

5th grade Parents,

In 1992, a 5th grade leadership training program was established at Independence called the Peer Teacher Program. At times, we also call this program the Asset Ambassador Program because Peer Teachers are trained to be better leaders in the school and community by learning about and representing the 40 Developmental Assets. This program provides students with the opportunity to be responsible citizens and positive role models.

Students who are chosen for this unique and challenging program, volunteer at least two lunch recess times each week to help teachers and students in KG-4th grade classrooms. The Peer Teachers teach valuable Asset lessons to younger students, as well as helping them with their reading, writing, and math skills. During weekly meetings, students are responsible for participating in all Peer Teaching units of instruction, activities and assignments. Monthly performance evaluations will be given throughout the year. Peer Teachers also help with activities at Independence such as Family Fitness Nights, morning announcements, Field Day, and Kindergarten Orientation.

We are looking for responsible, caring, and hard-working 5th graders who want to be challenged to do more. To become a Peer Teacher, 5th grade students go through an application process, interview, and reference check. If your child is new to Independence, they may still apply and references will be contacted at the last school attended. If your child is interested in becoming a Peer Teacher, please have them complete the application and turn in **2 letters of recommendation--1 from a parent and 1 from an adult outside the family**. The recommendation letters should tell us why your child should be selected for this exciting and rewarding program. The students who receive the most staff recommendations will be selected as our Peer Teachers for this school year.

If you have any questions, please contact me at school by e-mail acaran@cherrycreekschools.org or call 720-886-8221.

Sincerely,

Alex Caran

Peer Teacher Program Facilitator

Independence Elementary