



New Members Sworn into Teen Court

After successfully completing twelve hours of General Legal Training, twenty-five new members were sworn into Parker Teen Court on Thursday, March 5th, 2015 at Parker Town Hall. With their family and friends in attendance, the new members celebrated with pizza and cake following the ceremony.

This year's training covered public speaking, criminal law, professionalism, the impact of crime, and restorative justice.





Teen Court Presents at Douglas County Managers Meeting

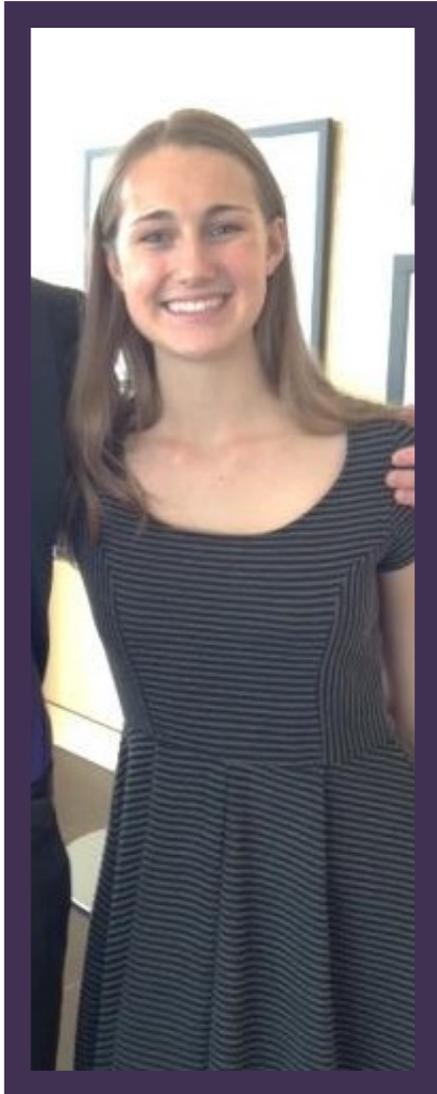
On March 18th, the Parker and Castle Rock Teen Courts presented at the Douglas County Managers meeting in Lone Tree. Both Teen Court Coordinators Sarah Vandiver and Anna Fritzler explained the concept of restorative justice and how Teen Court operates. Sue Ratcliff and Karla McCrimmon, Court Administrators from each jurisdiction, also answered questions related to the administrative piece of managing a Teen Court program.

Following the presentation, three members from each Teen Court joined together to present a mock peer panel in an effort to give those in attendance an example of how exactly the process works. Overall, the presentation was a success and generated a lot of positive interest in Teen Court. Thanks to **Mikayla Roberts**, **Macy Falk**, and **Justin Falk** for participating and doing a great job with the mock panel!



{ FROM THE MEMBERS! }

Mentor Interview: Macy Falk



The new Mentor Program at Teen Court is in full swing and so far proving to be very successful. This program allows members to work one-on-one with respondents in need of extra support and guidance. Three new members recently completed mentor training: **Macy Falk, Aidan Samuelson,** and **Isaac Zajak.** Below Macy shares why she decided to become a mentor!

Q. You recently completed Mentor Training. Can you tell us what you're most excited about as you begin mentoring other teens?

M: "I am most excited to meet some new people (hopefully some new friends!) that I wouldn't normally get the opportunity to meet and change lives for the better."

Q. What initially interested you about the Mentor Program?

M: "I was most interested about what a mentor does and if the teens felt that the mentor program actually helped in any way."

Q. Why do you believe this program is valuable for Parker Teen Court?

M: "I believe that the mentor program is valuable because Teen Court can be a stressful and difficult process, reopening wounds from a point in time that they would rather forget. The mentor program can help them through that and maybe even change their perspective to a more optimistic look."

Q. And lastly, just for fun, tell us what you would eat if you could only choose one meal for the rest of your life?

M: "My mom's Stromboli, because it has three different kinds of meat and various cheeses, so I wouldn't get bored!"

“What Teen Court Means to Me”

by Mikayla Roberts

Since I was in 5th grade I realized that I wanted to become a lawyer, it wasn't until my Freshman year of High School that my mother introduced me to the Teen Court program after seeing an ad for it in the local paper. Eager to see what the program was about I went to an orientation meeting and immediately fell in love with the program. The Parker Teen Court was created to help misdemeanor juvenile offenders get back on the right path and essentially help repair the community using restorative justice. In simpler words we give juvenile offenders a second chance. When I found out about the mission of Teen Court I knew I had to be a part of it and help. I have now been in the Parker Teen Court for a total of 3 years and it has become like a third family for me, and I love it. It's really amazing when you see offenders come in on the wrong path and by the time they go through this process they are changed—now on the right side of the law, they are turning their lives around and making a positive change for themselves.



Each case we see come through is very different. What I love is how we assess the case and determine the best route in handling it. That's another reason I love being a part of Teen Court: in the end we have a positive outcome for the defendant, their parents, and the community. Another thing that I really like about this program is how collaborative it is. While on a Peer Panel, or even when you're involved as a jury member for a Trial, you are including everyone's thoughts and opinions it's not just one person making all the sanctions--it's a group and that is great. Not only that, but I like how some sanctions have a lasting impact. For instance, one girl I mentored through the Mentor Program (we are now friends) really began to change through the process. She figured out what she was going to do for her education plans, she didn't like school very much, so it was great seeing her get on the right path!

As for the members this program provides so many leadership opportunities that help us grow into better citizens and people. Teen Court offers leadership roles within the Student Advisory Board, Law School; even just being Foreperson for a trial or peer panel allows members to branch out as a leader. It's not just leadership that this program helps us with but it also helps us with confidence and speaking skills. I know as a lawyer for the Parker Teen Court you have to talk in front of the jury members, the defendant, and essentially everyone in the court room. I always was afraid of talking in front of people but with this program I realized it's easy and not as bad as it looks! Without this program I would still be afraid of public speaking. Teen Court is an amazing program that I am happy to call a family and say that it's truly something I love being a part of!



Law School Coming Soon!

If you have thought about becoming a Teen Court Attorney, now is the time! Law School will be offered this June. Interested members must:

- Be at least 15 years old
- Completed General Legal Training
- Submit a Law School Application

This is a great opportunity to complete the training while you're on summer break! All who complete Law School now will be prepared to be attorneys in trials starting this Fall. Please email Sarah if you're interested.

Law School Schedule:

Thursday, June 11th 4:00-5:30pm (Intro to Law School by Judge Sidel)

Monday, June 15th 10:00am-1:00pm

Monday, June 22nd 10:00am-1:00pm

Thursday, June 25th 1:00-6:00pm (mock trials)

Bar Exam on Thursday, July 9th at 4:00

Car Wash Fundraiser!

Saturday, June 6th, 2015

10:00AM-2:00PM



This year, instead of selling chocolate or coupon books, the SAB has voted to hold a car wash fundraiser. So grab your sponges and tell your friends and family to swing by the Town Hall parking lot on Saturday, June 6th as we wash cars to raise money for special events at Teen Court!



Summer 2015 Schedule



Date	Event	Time
May		
Thursday, May 7 th , 2015	Peer Panels	4:00pm
Thursday, May 14 th , 2015	Peer Panels	4:00pm
Thursday, May 21 st , 2015	Trial	5:00pm
Thursday, May 28 th , 2015	SAB Elections	4:30pm
June		
Thursday, June 4 th , 2015	Recess (Finals Week)	
Thursday, June 11 th , 2015	Peer Panels Law School	4:00pm 4:00-5:30pm
Monday, June 15 th , 2015	Law School	10:00am-1:00pm
Thursday, June 18 th , 2015	Peer Panels	4:00pm
Monday, June 22 nd , 2015	Law School	10:00am-1:00pm
Thursday, June 25 th , 2015	Law School Trial	1:00pm-6:00pm 5:00pm
July		
Thursday, July 9 th , 2015	Peer Panels Bar Exam (law students only)	4:00pm
Thursday, July 16 th , 2015	Peer Panels	4:00pm
Thursday, July 23 rd , 2015	Trial	4:00pm
Thursday, July 30 th , 2015	Banana Split Night	5:00pm
	NO TEEN COURT IN AUGUST!	