



New Hampshire Charter School Office

Best Practice Submission Form

School Name:	Mill Falls Charter School
Best Practice Title:	Peer Mediation
Applicable Categories:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accountability and Performance Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Business Operations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community/Student Engagement <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum Design <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership & Governance <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development <input type="checkbox"/> Recruitment and Retention (Staff or Student) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School Culture <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
School Mission:	<i>Mill Falls Charter School</i> creates life-long learners by providing an intellectually rich and challenging experience delivered through the Montessori tradition. In a safe and peaceful setting, dedicated educators foster students' individuality, creativity, and critical-thinking skills to fully prepare them for future scholastic, civic and personal success.
Purpose:	The overarching goal of this program helps establish trusted leaders within the student body and create a culture of student-led honest and open discussion as they seek peaceful solutions when addressing social challenges.
Summary:	<p>Participating students first introduced the pilot program to our school community at a late spring All-School Meeting. They role-played to show their K-6 grade schoolmates how such a program could work. Following the meeting, they set up a centrally located station in our common space which featured request forms for students to ask the peers mediators for support in navigating a student-to-student conflict. Our Social Worker was present for each peer mediation, and she assisted the mediators in strategy development and peer support.</p> <p>In the coming year, our Social Worker will expand her role as the lead adult in the training of small groups of Upper Elementary students (grades 4-6) in the Peer Mediation Program designed to develop student skills in the facilitation of conflict resolution for both the mediators and their peers.</p> <p>She will conduct 1:1 weekly training session with the student mediators and will continue to be present during each student-led mediation. Modeled on our Montessori 3-year classroom cycle,</p>



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	mediators will help train younger students modeling skills as they partner. This is how we will seed the program.
Partner(s) in Development:	
Contact Person:	Meryl Levin, Director Meryl.levin@millfalls.org
Resources or Documentation:	