



**MEDIATION: PRACTICING THE ART AND DANCE  
OF EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION  
KRISTIN REEDER AND ELESHA FETROW  
2:00 P.M.**

Modern life sometimes needs to be addressed with some old-time skills, especially when one has not been exposed to such a step-by-step process. Some adults believe that mediation is just a conversation (it isn't), while others believe that agreement can be forced (it can't), so why bring up mediation for you (a school counselor) to utilize as an effective tool for with your students? Because it works... when we take the time to set up the proper conditions.

- Grow comfort in utilizing this learning tool;
- Outline actions that work - and toss others;
- Grow confidence and delight with the art of conversation - even during conflict;
- Find the commonality of what is going right;
- Allow students to take ownership of success;
- Allow students to feel proactive and positive outcomes; and
- Allow students to develop an understanding that we all are part of a social contracting system.

You will leave this session with steps to mediation, the reasons behind each step used, and a contract to use if you would like. Come ready to ask questions, contribute to the conversation with your own wins or fails, and play on the lighter side doing some of the heaviest work we do as Counselors.