Relationships at the Center

Blue Ribbon Schools & Beyond

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Welcome!
Your Presenters

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AGENDA

I. Who is MENTOR?
II. What are Relationship-centered Schools?
III. Small group work: Sharing relationship-rich practices, programs or policies
IV. Video: The Power of Relationships in Schools
V. What is a Mentoring Mindset?
VI. Activity: Webs of Support
VII. Tools
VIII. Examples of Relationship-centered Schools work
IX. Wrap Up
Icebreaker

Take a moment to meet your colleagues

With each person you speak to, find something you both have in common outside of work
Who We Are
MENTOR: Vision & Mission

Vision
Every young person has the supportive relationships they need to grow and develop into thriving, productive and engaged adults.

Mission
MENTOR’s mission is to fuel the quality and quantity of mentoring relationships for America’s young people and to close the mentoring gap for the one in three young people growing up without this critical support.
MENTOR is focused on connecting mentors to the 9 million young people who face multiple risk factors, leaving them prone to falling off track.
How does mentoring help?

The Mentoring Effect

- 52% less likely than their peers to skip a day of school
- 55% more likely to be enrolled in college
- 46% less likely than their peers to start using drugs
- 81% more likely to report participating regularly in sports or extracurricular activities
- 78% more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities
- 130% more than twice as likely to say that they held a leadership position in a club or sports team
- 90% Respondents who had a mentor said they are now interested in becoming mentors
The Mentoring Gap

One in three young people are growing up without a mentor.

This is the mentoring gap in America.
School Based Mentoring: Where We've Been
History of School Based Mentoring

The Odyssey & the character Mentor
The School Volunteer Movement
School-based Mentoring
Our Former Approach

- Individual schools
- Deficit focused
- Programs created in silos
- Very narrow population served
- Heavily reliant on outside programmatic resources
School Based Mentoring

- Can be delivered in one-to-one, group or team formats
- Can pair students with adult mentors or engage older students as “near peer” mentors
- Often aim to facilitate academic gains or improvements in school connectedness or attendance, though many also emphasize non-academic goals
- Can be run by school personnel or through a partnership with a community-based service provider in collaboration with school leadership.
Success Mentors

- In November 2015, the Obama Administration announced two groundbreaking campaigns to address chronic absenteeism in high-need public schools: the My Brother’s Keeper (MBK) Success Mentors Every Student, Every Day campaign and a multi-million dollar Ad Council campaign to engage families and school communities on solving this nationwide issue.

The MBK Every Student, Every Day campaign aims to connect over one million students with dedicated Success Mentors in this country’s first-ever effort to use an evidence-based and data driven mentor model and student support system to tackle chronic absenteeism. The campaign calls on all schools to take strategic actions to reduce the rates of chronic absenteeism, based on insights and evidence from ten school districts about what works.
Model Overview

**Components**
The National Success Mentors initiative is a comprehensive, evidence-based approach to providing high-need students with additional supports to enable them to succeed academically and graduate from high school prepared for post-secondary success. The initiative provides:

- Identified students (those who are chronically absent or are at risk for being chronically absent) with consistent and continuous school-based mentoring aimed at uncovering and solving the underlying causes of their absenteeism;
- Case managed referrals for identified students to professional supports as needed; and
- Examples of school-wide efforts and early warning systems aimed at keeping all students on track to post-secondary success.
What does the research say?

- Regardless of the structure, staffing, and goals of the program, mentoring programs in schools have shown to be a cost-efficient way of increasing the positive relationships students have in their lives, while also having the potential to boost factors that can lead to educational success, such as:
  - connectedness to the school environment and peers
  - improved relationships with teachers and staff
  - improved feelings of academic competence
  - greater access and use of other supports, such as tutoring, credit tracking, counseling, and postsecondary planning.

OJJDP National Mentoring Resource Center, 2017
Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring

What works in mentoring program design?

- Recruitment
- Screening
- Training
- Matching and Initiating
- Monitoring and Support
- Closure
Mentor Resources & Guides

Visit www.mentoring.org for these resources and more.
Overview of Relationship Centered Schools
Edutopia: Power of Relationships in Schools
Access to professional networks and supports
Connections to advisors, coaches, mentors, and sponsors
Exposure to a diverse range of people and professionals
Access to tight-knit webs of support and developmental relationships

**ELEMENTARY** ➔ **MIDDLE SCHOOL** ➔ **HIGH SCHOOL** ➔ **POSTSECONDARY & WORKFORCE**

- Improved well-being, grades, and engagement
- Expanded sense of future possible selves
- Increased postsecondary access and success
- Increased access to internships and jobs

Students have access to, and ability to maintain and mobilize, relationships

Students demonstrate increased long-term well-being and expand career options
RELATIONSHIP-CENTERED SCHOOLS

- Data Driven
- Relationship-Rich
- Exposure to People, Places, and Environments
- Experiential Learning
- Youth Centered
SUGGESTED RELATIONSHIP-CENTERED COMPONENTS

All students experience higher quality, intentional, critically conscious, culturally responsive, healing informed relationships.
MENTORING MINDSET
Mentoring Mindset

Intentional: I See You

Supportive: I Got You

Developmental: I’m Here to Help

Communal: We’re In This Together
Activity: Webs of Support

Instructions:
1. On your piece of paper, draw a circle and write your name.

2. Think about the communities you are part of & label those – work, family, clubs, spiritual, for example

3. Within those communities, begin to identify those people who you consider your support group.
Resources + Future Planning
Start, expand, or improve a program through the OJJDP National Mentoring Resource Center (NMRC)

- Visit www.nationalmentoringresourcecenter.org
- Funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the NMRC disseminates information about “What Works” in mentoring through evidence reviews on the effectiveness of program models and specific programs, practices, and services for specific populations of mentees
- Disseminates high-quality program implementation resources, including tools, program curricula, and training materials
- Provides FREE technical assistance to youth mentoring programs to help them more deeply incorporate evidence-based practice into their work.
- Sign up for the monthly e-newsletter here
Or find a partner using the Mentoring Connector

Search for a Local Mentoring Program

Search the Mentoring Connector database by entering your zip code to find a variety of programs in your community.

The Mentoring Connector is a volunteer recruitment tool for programs. If you are searching to find a mentor, we encourage you to use these results to contact the program outside of this system.

By searching the database, you are sharing your information with MENTOR, its Affiliates, and any program you choose to contact through the Mentoring Connector. Your email address will not be sold, shared with third parties or used for any purposes other than to keep you updated on news and opportunities related to mentoring.
Some tools to share

Relationship-centered Schools: https://www.mentoring.org/campaigns/education/

Relationship Mapping: https://mcc.gse.harvard.edu/resources-for-educators


Christensen Institute Who You Know Playbook: https://whoyouknow.org/playbook/
Tools in Development

Tools:
- Landscape Analysis Tools: Inventory, Data, & Reflection Worksheets
- School Readiness Assessment Worksheet
- Relationship Mapping Tools

Currently Piloting Tools with:
- Baltimore, MD (Baltimore City Schools)
- Montgomery County, MD (MCPS)
- Fresno, CA (FUSD)
- Sacramento County, CA (SCOE)
- Newark, NJ (Newark Board of Education)
Stay in touch!

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Thank You