school hours for one or two days*
- *Peers will meet after school approximately once per week for one hour.*
- *Peers are allowed to take three excused absences from our meetings during this time. An excused absence is considered one that involves a sport, academic or medical activity-a note must be provided.*
- *Peer Leaders will link with a specific group of freshman and work with them throughout the year*
- *The entire Peer group is split into several separate work groups. These smaller work groups meet weekly to prepare programs to deliver into the freshman classrooms.*
- *Each peer leader will alternate leading their group.*
- *The training process not only teaches the Peer Leaders about group dynamics and leadership, it also integrates current research on emotional intelligence, leadership and group process to support this development.*

For the second year: May 2012-April 2013

- *The new application process will begin in April 2012*
- *Training will take place during the last week of August and include Freshman Orientation*

How does one become a Peer Leader?

Step 1: *The Application, Commitment, Teacher Reference, Community Reference and Peer Reference forms are completed and turned in.*

Step 2: *All potential Peer Leaders' names are put on two lists. One list is distributed to all staff members and the other list to all current Peer Leaders. Both staff and Peers are asked to rate only those candidates that they know. Only the advisor will see these ratings*

Step 3: *Prospective leaders will sign up for an interview.*

Step 4: *After the candidates are screened the Advisory Board and Adult Advisor consider the following in determining the final group of Peer Leaders for the upcoming year.*

Application
Staff ratings
Peer ratings
Teacher reference
Peer reference

Community/Coach/Advisor reference
Interview
Male/female ratio in the group
Grade level ratio
Size of incoming freshmen class

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2011 – 2012 New Peer Leader Application

Please sign up for interview by October 14th outside Mrs. Godau's office. Failure to make/keep an interview appointment will eliminate one as a candidate.

INTERVIEWS WILL BE HELD DURING THE WEEK OF October 24th.

You must have an interview in order to be considered

Part I

Name: _____ Date: _____

Current Grade: _____ Email _____

Cell Phone _____ Block A teacher _____ room _____

Current seniors who were peer leaders last year need only to complete part I and part II.

Part II

Please list current school and community extracurricular activities that you are involved in.

"Why do want to be a peer leader?"

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The Peer Leadership's goal is to model and promote values that are reflected in a new district initiative called Full Value.

Select one Full Value Commitment principle that is important to you and explain how it applies to your life.

Be Here Be Safe Be Honest Set Goals Let Go and Move On Care For Self and Others

Why is it important for a peer leader to be substance free?

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Why is it important for peer leaders to live with integrity and act as role models even when outside of the peer leadership program?

What are the three words that people who know you would use to describe you? Be sure to explain why for each attribute.

How do you live up to the KHS Honor Code?

Part III

Peer Leadership Mission Statement

Peer Leadership is committed to providing leadership for the High School community via student directed activities and programs which foster a healthy learning and social environment.

Goals of Peer Leadership

- To establish a comfortable, positive atmosphere in which freshman feel involved and accepted.
- To provide guidance and assistance to incoming freshman and transfer students.
- To provide positive role models who disseminate information, which encourages healthy lifestyles and positive decision making to all students both in and out of school and through social media and electronic communications
- To provide a link between students and staff.
- To provide assistance to programs which support the Peer Leadership mission.

Peer Leadership Commitment

To meet these goals Peer Leaders will commit to the following:

- 1) Demonstrating proactive leadership and role modeling to promote healthy physical and emotional lifestyles for all students, at all times. This requires adherence to all school regulations and state laws, including those regarding the illegal use of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs.
- 2) Attendance at all Peer Leadership trainings and programs.
- 3) Support of the above stated goals and mission

I have read and understood this entire application form, and I also pledge that as a leader I will exhibit responsible decision making in support of being a good influence for other students. I understand that if selected as a leader, my conduct, both in and out of school, may be subject to evaluation. I also understand that by entering the Peer Leadership selection process, I may or may not be chosen.

My parents and I have discussed this, and we are prepared to accept the decision made by the Peer Leadership Advisory Board.

I support the Peer Leadership mission and agree to work toward its established goals. I accept the stated commitments and will follow them to the best of my ability. I understand that non-compliance with the Peer Leadership mission; goals and commitments may result in suspension or expulsion from the Peer Leadership Program.

Student Signature

Date

I understand the mission of Peer Leadership and will support my child in his/her commitment to the program.

Signature of parent/guardian

Date

Part IV

KHS STAFF RECOMMENDATION FORM

Please have one staff member complete the following form. **The staff member should return this directly to Mrs. Godau by 10/14**

_____ has applied to be a Peer Leader.

Emotional Intelligence Leadership Competencies

Rate using the following:

1- 5 rating (1= does not show this competency at this point 5 = Shows this competency consistently)

Competency	Evaluation				
Self-confidence	1	2	3	4	5
Self-control	1	2	3	4	5
Initiative	1	2	3	4	5
Influence on others	1	2	3	4	5
Conflict management	1	2	3	4	5
Time management	1	2	3	4	5
Social decision making	1	2	3	4	5

Comments

Staff Member

Date

Part V

COMMUNITY, COACH/ADVISOR RECOMMENDATION FORM

Please have one community member complete the following form.
This should be handed in directly to Mrs. Godau by 10/14.

_____ has applied to be a Peer Leader.

Emotional Intelligence Leadership Competencies

Rate using the following:

1- 5 rating (1= does not show this competency at this point 5 = Shows this competency consistently)

Competency	Evaluation				
Self-confidence	1	2	3	4	5
Self-control	1	2	3	4	5
Initiative	1	2	3	4	5
Influence on others	1	2	3	4	5
Time Management	1	2	3	4	5
Conflict management	1	2	3	4	5
Positive social decision Making	1	2	3	4	5

Comments

Coach or Community Member

Date