



# PEAK

**EXPERIENCE THE LEARNING**

**PEAK STUDENT LEADERSHIP (PSL)**

## Objectives

- *To provide experiences that serve to develop and enhance leadership qualities and skills associated with wilderness exploration among Upper School students at Heathwood Hall.*
- *To enhance programs offered by the PEAK program by cultivating a competent team of student leaders and program facilitators.*

## Program

Candidates for the PSL become eligible participants upon entering the ninth grade. A letter of invitation is written to the student, and to the parents of the student, informing them of the opportunity, the training process, and expectations of PEAK Student-Leaders.

Potential PSL members take part in a Basic Training program, a multi-day program that uses experiential outdoor oriented activities to teach the following skills considered to be qualities necessary for leadership:

- Communication
- Team Building
- Problem Solving
- Techniques for providing formal Instruction

In addition, the Basic Training program provides for skill development in the following areas:

- Paddling
- Ropes Course facilitation and management
- Team Building techniques

Trained Student-leaders assist in the planning and implementation of a variety of adventure programs offered through the PEAK Program for Outdoor Education at Heathwood Hall. PEAK programs include those designed for students of all ages (and adults) in the Heathwood community, and the larger public community beyond Heathwood.

## Benefits

Students who participate in the PSL program:

- are placed in positions of responsibility that require initiative, good judgment, and leadership (character and maturity develop rapidly through this program);
- earn a valuable addition to a college application or summer job resumé by virtue of the training, responsibility, and commitment to personal development that the PSL program offers;
- earn community service hours that fulfill upper school community service requirements;
- may receive discounts on outdoor gear at local retailers (Half Moon Outfitters and The Backpacker);
- encounter opportunity to participate extensively in their favorite adventure activities.