

Peer Mentor Application Form

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

email)

(We will contact you in the summer through

Interests: _____

List all the school activities you have or will be involved with (sports, clubs, etc).

In the Past	Presently	Next Year

List all the activities outside of school you have or will be involved with.

In the Past	Presently	Next Year

What are your plans for after high school? _____

Do you have a job? _____ Where do you work? _____

Approximately how many hours per week during the school year? _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PEER MENTORING

As you think about this *volunteer* position we feel it is important that you are clear about your role as a Peer Mentor so that you can decide if it is something that you truly believe in and are seriously committed to.

WHAT IS PEER MENTORING?

Peer mentors are involved in many different ways in helping students new to our school get off to a good start. In late August, Peer Mentors make the phone calls to Grade 9 students to give them information about starting high school. Peer Mentors also act as guides for the tours at the end of August.

In September, mentors are paired up with new students who may require some support to make a successful transition to high school. Peer mentoring is a one to one relationship between an older student and younger student. It is expected that a relationship of friendship, support and trust will develop. Through this relationship, it is hoped the partner will be able to share feelings of joy and frustration about school and in some cases about him/herself and know that someone cares. The Mentor's role is to listen with genuine interest, to respect the partner's feelings, keep what is shared confidential (unless it is physically harmful to the partner or someone else), and assist the students when appropriate. Through this peer relationship, partners are often able to discuss difficulties that may get in their way of a successful school experience.

A MENTOR IS: a friend, pal, buddy; a good listener; a role model; advisor, problem solver; respectful of confidentiality; non-judgmental; patient, caring, and understanding; trusting; supportive, reliable and dependable.

WHY BECOME A PEER MENTOR?

It is hoped that through your peer relationship you will be able to assist the partner to overcome any road blocks that stand in their way of having a successful educational experience and give them a sense of belonging. Often it is the sense of not belonging that is the single factor leading to a student's decision to leave school early. The most important rewards of mentoring are often more subtle: when you are trusted with a secret; when a problem is shared with you and through your discussion the partner is able to find a solution; when a disappointment is revealed; when you are sharing in the fun of a school experience or activity or just enjoying each other's company. Mentoring is really what you make it.

WHAT DOES PEER MENTORING ENTAIL?

Through Mentoring, it is hoped that you will develop a relationship with a young person who will have just entered Grade 9. It is hoped that you will maintain the relationship until the partner has completed his/her first year of secondary school. The development of the relationship will require **regular** contact with the partner. This contact can take many forms: outings, letters, telephone calls, visits to special events, etc. Initially you will be asked to meet your partner as arranged in Student Success.

WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?

If you have reviewed the information and have given it serious consideration and you feel that you fit the description and are prepared to commit yourself to the program, please fill out the attached information sheet and submit it before **TUESDAY APRIL 6, 2010** to the Guidance Office, or Mrs. Cook. After we review your application, and you are accepted into the program, you will be expected to participate in an orientation sessions on Thursday April 15th and Thursday April 22nd.

We hope that you will seriously consider becoming part of this team.

Staff Advisors: Mrs. N. Cook, and Mrs. A. Guay