

September
2026

Volume XXII, Issue 1



Epic–Moab’s Mentor Newsletter

Grand Area Mentoring • (435) 260-9646

Beginnings

One Hour Per Week?!



Can one hour per week really make a difference?

Outcomes last school year proved it.

In 2025–2026:

- 83% of mentored youth got into less trouble at school (vs. the goal of 40%)
- 65% improved their attendance (vs. the goal of 35%)
- 57% improved their grades (vs. the goal of 35%)

And mentees said stuff like:

“Mentoring is the best thing I’ve ever had in life.”

“Mentoring is the only reason I want to go to school.”

“Mentoring helps me be happy.”



Stay tuned for the forthcoming annual report that will cover outcomes across the whole program!

In the meantime, good luck as mentoring kicks off for the 2026–2027 school year. Remember, **it’s about building a relationship of respect, care, and support that meets your mentee where they are.**

Thanks for being part of the team. We adore you!

–Dan, Megan, & Teresa



Karen & Melody

Faux Falls Mentoring Adventure!

**September 23, 2026
2:35–5 pm**

Get outside with your mentee! Community-Based mentors and mentees are invited to hike with us along the creek to Faux Falls. We’ll cool off, explore the beautiful red-rock oasis, and enjoy some time outdoors together. Be ready to get a little wet and sandy! Contact Teresa for RSVP and transport: munisterit@grandschools.org • (435) 260-2282



This Month in Mentoring

- **September 19: Harvest Fest @ YGP!** One of Moab’s most enjoyable, laid-back outdoor parties! Live music, cornhole, face painting, food, produce contests, and more! www.youthgardenproject.org/
- **September 23, 2:35–5 pm: Faux Falls Adventure.** RSVP with Teresa. Space limited. See box at left.
- **September 24: Parent-Teacher Conferences.** Early out at all schools. **September 25: No School**
- **September 26, noon–7 pm, 100 North: Street Fest!** A day of live music, free arts activities for kids and adults, community sculptures and interactive art, an art market, workshops, plus great food and beverages! A great community-based mentoring venue. Grand Area Mentoring will have a table there! Stop by, say hi, and mail a gratitude card. <https://www.redrockartsfestival.com/streetfest>
- **September 29, 5:15–7 pm, Middle School: New Mentor Orientation.** Tell your friends!



GRAND AREA MENTORING

Sandy & Khloe



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2026–2027 Match Recruitment Ticker

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New Matches

2026–2027 Mentoring Heroes Ticker

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Automatic Monthly Donors

Conversation starters:

- What's something you wish you had more time to do?
- If you could change one thing about school, what would you change?
- What's the funniest thing you've seen recently?

Let the conversation wander. Sometimes the best moments come from unexpected directions—follow their interests and be curious.



Mentoring Idea #1: \$5 Kindness Challenge

Give your mentee a small budget – say \$5 – and challenge them to use it to make someone else's day better. They could buy a snack for someone, leave quarters at a laundromat, buy a small item for a food pantry, or come up with something entirely different. The cool part is deciding together what feels meaningful and doable.



Mentoring Idea #2: The New School Year Draft!

Imagine you're drafting your "team" for the year. **But instead of people, you choose qualities!** Each person gets five picks from the bank below (or come up with your own virtues):

Patience, courage, humor, curiosity, persistence, kindness, confidence, creativity, honesty, empathy, flexibility, optimism, focus, responsibility, generosity, independence, resilience, gratitude, compassion, self-control, adventurousness, loyalty, fairness, open-mindedness, determination, calmness, playfulness, leadership, humility, enthusiasm

Mentee:

Mentor:

1. _____

1. _____

2. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. _____

4. _____

4. _____

5. _____

5. _____

The fun part: why did you draft those? Which one might be hardest to practice?

