

# Northeastern University

*Center for the Study of Sport in Society*



**Project:** Game Change

**Sponsors:** New England Patriots and MA Attorney General's Office

**Funding:** Reading Memorial High School was awarded a mini-grant of \$3,000 for the school year of 2017-2018 for this project. The grant was co-written by RMHS and RCASA in August of 2017. Funds support student leadership development, teacher stipends, and refreshments/supplies.

**Goal:** Foster long-term anti-violence & healthy relationship education in school

**Progress:** In January of 2018, the Reading Memorial High School hosted a 2-day Peer Leadership Training for 26 student leaders representing a cross-section of our extracurricular activities, clubs and athletics.

The **Patriots Anti-Violence Partnership** sent five trainers to Reading to train students on violence prevention and healthy relationships. For example, students learned that in the U.S, one in three young people is the victim of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse from a dating partner.

Following the training, student leaders met with Mrs. Hopkinson (Coach/Teacher), Mr. Fiore (Coach/Teacher), Mrs. McNamara (RCASA), and Mr. Zaya (Asst. Principal) every other Tuesday morning at 7:15 am. The group is now known as the STUDENT LEADERS COUNCIL.

At these meetings, we have discussed how students can use their training and make changes to improve our school. We have also brainstormed challenges students face as leaders and ways they can reach out to other student groups.

Through this partnership with the Patriots, the Attorney General's Office, RMHS and RCASA, we are working together to develop recommendation for School officials on Teen Dating Violence Policies and ideas for school climate improvements.

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