



## Statement of Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of the Groton-Dunstable Regional School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, gender, disability, sexual orientation, national origin or homelessness in its educational programs, activities, or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, Chapter 622 of the Acts of 1971, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Also, students will not be excluded for reasons of marriage or pregnancy. Requests for information about these laws and/or grievance procedures should be directed to Dr. Susan Rubel, Curriculum Director, Groton-Dunstable Regional School District, 978-448-5505.




Groton-Dunstable Regional  
Middle School

### PEER MEDIATION PROGRAM

P.O. Box 727  
344/346 Main Street  
Groton, MA 01450

978-448-6155

Website: [www.gdrsd.org](http://www.gdrsd.org)



Groton-Dunstable  
Regional Middle  
School

## Peer Mediation Program



**Peers Making Peace**

# What is Peer Mediation?

Mediation is the voluntary, peaceful resolution of a dispute or conflict in which one or more neutral third parties act as facilitators, or mediators, in helping two or more people resolve a disagreement. A peer mediator is trained to provide a safe, scripted, confidential, structured process to assist other students in conflict to end disputes peacefully by reaching mutually acceptable agreements.

Mediation is an opportunity for students to cooperatively work out conflicts. Peer mediators are fellow students who have been trained to listen to each person's side of the story. Once the problem is clear, the disputants will be asked to create a solution until a mutually satisfying agreement is reached. Every participant is allowed equal time to present their understanding of the disputed issues. Emotions are expressed and anger is diffused. Conflicts are resolved to the satisfaction of all parties. Everyone's needs are met, no one is hurt, and relationships are improved. Mediation is voluntary and solution oriented. No one is ever forced to attend.

## Why Use Mediation?

Peer Mediation makes school a safer place to be and learn. It increases academic performance and decreases disciplinary referrals, assaults and expulsions.

Through mediation, the participants can:

- Feel significant in school
- Identify and communicate their needs
- Express their feelings
- Explain their points of view
- Understand the other person's position
- Explore solutions
- Negotiate a win/win resolution
- End a problem without ending a relationship

paxUnited's Peers Making Peace is a research-based, evaluated conflict mediation program developed specifically for schools. It has undergone extensive evaluation and has been shown to be a highly effective part of a safe, caring learning environment. It is also the only conflict resolution program in the United States to be recognized by the United States Department of Education Safe & Drug Free School & Communities, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, and the Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention.

Referral forms are located in every classroom and they may also be found on the school website, in the main office, the nurse's office, the guidance offices, the cafeteria and even in the libraries.

The Peer Mediators for the 2008-2009 School Year are:

Paul  
David  
Alec  
Nik  
McCullough  
Gabrielle  
Jessie  
Kevin  
Meghan  
Laura  
Lucas  
Madison  
Connor  
Mark  
Lillian  
Jacklyn  
Gabe  
Emily  
Micaela  
Mitchell

The Program Coordinators are:

Betsy Sawyer  
and  
Cara Zwicker

Please contact us with any questions.



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