

**Grand Area Mentoring
2017/2018 Annual Report Detail**

Match Count:

Number of students served during the 2017/2018 school year: 91

Number of new matches: 20

Number of matches closed: 14

Accomplishments, trainings and events, and milestones:

Aug:

Wabi Partner Awards Banquet

Published newsletter

Sept:

Went rafting with OARS and 20 mentors/mentees

Training: Creating Nourishing Environments with Stacey Savelle

Training: New mentor orientation

Oct:

Published newsletter

Training: Attachment and mentoring with Nan Marquart

Training: Promoting Kindness and Respect with Percy Hill

Nov:

Published newsletter

Published community newsletter, sent letter to stakeholders

Presented to interfaith coalition at Grand Center

Training: Charlie Appelstein Strength-Based Approach DVD

Hosted school board site visit at HMK

Dec:

Published newsletter

Training: WhyTry curriculum with Katlyn Keane

Jan:

Published newsletter

Training: Trauma-Informed Mentoring with Kelly Vagts

Mentor appreciation party at The Broken Oar

Training: New mentor orientation

Feb:

Published newsletter

Training: Trauma-Informed Mentoring Part 2 with Kelly Vagts

Attended Wabi's awards event

Presented program update at school board meeting

Completed the Community-Based Mentoring project design

Mar

Published newsletter

Training: Understanding Poverty with Nan Marquardt

April

Published newsletter

Published community newsletter, letter to stakeholders

Offered mentor roundtable discussion

Prepped for One Day in May Fundraiser

May

Conducted One Day in May Fundraiser

Published newsletter

Posted development specialist VISTA position

Published summer newsletter

Participate in UNA development training

Surveyed teachers, mentors, parents

Interviewed students and followed up with mentors

Held end-of-year event with mentors, families, and mentees

Selected VISTA for 2018/2019

June

Published annual report and update for stakeholders

Student Interview Highlights

95% of mentees believe that mentoring helps them. (The other three said they didn't know). All were asked to choose up to three ways that mentoring might help. The top three benefits chose by mentees were:

1. "Mentoring helps me feel happier." (93%)
2. "Mentoring helps me try new things." (66%)
3. "Mentoring helps me feel more confident." (51%)

78% of mentees report that their mentors help them understand other people's feelings.

99% said their mentor makes them feel safe.

86% said their mentor is one of the most important people in their life.

Do you think mentoring helps you? How?

"Yeah, it's fun and improves social skills and makes me happier." (6th grade student)

"Yeah, if you have problems, you can talk to your mentor about them. It's a good way for kids to get stuff off their minds." (5th grade student)

"Yes, it helps me focus and exercise and have fun." (3rd grade student)

"It helps me learn more. I've never been to these places we go to, like the bookstore." (3rd grade student)

"I feel like it does help because when I go in there, I get to talk about my day and focus on positive stuff." (8th grade student)

"It helps me express my feelings and it helps me get my angers out." (4th grade student)

What is one way your mentor helped you be a better person?

"She helps me stay on task. She's like a second mom to me." (9th grade student)

"She taught me how stuff might be funny to you, but not to others, to think about other people. Even though I kind of knew that, she helped me to understand it better." (4th grade student)

"He's taught me how to play soccer but not blow up if I mess up, how to control myself." (5th grade student)

"She helped me feel confident if my teacher asks me to do something that would have made me feel hesitant or reluctant before." (5th grade student)

"He gives me confidence." (4th grade student)

Do you think having a mentor has changed how you feel about yourself?

"I feel a lot more happy since I got my mentor." (4th grade student)

"Yeah, I feel like I belong instead of being left out." (8th grade student)

"Yeah, the reason I wanted a mentor is because I was lonely at home. That's better now." (4th grade student)

"Yeah, she talks to me. She can tell when I'm sad and asks, 'what's the matter?' And I can tell her." (3rd grade student)

"Yes, it makes me feel more kind because I am mostly angry." (3rd grade student)

Do you think having a mentor makes you feel any different about coming to school?

"Yeah, it makes me feel hopeful and better at my work." (3rd grade student)

"Yeah, sometimes at school people can be mean. Then you can see someone who is nice to you at school." (5th grade student)

"I always think to myself, I don't want to come to school - I want to fake being sick. But then I don't want to miss mentoring days." (4th grade student)

Do you think having a mentor has changed the way you get along with other people?

"Yes, it helps me have more friends." (4th grade student)

"It teaches me to not give up." (3rd grade student)

"I can get along with others better because I don't blow up on them when I mess up." (5th grade student)

"Yes, now I'm nice." (2nd grade student)

"She helps me by giving advice about people." (9th grade student)

Parent Survey Data

<i>Since being matched with a mentor, my son or daughter...</i>	<u>% of parents who agree</u>
gets along better with others.	100%
has better listening and communication skills.	100%
likes school more.	100%
makes better decisions.	100%
is happier.	100%
gets in less trouble.	88%
seems more motivated.	100%
cares more about schoolwork and grades.	100%

On a 10-point scale (1=POOR, 10=EXCELLENT), parents rated Grand Area Mentoring on average as follows –

Communication with parents: 8.4

Response to questions or concerns: 8.4

Additional parent/guardian comments:

We love it!

I love having M as my son's mentor. She's been really helpful and an inspiration to my son. I'm very happy she'll be his mentor again next year!

My son seems to like it a lot and gets along well with his mentor.

I have two kids in the program. We really appreciate it, and the kids really enjoy it. Thank you for everything!

Thank you so much for all of your time, support, and care. As a parent, I really appreciate you!

I think the program is great, and I think my son's mentor is the BEST!

Mentor Survey Data

My mentee...	<u>% of mentors who agree</u>
has improved social skills with peers & adults.	100%
is happier.	94%
is more cooperative.	100%
makes better decisions.	100%
listens and speaks more respectfully.	100%
shows improved self-control.	100%
seems more motivated.	93%
demonstrates better manners.	100%

(Rating scale: 1 = not at all, 2 = a little, 3 = mostly, 4 = very much)

When thinking about program support, I feel that Grand Area Mentoring staff...	<u>Average score</u>
Understood the situations I faced with my mentee.	3.9
Taught me how to handle difficult situations that arise in mentoring.	3.9
Physically went with me during challenging mentoring situation(s).	3.5
Provided information to help me think about my relationship.	3.6
Helped me feel better when I experienced difficulty with my mentee.	3.9
Suggested activities to do with my mentee.	3.6
Noticed when I was working hard at being a good mentor.	3.9
Helped me evaluate my feelings and attitudes about my mentee.	3.6
Taught me skills that I could use in mentoring.	3.5
Provided opportunities for me to reflect on my mentoring experience.	3.7

100% of surveyed mentors agreed with this statement: *I understand that I am required to attend at least one advanced training per year.*

Mentor comments:

Thank you so much for making this program so easy to be a part of. I love mentoring!

A huge thank you for the support and making me feel valuable. You do this for all of us.

Great program.

I loved getting to mentor. Seeing how excited T was/is to mentor makes my day every time. ☺ Dan and Megan, you are great! Thanks!

Thanks, Dan and Megan! Let's keep learning, growing, collaborating, empowering!!!

You guys rock! Thank you for everything you do!

I love it!!

It was great to see so many new mentors this spring

Thanks to all!

Teacher Survey Data

Since being matched with a mentor, the mentored students I know...

% of teachers who agree

demonstrate improved social skills.	95%
get in less trouble.	94%
care more about schoolwork.	94%
earn higher grades.	94%
look forward to seeing their mentors each week.	100%
like school more, especially on mentoring days.	100%
miss less school due to unexcused absences.	100%
have a better shot at graduation.	94%

The TOP THREE psycho-social areas where I've seen mentees benefit are:

- 1) Happiness
- 2) Confidence
- 3) Trust of adults

What is the value of the mentoring relationship?

Mentoring provides a safe and caring guide to enhance children's lives.

A good mentor/mentee relationship can be completely life changing. You are teaching these kids how people act in healthy relationships.

Mentoring provides one person that each mentee can count on.

A safe, consistent adult relationship.

The value of the mentor relationship really goes both ways. The kids get specialized attention, and the adults get to increase their circle of influence with their years of experience.

The caring adult who is willing to listen is priceless for kids.

Since many mentees come from troubled homes or single-parent homes, mentoring provides them a positive role model and a positive relationship with a caring adult.

The mentoring relationship intentionally helps students feel more empowered to say, "I can do this," and "I matter."

It gives kids a special reason to come to school and love school. It is a model of a healthy and caring relationship. It makes kids feel important.

It's a good opportunity to encourage mentees, build community, and just have fun with a kid.

I feel mentoring is very helpful to most students. The relationship and bond made between student and mentor is amazing!

Mentoring is about having a positive adult role model.

Mentors are another great person in these children's lives that need more attention and a positive outlook.

It's great for kids to have a good role model to look up to. It's also very important for kids to have an adult in their lives who supports them.

To have friendship that is dependable.

A caring adult in the student's life who is always there for them and non-judgmental.

	<u>% of teachers who agree</u>
Mentoring is an important program in Grand County School District.	100%
I understand how to refer a student for mentoring.	100%
The program director and mentor coordinator are knowledgeable and easy to reach.	100%
Grand Area Mentoring provides excellent support to its volunteer corps.	100%
Mentors are well trained and effective.	100%
Grand Area Mentoring keeps its participants safe.	100%
I understand that I'm invited to attend advanced mentor trainings throughout the year.	89%
I appreciate receiving the mentor newsletter via email and feel connected to the program.	100%

Would you like to add anything else?

You are doing a fabulous job, Dan and Megan – transforming lives a student at a time. Very grateful to be a part of mentoring. I wish I started years ago. 😊

A BIG "THANK YOU!"

I am amazed at the work, care, and time you put into the program, Dan and Megan!

I love being a mentor. I love that my students get to be mentees. Thank you so much for this awesome program!

I was inspired by the ways in which mentors can help students in crisis – like how H supported L. Without that mentoring relationship, this could have been a major tipping point. ("This is the worst day of my life – and I'm excited to see my mentor.")

Thank you for another wonderful year!

Thank you for all that you do.