

Suggestions for Rotary Peace Schools Project

Speak to the directors of your local school boards to explain the project and its significance and to get their “buy-in”. Ask for representatives from the school boards to work with your Club’s Peace Committee to establish criteria for an annual prize. A high level of commitment in the area of promoting peace and understanding is required to be designated a Rotary Peace School, as established through the application process.

Once the criterion is approved, present the concept to the trustees of the school board at their meeting. Promote the prize through the school boards and publicly. Have a media event to announce the prize. Set a deadline and have the Committee choose the winners. There are no individual winners – the prize is for the whole school community including teachers.

Choose the award with consideration that each student in the school will feel they are part of celebration. For example in once city, representative students from the winning schools were invited to participate in a “Rotary Peace Skate” on February 23, Rotary International’s Day of World Peace and Understanding. In this case the Club provided one bus per school, ice-skates, lunch and hot chocolate. In addition, multicoloured “jelly” bracelets, inscribed with the words, “May Peace Prevail on Earth” and “Rotary” were given to each student and staff member. Each school also received a Peace Pole and Plaque. Schools have used the dedication of the peace pole as a way to bring the school together to celebrate peace and understanding not only in their schools, but also in their school communities.

Invite representatives from the winning schools to speak to your Rotary Club about how they achieved the designation as a Peace School.

For those schools that have not achieved the designation, the application form provides a template for areas of programming to include ways to promote peace and understanding.

For more information and templates to use for establishing such a prize in your community contact peacecity@RoselandRotary.com