



# Have a great SPRING BREAK EVERYONE!

This month's theme is "pay it forward". We've had seven adults in the Fayetteville community sign up and be trained to mentor students in our schools. From retired journalists to lawyers to Fayette County school bus drivers, the group has been diverse and eager to get started!

We've also had three different groups of high schoolers sign up to give back what they have received by mentoring younger students. The students are paying forward the love, time, and attention they have received from being in your schools. Thank you for all that you do to love, nurture, and teach the students you serve. The Friends Mentoring Program is a way to support what you are already doing to tend to our students in Fayette County. We can do way more together than we can alone. Our mentors will be ready to pick back up where they left off after the break. Enjoy your time off!



**Twenty Seven High Schoolers** from McIntosh High School were trained this month to be mentors. The students will be serving at elementary schools throughout Fayette County before school and during the schools' after-school programs. The Friends Mentoring program is continuing to grow as students commit to volunteer to help mentor younger students.

"I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back." — Maya Angelou





## NEW PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

### *Pass it On: Senior to Freshman Peer Mentoring*

The "Pass it On" Mentoring Program was created by Stephanie Washington, Assistant Principal at Sandy Creek High School. Ms Washington saw a need with her Freshman students and got inspired to give Seniors an opportunity to pass on what they have learned during their high school experience.

This program provides carefully selected 12th-grade students that serve as mentors and are matched with Freshmen whom we believe might especially benefit from the additional attention and support. The seniors received customized training specially created for the program.

The seniors will act as mentors, tutors, encouragers and positive role models to the Freshman student they are paired with.

Students who choose to participate make a commitment to meet with their students at least once a week in the Counseling Center during lunch or occasionally, before school. Counselors, teachers and administration will match the seniors with their mentee based on their lunch schedules and common interests.

Ms. Washington is aware that it is late in the school year and the seniors are leaving soon, but she wanted to give them an opportunity to pour into their fellow Patriots and give the Freshman a chance to have some additional support and encouragement to finish the school year strong. This program is getting off the ground soon and Ms. Washington plans to continue this program next year with our Seniors and Freshman.



## AMIGOS: Program Update

The AMIGOS program is back and in action! Señora Ethel Fritz, Spanish teacher at Fayette County High School, partnered with Chrissy O'Neal, Title I Parent Liaison at Cleveland Elementary School, to get started. They both decided that they wanted to start soon in order to help prepare the elementary school students for upcoming tests. Along with high school volunteers, Chrissy and Ethel worked together to bring in local volunteers and have invited students at Bennett's Mill to volunteer as well.

The AMIGOS program was created to help elementary school children improve their ability to speak and understand the English language. Señora Fritz will invite more high school students to join when the new school year begins.

COUNSELORS, EMAIL [DAVIS.CORA@FCBOE.ORG](mailto:DAVIS.CORA@FCBOE.ORG) IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN STARTING ANY NEW PROGRAMS AT YOUR SCHOOLS.

