

TAP NEWS

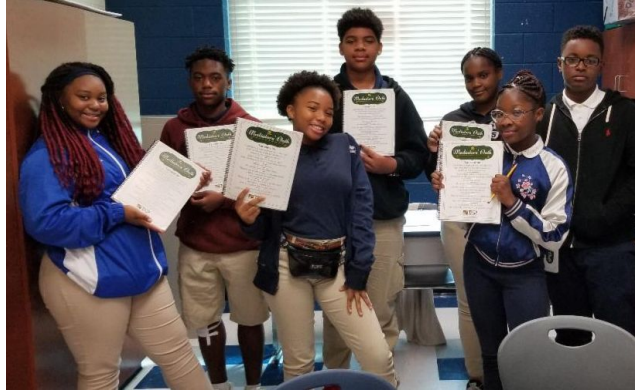
November Announcements



- We are so proud of the 65 mediators who were inducted on October 29th. We enjoyed Dr. Errick L. Greene's special remarks, two incredible performances by Catia Madison (Blackburn) and Devante Horton (Jim Hill), the Honorable Judge Denise Owens administering the oath, and sharing treats provided by the TAP JPS partners. Visit isjl.org/tap for more Induction photos.
- Shout out to Jim Hill High School for meeting the TAP or Treat mediation challenge!
- Log 25 mediations by the end of the semester and your school can win a treat, too.

SPOTLIGHT

We are excited to spotlight the seven new mediators at Kirksey Middle School. This is the first year of TAP at Kirksey, and these students are going to do a great job bringing peaceful solutions to their peers. Welcome to



STRATEGY OF THE MONTH

TAP on Your Team

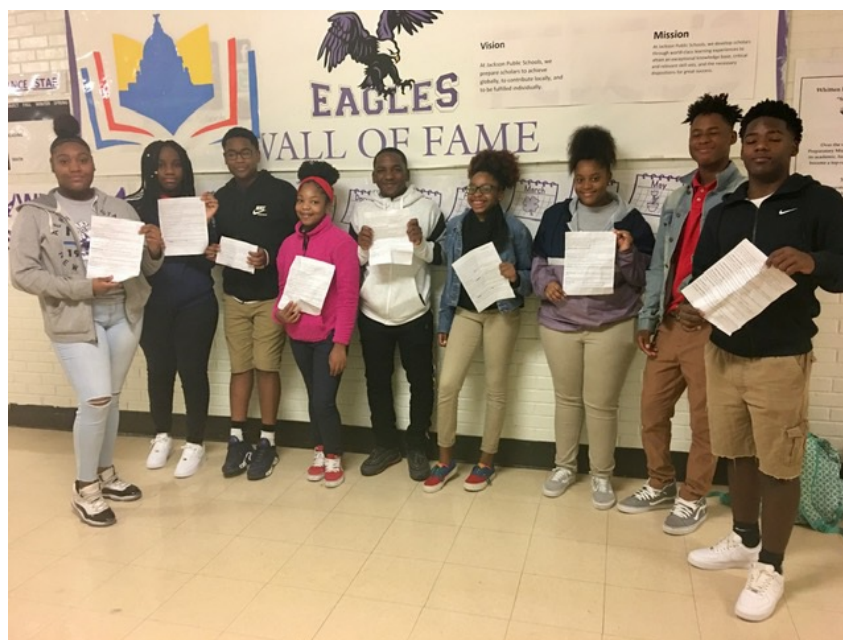
Use TAP to help with team cohesion. Healthy communication, self-advocacy, and emotional intelligence are all TAP topics that come up in team settings. Talk to your health or physical education teachers about presenting TAP during class.

Key Points

1. Solving problems peacefully leads to healthier environments.
2. Requests for mediation are anonymous. You are not telling on your peers, but rather working towards creating a safer and healthier school.
3. Mediation can help foster healthy communication.
4. When students can express emotions and advocate for themselves, fewer conflicts arise.

Mediators at Whitten Middle School gave a presentation in celebration of Red Ribbon Week.

Ms. Brown says: "The TAP mediators each had a script to read about the harmful effects of using illegal and prescription drugs. They read their scripts over the intercom."



TAP Drawstring Bag

Want to change up your backpack game? Try sporting one of our fun TAP Drawstring backs. Talk to your site coordinator to get one.



LOG YOUR MEDIATIONS

Google Form Makes Logging Easier



Mediators and Site Coordinators, click the link below to access a Google Form to quickly and easily log your mediations.

Middle Schools: A Site Coordinator logs the mediation, and mediators may but are not required to.

High Schools: A Site Coordinator logs the mediation as well as at least one mediator.

[Click here to fill out the form.](#)

For more details on how to use this form, view our handy guide [here](#).

STAFF PICK

Each month our staff members highlight their favorite conflict resolution resources.



The Marshall Project is a nonpartisan, nonprofit news organization that seeks to create and sustain a sense of national urgency about the U.S. criminal justice system. In this article, ["When School Feels Like Jail,"](#) they investigate the unique and often problematic approach to school discipline in the south, especially Mississippi.

Rachel says: "TAP is the antithesis of these harsh punishments and the criminalizing of students in schools; we work to give students the tools and opportunities to talk through their conflicts in a productive way, rather than shutting them down or shutting them out. I think it is important to understand that as TAP, we are part of the solution to this problem."

Each month we feature one of our TAP workshops. Click on the image to read more about them.

Managing Conflict

Through reflection, role-plays, and real-world problem-solving, leaders will develop the knowledge and tools to de-escalate a conflict. Gain a clear understanding of the roots of conflict and how to move a team forward to create a safe, positive and productive environment.



PRACTICE ROLEPLAY

Makayla:

At the homecoming game yesterday, I wanted to sit next to my boyfriend Richard, but he chose to sit next to his boys. I didn't think it was weird—he has a lot of friends—but then Dominique came and sat with them and was flirting with Richard... and he wasn't stopping it. Instead of going over there I just walked out because I didn't feel like causing a scene, but inside I was so angry. How could he do that?

Impact Statement for Makayla:

Richard:

My friends have been mad at me lately for spending too much time with Makayla. I promised I would sit with them at the homecoming game, but I didn't tell Makayla that because I didn't want her to feel bad. Domonique came over to talk to my buddy Daron who she likes. She was talking to me because she was too nervous to talk to him. We were not flirting or anything. I was just trying to be a good friend.

Impact Statement for Richard:

For more information contact us at 601.362.6357 or engagement@isjl.org.

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Call Us: [601-362-6357](tel:601-362-6357)

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