

PVHS Peer Mediation Program

are in need of mediation. The boxes are checked daily by one of the mediators or the adult support people to insure that all cases will be looked at as soon as possible. An adult support person is someone such as a staff member like Ms. Lola Medina or Ms. Kim Martinez who have devoted time and have also been through mediation training to help during the mediations. The adult support person is in the mediation area, to be available in case their help is required. In some cases, depending upon who is in need of mediation, an adult and a peer mediator will work together, rather than two peer mediators.

Mediation is currently available, and may be scheduled for any Monday through Thursday after school. We encourage all of the staff members to help us spread the word about mediation to your classes. We believe that the mediation process, as outlined above, will provide a positive method for students at Pojoaque High School to deal with and resolve their conflicts in a struc-

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tured fashion before they can escalate into more serious issues.

Mediate Now!



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Peer Mediation at Pojoaque High School

We (Christi Montoya, Cheriece Margiotta, Chris Hicks, Julia DePaula, and Rebecca Salazar) are peer mediators at Pojoaque High School. Mediation is basically a type of conflict resolution. When there is a conflict between two students, we step in to help them try to resolve their problems. Through extensive training with professional mediators Debra Oliver and Kathleen



Christi, Britny, Julia, Cheriece, Chris

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Oweegon, we have learned and developed the skills necessary to perform these services with our fellow students. At the actual mediation, two mediators working together talk with the two people being mediated until they both realize exactly what the problem is between them and what they will do in order to resolve it. They negotiate with each other about the things they will do in order to resolve their conflict, until they come to an agreement. Even though the agreement might just

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be that both people will apologize to one another, it is good to allow them to find common ground and agree on at least one thing. At the end of the mediation, an agreement is written up which cements the negotiations of the two people.

Mediation is a voluntary process for those in need of its services, and can only be conducted if both people agree to do it. If we believe

two people are in need of mediation, or if we

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have gotten a referral form from someone (a piece of paper that one must fill out in order for us to know about the problem occurring), then we will talk to the individuals about their conflict and ask them whether or not they would volunteer to be mediated. We are prepared to handle all cases that come our way, including even the most extreme cases. As far as the location, we will be mediating in the conference room

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located near the counselor's office, because it is a private place where the students participating in mediation can feel secure. We will have four boxes placed throughout the school: the office, the library, the security office, and the counselor's office. That way, they are in a secluded place where people will feel comfortable, knowing that they are not being watched or judged. Each box will have referral forms attached to it, for the students or anyone concerned to fill out. After it is filled out, the form can be put into the box through a small opening at the top, so that nobody else

can read it. Each staff member will be receiving a set of referral forms so that they may fill them out if they see or believe that two people

