

Mentoring

Mentoring is a fundamental form of human development where one person invests time, energy and personal know-how in assisting the growth and ability of another person. In fact, mentoring is one of the oldest forms of influence. Popular mentoring literature attributes the origin of the term *mentoring* to Homer, one of the ancient Greek story tellers. In his classic tale, Homer tells of Odysseus, the King of Ithaca, who asked his friend Mentor to look after his son and household while he fought to win the Trojan War.

History offers many examples of successful mentoring relationships, such as Socrates and Plato, Hayden and Beethoven, Freud and Jung. History and legend also record the deeds of princes and kings, but each of us has a birthright to be all that we can be. Mentors are those special people in our lives who, through their deeds and work, help us move toward fulfilling that potential.

Excerpts taken from "How to Develop Successful Mentor Behaviors," by Gordon F. Shea.



The North East Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age or disability.



**NORTH EAST INDEPENDENT
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PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

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**NORTH EAST INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

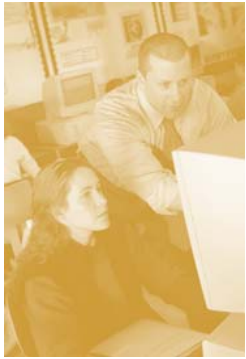
PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

Mentors



**MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN
THE LIFE OF A CHILD**

Partners in Education Mentor Program



The North East Independent School District's Partners in Education (PIE) Mentor Program is designed to organize assistance for our at-risk students.

Mission

The NEISD Volunteer Program is a partnership of dedicated community members

- Providing positive adult role models for students
- Fostering relationships that help students become successful learners
- Reinforcing positive attitudes towards learning and problem-solving
- Building self-esteem by motivating students to strive for academic success

So that students may excel academically and accomplish their dreams and aspirations.

Benefits of Mentoring

Mentoring works because:

- Adults greatly influence how students behave.
- Students grow and develop through identification with adults.
- Positive models influence the social development of students.

Mentor Attributes

A mentor has...

- a strong desire to help students succeed in school;
- the ability to perceive and respond to the needs of students;
- a willingness to invest time and energy in mentoring a student;
- the belief that every student can learn, although each learns differently and at their own rate; and
- a commitment to spend time with their student and be involved in the schools.

Mentor Duties

- To listen, clarify and inspire
- To help find solutions to social and academic problems
- To set good examples by modeling appropriate behavior
- To support and encourage good behavior and good attendance
- To help set academic and personal goals

Student Benefits

- Seeing positive adult role models in the school
- Receiving individualized attention and support
- Having greater career exploration opportunities
- Developing stronger academic and social skills
- Learning to set educational goals
- Increasing their self-esteem

How Can I Help?

Becoming actively involved in education at the local level can help influence the direction and quality of education for students. Children are dependent on an involved and caring community to provide quality education. Your involvement can make all the difference in a child's life.

North East Independent School District is actively recruiting businesses, civic organizations and community citizens to sponsor a mentor program using employees and member volunteers. Individuals not associated with a business or civic organization are also welcome to participate. Anyone interested should contact:

District Volunteer Coordinator
North East Independent School District
8961 Tesoro Dr., Ste. 402
San Antonio, TX 78217
(210) 407-0309
Fax: (210) 407-0318

Or visit the "Volunteers" section on our web site at www.neisd.net.

“Children are only 20%
of our population, but
100% of our future.”

~ Richard Riley,
former Secretary of Education