

In considering Peer Leadership applications, we are looking to create a team that represents the diversity of talents, backgrounds, personalities and perspectives in the Berkeley Carroll community. Next year's Peer Leaders should be eager to pursue the objectives of the program, both for incoming 9th graders and for themselves:

- To develop awareness of self and of others
- To learn concrete strategies for communicating with peers and adults, working in a group, and dealing with transitional experiences
- To care for the well-being of all members of the Berkeley Carroll community

Our goal in the application process is to gain a broader understanding of the applicants and determine how they would fit with these objectives and with each other. To this end, applicants are asked to write short reflective essays about 1) their ideal Peer Leader; 2) how they've dealt with personal weaknesses; and 3) the sides of themselves they don't usually show at school. Applications will be read and discussed by current Peer Leaders and the Peer Leadership faculty advisor; we are looking to see if applicants understand the goals of the program and if they demonstrate or seek the self-awareness and openness the position demands.

Applicants are also asked to conduct a 10-minute sample lesson and to interview with current Peer Leaders and the Peer Leadership faculty advisor. In the sample lessons we are looking to see how the applicants engage their peers in a classroom setting. The lessons may be about anything they know how to do and wish to share with others.

The Upper School faculty will also be consulted, via e-mail, for comments on the following questions:

1. Have you experienced or seen evidence of an applicant's showing (or not showing):
 - a. patience and perseverance in the face of challenges
 - b. a strong ability to work with a partner or group
 - c. positive interactions with younger students
2. Is the student consistently responsible in his/her academic work?
3. Do you have any additional comments you would like to make regarding any of these applicants?

At the conclusion of the process, the team of Peer Leaders will be selected by a committee made up of the Head of the Upper School, the Dean of Students, the 11th Grade Dean, the Peer Leadership faculty advisor, and two current Peer Leaders. Applicants will be notified by email after Spring Break.