



When you mentor, you're simply someone the mentee looks forward to seeing. The focus is creating a supportive relationship with the student. Change is the byproduct of your friendship, and therefore, NOT the driving focus in your interaction. Have a good time! Your mentoring session is something you both should look forward to and completely individualized by you and your student.

### **Mentor Responsibilities-**

1. Make an Academic Year Commitment – (Sept-May)
2. Meet once weekly on the campus during the school day
3. Plan to meet for 30-45 minutes each time

### **Students –**

Referred by teacher, counselor, or parent AND there are some that request a mentor themselves. Students and parents sign consent to participate. Appropriateness for the program is determined by the parent and campus staff. A student MUST be in agreement to participate in MENTOR prior to having a mentor assigned.

### **Guidelines –**

- \*Only meet with student assigned at the designated time
- \*Always sign in and wear name badge
- \*Physical contact as appropriate (ex. fist bumps, high fives, side hugs)
- \*Be proactive! Let us know if something can be improved or a change is needed.

### **Confidentiality –**

Information regarding community individuals, staff, or students is confidential. If you learn about information that concerns you, please share it with one of the following staff: Campus Counselor, Assistant Principal, or Principal. Please do not leave the campus before disclosing your concern or discuss with any other staff.

### **Reporting Abuse/Neglect -**

ANY PERSON WHO REASONABLY SUSPECTS THAT A CHILD IS A VICTIM OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT IS MANDATED BY LAW TO REPORT THEIR SUSPICION TO THE POLICE OR THE TEXAS CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE. YOU MAY REMAIN ANONYMOUS.

Texas Child Abuse Hotline  
1-800-252-5400  
[www.txabusehotline.org](http://www.txabusehotline.org)

## Commonly Asked Questions:

### **What should I do if I cannot keep an appointment/program commitment?**

If you'll be missing your weekly meeting, let the counselor know as soon as you can. We ALWAYS want the student to be aware of changes with as much advance notice as possible. If you can't maintain the commitment to MENTOR, please let Joley Martin 972-429-2996 or the campus counselor know so we can work on a 'good bye' strategy with the counselor and student. Things happen and we understand that life isn't always predictable.

### **May I give my contact information (cell/email) to the student?**

Sure – but be aware that there's responsibility with doing so. Being able to text your student or have them chat with you on days you don't see each other is great. You can learn A LOT through these modes of communication. However, please know that you are legally responsible to respond to information you learn during, and outside of, school hours.

### **Any topics to avoid discussing?**

If you find that you feel uncomfortable discussing something, simply state, "You know who would be really great to talk to about this? Your counselor. She has the BEST information about this stuff." Make sure to touch base with the counselor before you leave.

### **Can I bring lunch/gifts to my mentee?**

If you want to bring lunch or a special item, please double check with the counselor that it is OK. They will be able to let you know about allergies to food and possibly provide a safe place for your gift to remain until the end of the school day.

### **Are there activities during the year for mentors?**

YES! Each month, you'll receive a MENTOR newsletter that highlights a specific activity, shares mentor stories from our district, provides photos of mentors/mentees in action, and provides you with district dates. We also celebrate you by hosting the following annually:

- \*Kick-Off Breakfast
- \*1<sup>st</sup> Semester Mixer
- \*2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Mixer
- \*EOY Luncheon