

Peer Jury Frequently Asked Questions

How do you recruit your Peer Jurors?

- ❑ Announce at school through daily announcements over intercom
- ❑ Put notices in each teachers box in front office
- ❑ Outreach in lunchroom
- ❑ Flyers
- ❑ Word of mouth – students tell students, teachers tell students, etc.
- ❑ Outreach to school clubs, teachers, assemblies, LSC etc.
- ❑ Articles in school paper or other media sources
- ❑ Students/staff recruit during division
- ❑ Community presentations

Who can become a Peer Juror?

Simply put - any student who wants to. A Peer Jury should not be solely comprised of "good" students. Peer jurors should be comprised of a diverse group of students that accurately reflects the student body. Students must be willing to make the commitment to participate in training, take an oath of confidentiality, and work actively to maintain grades and conduct.

Who refers students to Peer Jury?

- ❑ Teachers, Disciplinary & Counseling Offices
- ❑ Self-referral or by parent

How is the Peer Jury staffed?

Since schools are already involved in the process of disciplining youth, Peer Jury is integrated into the continuum of services that are provided for students when misconduct occurs. Planning, implementation and evaluation is shared between members of the Peer Jury team made up of adults/youth, school/community partnerships.

What is the Peer Jury Process?

Students sent to the Disciplinary Office may have the option of going to Peer Jury for their misconduct. If a student admits to an alleged offense and chooses Peer Jury, the Jurors are given a written referral sheet that explains why the student was sent to the Discipline Office. Peer Jurors facilitate a process of questions, deliberation and agreements. All agreements are documented and signed by Peer Jurors, referred students, and adult advisor (school and community agency representatives). Follow-up is conducted with the referred student to see that he or she is completing the agreement.

Who follows up on the youth referred to Peer Jury?

The Peer Jury team discusses the various roles in terms of follow-up. Adult Advisors keep records of completed agreements while one Peer Juror checks in with a referred student regarding completion.

What happens if a student does not complete agreement?

The student is referred back to the disciplinary office.

What types of cases are typically referred?

Any student misconduct that is covered.

What types of consequences are included on a typical agreement?

Apology letters, Community Service, Counseling, Tutoring, Classroom sign-in sheets, parent/teacher/youth conference, specialized services such as girls/boys group, peer mentoring. Creativity in developing the agreement is important.

When is peer jury held and where?

Either before or after school in a classroom.

Debriefing

Because there may be serious issues that arise during the course of the Peer Jury conference, it is important that the adult advisor talk with the jurors about how they felt and offer other appropriate support services if necessary.