



The Navigators Program



Western Middle School Navigators playing a cooperative game.



Meyzeek Navigators group picture.

The Navigators Program is one of the many programs offered by The Peace Education Program in its 30 year history. In 2004, Peace Ed reviewed a demographic study done by the Louisville Urban League about African American youth in the city of Louisville. The study pointed out that 1 of 4 African American young men that do not graduate from high school end up incarcerated, or along with other minority youth, find their way to the bottom of almost all negative statistical categories. This Urban League report sparked a sense of urgency towards action by Peace Ed. This led to the development of The Navigators Program.

The Navigators Program focuses on helping young men who need extra guidance navigating life's natural conflicts while also giving them the practical skills they need to negotiate positive solutions with peers and adults. The Navigators Program achieves its goals by concentrating on several areas that impact an individual's ability to resolve conflicts peacefully. The program is structured to give participants the space to explore their personal outlooks on common conflicts and to get constructive and guided feedback for resolving their conflicts nonviolently.

Ramzi Sabree, MSSW was trained as a peer mediator by Peace Ed at the age of 13. As of 2008 he has joined Peace Ed's staff where he coordinates the Navigators Program. So far Navigators has been in existence for over four years and has impacted the lives of hundreds of young people in the Louisville Metro Area.