

MORE Program Objectives

- Facilitate and sustain the development of high-quality relationships
- Improve student academic achievement through personal outreach and reinforcement from a committed and caring adult
- Enable students to develop personal and social responsibility as well as strong character
- Reduce student unexcused absences, tardiness, poor conduct and/or violence-related incidents

Mentoring Changes Lives



Statistics show that a young person who meets with a mentor is:

- 46% less likely to begin using illegal drugs
- 27% less likely to begin drinking alcohol
- 52% less likely to skip school
- 33% less likely to engage in a fight

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Visit us on the Web!
<http://www.morementoring.com/>

MORE

Mentoring Program Fall 2009



"Helping youth succeed by encouraging them to make good decisions and set positive goals."



Project Period:
October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2010

Funding for the mentoring program is provided by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools

Camp MORE



The Sherman Lake YMCA Outdoor Center in Augusta, Michigan is the site for an educational day camp, as well as program orientation for participating 4th-8th grade students and their teachers on October 14, 2009.

The philosophy of the YMCA is right on target with the objectives of the mentoring program. Activities focus on character development and building healthy relationships. Academics are integrated with proven, research-based best practices from character education. The main emphasis in all camping activities is on teaching, role-modeling and reinforcing **Honesty**, **Caring**, **Respect** and **Responsibility**. Furthermore, the Sherman Lake YMCA is a state-of-the-art facility! Their amenities consist of a chapel, nature center, art studio, leadership lodge, two waterfronts, acres of playing fields and two villages. The YMCA Recreation Center includes a fitness center, indoor pool, climbing wall, indoor high ropes course and gymnasium.

The YMCA's Integrated Education curriculum provides a chance for teachers and students to learn and develop the skills needed to build healthy relationships. Most importantly, students and teachers develop these relationships in a safe, beautiful setting that is away from the classroom. It is a key opportunity for growth; both for children who thrive at school and for those who struggle.

Mentoring



This component of the mentoring program integrates mentoring with literacy and technology. MOREplus elevates email correspondence from a convenient mode of communication, to a valuable tool for sustaining mentor-mentee relationships and a meaningful vehicle for youth development. Mentors and mentees send email communication via Gagle.Net – a safe and secure site that is monitored by mentor managers. Structured activities are developed in collaboration with teachers to enhance literacy, technology and social skills, as well as promote academic success in reading and writing.

Data Notebooks

Students Meeting Academic Requirements Together

Data notebooks are a new addition to the mentoring program for participating 4th-8th grade students.



Data notebooks integrate data collection (graphs that reflect the students' classroom work, homework, attendance and behavior) with goal-setting. Graphs are an easy visual for students to see their weak areas, as well as their strengths and will help to create a "culture of personal accountability."

Mentees track their individual performance in data notebooks and are responsible for reporting their progress weekly to mentors (school site or email) and quarterly to parents (self-report at parent-teacher conferences).

Parent University

To help motivate and support parent involvement, the MORE mentoring program is launching a *Parent University* in October 2009. This initiative gives parents and caregivers an opportunity to strengthen their parenting knowledge and skills, as well as a way to instill pride and interest in schooling, increase student achievement and enhance a sense of community and commitment.



Participating school sites will host *University* workshops to help increase awareness and understanding of topics related to youth development and guidance, behavior, health and academics. Parents, caregivers and other volunteers also have the opportunity to earn credits for continuing education certificates by attending workshop sessions, parent-teacher conferences and volunteering at school or in the community. A graduation ceremony convenes in May 2010.

Local, as well as national consultants will facilitate professional development workshops and training for school personnel that focus on examining parent-school partnerships and providing tools to help increase parental involvement.

Extending the parent component of the MORE program to include a *Parent University* offers information and activities that will help to increase parents/caregivers' response and involvement in ensuring that children succeed in educational growth and social development.