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Mentor Monthly Newsletter, November 15, 2025

**Thirty-three mentor/mentee matches complete, twenty-three parent permission forms have us paused for other pairings. For those few who are still waiting for a MM match, your turn will come...we're working hard to make this happen soon!**

The great news is that we picked up a few more mentee candidates during Parent/Teacher Conferences. The bad news is that there are still 23 potential mentees who still have not returned their parent permission forms. Here's where we stand:

**High School(HS)** All five mentees who returned PPF's have been matched with a mentor. Two remaining mentors have been contacted and offered a move to MS where there is some mentee availability. NEW: we sent over some 'Need a Mentor? We Can Help!' QR coded posters that are now posted in all buildings on the HS campus. As finals approach in the new year, we're optimistic the posters might stir up some interest after Jan. 1.

**Middle School(MS)** Fifteen mentors/mentees who returned parent permission forms have been matched. Two recent additions (thank you, Parent/Teacher conferences, w/o 11/1!) are pending placement\*.

**McDowell Mountain Elementary School(MM)** has seen some headway with Eleven mentor/mentee pairs now actually scheduled and active. With help from Keri, we whittled down missing parent permission forms to 6 and we now have 20 mentees who just need day&time info. I know this sounds like a dopey request, but at MM, there are several steps in which we are not involved and we have a suspicion we are missing some matchups because we consciously work to stay out of teachers' hair. Please take a moment and drop us a 'heads up' (your name, mentee's name/grade/teacher & time) if you are actively mentoring so we can check our records for accuracy!

### Mentee Engagement Suggestions

This month, **R/ELA (Reading/English Language Arts)** is our featured academic discipline. Here are some AZ ED useful links with grade appropriate suggestions. There are an incredible number of reading resources available on the web, but these are some all-purpose, AZ state recommended options. Remember also to use your JOURNAL and try visit the campus's library at least once a month!

Kinder: Go to the school library with your mentee and look for interesting books; open to a page, select a word that appears more than once (e.g., 'the') and encourage the child to search for the word.

Kinder - [The Pre-K Years: Getting Ready to Read and Write | Reading Rockets](#)

1st-3rd - [Reading Rockets: Launching Young Readers](#)

4th-5th - [Helping All Readers | Reading Rockets](#)

6th-8th - [Books & Authors | Reading Rockets](#)

HS - [AdLit | All About Adolescent Literacy](#); To prepare for April State testing; start each session with 5 minute Stamina Writing; Discuss types of writing (narrative,descriptive, expository, persuasive) and set a writing challenge..

R/ELA is divided into two types of language: Expressive and Receptive. Our culture is toddling along okay with receptive language even as we get lost in more and more screen time. However, expressive language is getting left behind. Consider a few expressive language skills elicitors like: 'describe', 'evaluate', and 'think before you respond'.

Supplies available on each campus:

All campuses: front office admin has a small supply of time sheets(note time & duration of each visit!), extra calendars and guest badges. PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR Golden Eagle Education Foundation Mentor Program BADGE at all times WHEN YOU ARE ON CAMPUS..

HS - student provided Chromebook (to check grades)

MS - student provided Chromebook (to check grades), Social Quiz Cards (??)

MM - some extra supplies are in the mailroom (ask Keri); a variety of art supplies, paper, and math manipulatives are available in Room 306, Mentoring Room.

**Feedback and photos are always appreciated.**

'COFFEE & CATCH-UP' @ GEORGIE'S on 11/5 was fun and informative. Tammy Bell from FH Coalition was our guest speaker. **Our next 'social/info' event is a 'GREET & GRANOLA' in honor of National Mentor Month on January 21, 2026, 8am.** Hope to see you there!

**Thank You, Mentors, from Tammy Bell**

I'm sincerely thankful for the opportunity to join you all at the Coffee & Catch Up last week. You all play a vital role in shaping the lives of our youth. Your commitment, guidance, and example not only inspire growth and confidence but also serve as powerful protective factors that prevent youth substance use and promote overall well-being.

At the Fountain Hills Protect Our Youth Coalition, we value your partnership in prevention and want to continue supporting you with resources, education, and ideas that strengthen your impact. Your perspective is essential as we work together to build a safer, healthier community for our young people.

Please take a moment to complete [THIS BRIEF SURVEY](#) to share your feedback and needs. Your input helps us better serve you—and the youth who count on your mentorship.

***You Make Prevention Possible.***

Together, we're creating a community where every young person feels supported, connected, and safe. [Fountain Hills Protect Our Youth Coalition – Youth Substance Abuse Prevention](#)

**From Golden Eagle Education Foundation  
Mentor Program Co-coordinators**

As volunteers ourselves, we are immensely proud of the work that has been accomplished so far in classrooms. We understand what caused our frustrating delays and we've already set up plans that will avoid most of the snags in our resolute move forward. In any endeavor in which human beings are involved, there will be errors though...please meet the inevitable 'oopseys' with a hearty helping of grace and know you are making a positive change in a student's life!

*Kind regards, Kim, Donna, Michelle & Connie*

Notes from  
Golden Eagle Education Foundation Board

As we enter this season of thankfulness, we want to express our sincere appreciation for each of you. Your dedication to mentoring makes a tremendous impact on the students in our community, and we're grateful for the time and heart you bring to this program.

A quick follow-up from last month: we are thrilled to share that **10 Classroom Projects were awarded funding** through our fall cycle. These projects will directly enrich learning across our schools—thank you for supporting a foundation that helps make this possible.

This month, we'd also like to offer a brief reminder: 'Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act' (FERPA) directs that we, as members of an organization (Golden Eagle Education Foundation Mentor Program) protect students' rights to privacy. Briefly, we expect all mentors to hold all student information in confidence. FMI: [eCFR :: 34 CFR Part 99 -- Family Educational Rights and Privacy](#) is heavy but valuable reading. Contact any of the co-coordinators or a school administrator if you have any questions. More on this topic in January!

With the holidays approaching, we invite you to consider supporting all four of our signature programs. If you feel inspired to give, please visit [www.fhgeef.org](http://www.fhgeef.org) and click **Donate**. Every contribution truly makes a difference.

Wishing you a warm and wonderful start to the holiday season.

~Jenna





# MENTOR PROGRAM

## 2025-2026 Calendar of Events

Month	Important Dates & Special Events
AUGUST	- Informational emails sent to all previous and new mentors
SEPTEMBER	-Welcome Back Mentors GREET & GRANOLA, September 3rd, Learning Center 8-9:30am -Training/Refresh Session: Thursday, September 4, 9-11am, Chamber -Match Mentors with Mentees! Let's start after Labor Day!
OCTOBER	-Fall Break; no school October 6-13 Training/Refresh Session: Thursday, October 2, 9-11am, Chamber October 27-31: FALL CONFERENCES. Note that 10/29-10/31 will be HALF day release; no mentoring will be scheduled during these conference days. Remind your mentee that you'll be back in early November. Elementary school mentors! You should be hearing from your assigned mentee's
NOVEMBER	-Training/Refresh Session: Thursday, November 6, 9-11am, Chamber -'Coffee & Catch Up' Wed. Nov. 5 (tentative 1-3pm, place TBD) -Tuesday, 11/11 - Veterans' Day. No school - Thank a Veteran! - Friday, 11/14-16 - Orme Dam Festival at Fort McDowell - Wednesday, 11/26 - ½ day release; check your mentee's schedule - Thanksgiving Break, 11/27-30. Students returns 12/1
DECEMBER	Weekly mentoring only; no scheduled training or other events. See your Mentor Manual for gift giving 'best practices'. -Winter Break: December 22-January 5 - remember to let your mentee know that you're excited to see them again AFTER the break!
JANUARY	Tuesday, January 6, 2026 - students return -Training/Refresh Session: Thursday, January 15, 9-11am, Chamber MLK Day, Monday, January 19; No school. -Thank You Mentor Gathering, January 21, Learning Center 8-9:30a
FEBRUARY	-'Coffee & Catch Up' Wed. Feb. 11 (tentative 1-3pm, place TBD) - February 16, Presidents' Day, No School,
MARCH	-Spring Break: no school March 9-16 -remember to let your mentee know that you're excited to see them again AFTER the break!! -State Testing (dates tbd)
APRIL	-State Testing (dates tbd) -'Coffee & Catch Up' Wed. April 1st (tentative 1-3pm, place TBD) -April 3, District Recess. No School.
MAY	-End of Year Mentor/Mentee Celebrations (tbd at each building). Attendance is strongly encouraged! -Last day for Mentoring: Friday May 15 (tentative/to be discussed) -Mentor Evaluation Form Posted; please respond by May 31st -Complete Mentor Profile if continuing for the 2026-27 school year