

OVERVIEW:

WayConnect provides students with highly qualified and effective mentors who engage students in asset building activities to build skills for school success, attendance, and problem solving. Mentors serve as positive role models and motivate students to become their best. They offer students a pathway to expand their life perspectives, overcome obstacles and build on their strengths to make positive choices and develop essential school and life skills. Mentors are not case managers or therapists. They are caring adults committed and skilled at building relationships with young people.

MISSION:

Provide additional levels of support to help students reach their goals.

VISION:

Build positive relationships that encourage student success.



CONTACT INFO:

Freedom Elementary School
286 Eastlawn Avenue
St. Robert, MO 65584

East Elementary School
1501 State Road F
Waynesville, MO 65583

Partridge Elementary School
2225 Young Street, Bldg 9606
Ft. Leonard Wood, MO 65473

Thayer Elementary School
15392 Thayer Road, Bldg 4273
Ft. Leonard Wood, MO 65473

Wood Elementary School
4590 Buckeye Avenue, Bldg 8041
Ft. Leonard Wood, MO 65473

Waynesville Sixth Grade Center
810 Roosevelt Street
Waynesville, MO 65583

Waynesville Alternative Education Program
located at Waynesville Middle School
1001 Historic 66 West
Waynesville, MO 65583

Phone: (573) 842-2250
community@waynesville.k12.mo.us

"The most effective mentors offer support, challenge, patience, and enthusiasm while they guide others to new levels of achievement."

(Stages of a Mentoring Relationship, Baylor University's Community Mentoring for Adolescent Development)

MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

BE A

MENTOR



WayConnect

MENTOR GUIDELINES

Responsibilities and Commitments:

- Mentors must be Waynesville R-VI School District volunteers with the proper background clearance to work with students.
- Attend a mentor orientation and training session.
- Commit to meeting with a student weekly for 30 minutes for a semester
- Document student visits through the school's volunteer sign-in book.
- The mentor-student relationship is one-to-one. If a mentor is willing and available, he or she may mentor two students.
- Maintain confidentiality. Mentors are mandated reporters and must notify the site coordinator or other authorities if they learn of anything that may pose any danger or threat to the student or someone else. Student information is confidential and should not be shared with unauthorized school personnel.
- Notify the school office you are going to miss a meeting so they can inform the student and make other arrangements.
- Notify site coordinator and mentee as soon as possible if you are unable to continue mentoring. A closure meeting will be facilitated by the site coordinator.
- Have fun!

TIPS FOR SUPPORTING YOUTH

- Respect youth's privacy! His/her status is confidential and cannot be shared without permission.
- Create an environment that makes the youth feel included and safe. Having someone that they can check in with and connect to at school is important in helping them be successful in school.
- Structure activities to support youth's success. Provide predictability, consistency, clear expectations and opportunities for meaningful participation. Scaffold activities when appropriate.
- Build a relationship with the youth's school staff to help maintain open lines of communication with the student's caregiver.
- Remain positive and don't make assumptions about the student and their abilities. If you have questions, ask the school staff in a sensitive manner.
- Remember that the student is not defined by their challenges and circumstances.

"Every great achiever is inspired by a great mentor." —Lailah Gifty Akita



CULTURAL COMPETENCE

Cultural competence is the ability to recognize the value of a culture different from one's own, and understanding that cultures are neither inferior nor superior to one another. Cultural differences, and similarities, are appreciated.

Trust is developed through the understanding and acceptance of culture differences. Culture is the framework in which a person lives and through which a person views the world. This framework includes beliefs, values, traditions, experiences, education, gender, and social status – all of which work together to guide behavior and decision making.

Achieving Cultural Competence:

- Recognize personal, culturally learned assumptions or biases
- Increase knowledge about other cultures
- Increase interaction with different cultures