

Making a difference, one e-mail at a time!

e-mentoring Esq.

Mentor Newsletter

Issue 2: Sept. 6, 2007

We are still painfully *short* of the number of mentors we need to match all of the AVID students at our ten schools please pass this information on and recruit friends and family to join you -- the program is open to any professional!

If you've signed up at <http://www.dallasisd.org/partners/main.htm> or <http://www.dbamentor.org/volunteer.asp> but not both, please take a few minutes and make sure you've completed both registrations so DISD can approve you as a volunteer and dbamentor can match you with your students!

What it is

- Easy (the hardest part is signing up)
- An opportunity to encourage high-risk students who want to be the first in their family to graduate from college
- An award-winning program that is making a positive impact
- The least time consuming volunteer work you could possibly do
- Making a difference one email at a time

What it isn't

- Time consuming
- Mandatory events
- Difficult
- Lengthy commitment
- Costly in time, money, or energy
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters (no face-to-face required/minimal time)

Sad Statistics:

Texas has **12th** highest dropout rate in the country at 67%.

~Jay P. Greene, Ph. D., The Manhattan Institute for Policy Research

The unemployment rate for high school dropouts is more than **30 percent** higher than that of graduates. And when employed, dropouts earn close to 30 percent less. Dropouts are also more likely to end up incarcerated and rely on public assistance. ...study cites reports that show about **one-third** of students in high school quit before graduating

~Daria Hall, author of the report and a policy analyst for the Education Trust

Samuel High School, Dallas, TX – only **6 out of 10** students graduate.

~Steve Pickett Reporting, CBS 11 News

Mentoring programs statistics:

- 46%** decrease in initiating drug use;
- 27%** decrease in initiating alcohol use;
- 38%** decrease in number of times hitting someone;
- 37%** decrease in skipped classes; and
- 37%** decrease in lying to parents.

~Tierney & Grossman, National Research

- 62%** of students improved their self-esteem;
- 52%** of students skipped less school;
- 48%** of students improved their grades;
- 49%** of students got into less trouble in school;
- 47%** of students got into less trouble out of school;
- 45%** of students reduced their substance abuse; and
- 35%** of students improved family relationships.

~McLearn, Colasanto, and Schoen, The Commonwealth Fund's

We will do our best to keep you matched with your students from last year, although some adjusting will inevitably be necessary.

Sign up at:

www.dbamentor.org