



APOLLO MIDDLE SCHOOL

LET'S GO ROCKETS! • DR. LOUIS KUSHNER, PRINCIPAL

AMS Peer Counseling / Service Learning / Yearbook Application/ Teacher Assistant

Must Return to Designation Teacher by Friday 3/31/2023

Please indicate the program of interest:

<input type="radio"/> Peer Counseling or Teacher Assistant – Desmond Rm 105	<input type="radio"/> Service Learning – Ms. Fernandez Rm 108	<input type="radio"/> Yearbook – Mr. Knight Rm 111
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Applicant's Name:
Grade Level:
Address:
Phone Number:
Cell Number:



Peer Counseling or Teacher Assistant:

The Mission of Peer Counseling is to develop and enhance the health, safety and wellbeing of our youth by focusing on peer education through a comprehensive program and curriculum that encompasses social and emotional skills and awareness, peer mediation, academic opportunity, student service and referral.

The core of the peer counseling program is a strong academic middle and high school curriculum which addresses skill building in communication, problem solving and decision making. It also addresses a multitude of social, individual, school and family concerns. Through classroom instruction, role-playing and skill building activities, peer counselors are trained to help their fellow students. In addition to working with students individually and in groups, the peer counselors provide a variety of other services. They act as conflict mediators and peer tutors, assist special groups or classes within the school and the zone, provide classroom presentations, welcome new students and promote special projects. Through careful selection and training, peer counselors increase the likelihood that appropriate help can be received by requesting persons. The focus of the curriculum is preventative. A variety of intervention strategies are employed, however, to educate and motivate students or to involve trained professionals, when needed. The results can be a more positive and safer school climate, healthier students and staff with lower stress levels, and a better utilization of school and community resources.

Expectations for Peer Counselors

- Students applying for peer counselors should be socially and emotionally mature and be able to discuss problems and issues that are often encountered by students.
- Students should be able to speak in front of groups and be a part of school presentations.
- Students should have leadership qualities and be able to follow procedure and directions and make responsible decisions.
- Students will be required to tutor other students in our school during the school day.
- Students will be expected to tour new students and serve as a diplomatic liaison in our school.
- Students will need a GPA of 3.5.
- Students must have strong academic and character references.
- Students must have excellent behavior.
- Students must have good attendance.



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Social Issues and Topics Covered:

- Eating Disorders
- Gang Violence
- Human Rights
- Animal Abuse
- Dating Violence
- School Violence
- Relational Aggression
- Mental Illness
- Homelessness
- Death & Grief Process
- Personal Safety
- Gambling
- Missing & Exploited Children
- Internet Safety
- Teen Pregnancy
- Peer Pressure
- Bullying
- Suicide & Depression
- Self Injury
- Prejudice and Racism
- Sexual Harassment
- LGBTQ Students
- Human Trafficking
- Substance Abuse
- Nicotine and Smoking
- Domestic Violence
- Cults
- Subject to Additions by County

Service Learning:

The purpose of the Service Learning Graduation Requirement and the Student Volunteer Service Program is to acquaint high school students with the need to provide service to both their school and community.

Service Learning is defined as: An educational method by which participants learn and develop through active participation in service that is conducted in and meets the needs of a community. Service learning is coordinated with a school or community service program and with the community. It is integrated into and influences the lifelong learning of a participant and includes structured time for the participants to reflect on the service experience.

Service learning teaches the skills of civil participation and develops an ethic of service and civic responsibility. Students can provide service in the community on a voluntary basis to public, nonprofit agencies, civic, charitable and governmental organizations and school campuses.

Service Learning and Volunteer Service Program is divided into three tiers:

- Tier I Service Learning Hours required for graduation.
- Tier II Service hours required to meet the Bright Futures Initial Eligibility Requirements.
- Tier III Volunteer Service Hours required earn a silver cord at graduation.

- [Service Learning Guidelines](#)
- [Student Volunteer Application](#)
- [Student Volunteer Log Sheet](#)

Yearbook:

In this course, students will be involved in the entire yearbook process (print layouts, photography, print copy, design and advertising). Extra curricular commitment is an obligation. All student journalists in the yearbook class are expected to:

- Interview students, teachers, and staff members
- Write articles about students, teachers and staff members
- Take photos of students, teachers and staff members
- Write and take photos before school, during their lunch, during the yearbook class period and after school at sporting and club events.

After reading this information page, please provide your signature indicating that your child has permission to participate in the indicated program below at Apollo Middle School (Please circle one)

<input type="radio"/> Peer Counseling	<input type="radio"/> Service Learning	<input type="radio"/> Yearbook
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My child, _____, has my permission to apply and if accepted, participate fully in the APM Program indicated above.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____



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Bulletin Boards and Creative Projects Team – should have creative ability to design and make signs, posters and bulletin boards for various projects.	
Big Brother/Big Sister Mentoring – working with peers to organize agendas, provide encouragement and support, check-ins with students.	
Presentation Team – working on special scripted presentations. Speaking in front of Groups	
Foreign Language Team – Fluent in a foreign language and can act as a translator and mentor to new foreign language students.	
Attendance Team – assists with distributing rosters, creating signage for doors, returning teacher attendance to Ms. Alicea	
Office Skills Team – assist with filing, organizing, running errands, etc.	

Peer Counseling and Teacher Assistant Only (Only those applying for peer counseling need to fill the following section):

What subjects and grade levels can you tutor? Check appropriate boxes.

Math	Advanced	Regular	Algebra	Geometry	6 th	7 th	8th
Social Studies	Advanced	Regular					
Language Arts	Advanced	Regular					
Science	Advanced	Regular					

Yearbook Application Only (Only those applying for Yearbook, must complete this section.)

- Compose and take a photo that conveys the theme of “happiness” or “positivity”.
- Write a caption that explains the photo.
- Use the following format to write a 4-sentence A.B.C.D. caption.
 - Attention Getting Phrase
 - Basic Information that can be seen in the photo
 - Complimentary Information that helps the reader understand the photo
 - Direct Quote from someone in the photo



Example: Get the Shot. Yearbook staffer Isabella Nolan, grade 7 uses her long lens to capture photos of the high-speed action at a boy’s soccer game. Isabella attended two practices and three games in order to interview and take photos for her boy’s soccer yearbook page. “A lot of people don’t realize how much work it takes to complete a yearbook assignment. But, it is my favorite class of the day,” said Nolan.