

Let's Get Started

The Student Safety and Wellness Office assists schools and offices interested in developing conflict resolution and peer mediation programs.

Conflict Resolution Program:

- Teaches basic communication and problem solving skills
- Develops an environment where conflicts do not erupt into violence
- Promotes opportunities for increased understanding
- Supports and affirms diversity
- Seeks to establish an overall tone of respect

Peer Mediation Program:

- Teaches a select group of students advanced intervention and problem solving strategies
- Empowers students to assist other students in resolving conflicts (e.g., rumors, fights, harassment, misunderstandings) when they occur

Quotes

"In the long run, students will become more responsible adults in resolving their conflicts and therefore reduce the violence in our society."

Administrator
Hughes Middle School

"It is an outstanding program. The peer mediators have done an outstanding job. Conflicts are almost always resolved permanently when students have gone through peer mediation. They learn skills that carry over to other situations."

Administrator
Halley Elementary School

"Peer mediation has had a great influence on my life. It has made me more open minded and understanding and changed the way I view life and others."

Student
Annandale High School

**FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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www.fcps.edu/dss/ips/ssaw/ConflictResolution/

**PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS
THROUGH RESOLUTION**

Conflict Resolution & Peer Mediation Programs



"The peer mediation program is an excellent program that has made our school a better place."

Administrator
Lake Braddock Secondary School

**FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Our Mission

Conflict resolution training is increasingly becoming an important part of the daily curriculum in schools across the United States. As concerns about violence among youth increase, so do efforts to teach today's youth positive and constructive conflict resolution skills and strategies.

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is at the forefront of efforts nationwide to institute conflict resolution and peer mediation programs. Our programs train hundreds of staff members and thousands of students annually.



What We Do

Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation Program Staff

- Provide conflict resolution and peer mediation training for FCPS staff
- Identify training resources for students and community members interested in conflict resolution education and skill development
- Collect and disseminate information, resources, and research on conflict resolution
- Organize annual Peer Mediation coordinators' meetings
- Organize the annual Northern Virginia Student Mediation Conference
- Provide intervention services to schools and offices
- Design mediation programs for schools and offices
- Evaluate peer mediation and conflict resolution programs

Trainings and Services

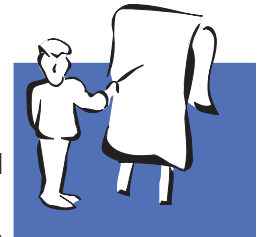
Mediation Training

Mediation trainings are offered throughout the year.

- Beginning (3 days)
- Advanced (1.5 days)
- Group (2 days)
- Judicial (.5 day)
- Restorative Justice (2 days)
- Program Implementation (.5 day)
- Coordinators Meeting (.5 day)

Conflict Resolution Training and Presentations

Specialized training and presentations are provided upon request.



Intervention Services

Conflict resolution and mediation services are available to schools and offices. Recent cases ranged from a conflict between two staff members to a complex multi-party conflict involving twenty-two students.

Annual Student Mediation Conference

FCPS sponsors the Northern Virginia Student Mediation Conference held at George Mason University. This conference, one of the largest of its kind in the world, is attended annually by over 2,000 students and staff members from schools across Northern Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia.