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NEWSLETTER IS NOW ONLINE@<https://www.fhgeef.org/mentoring> GEEF Mentor News, July 15, 2026

Keep enjoying the summer while the co-coordinator mentor team begins laying the groundwork for the new mentoring year. Here are just a few reminders and updates to keep you in the loop before we dive back into mentoring for 2026-27.



1. MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR FIRST 'GREET & GRANOLA' EVENT!
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th, 8a-10a, at the FHUSD Learning Center. Bring your Mentor Program Guide (new mentors will receive their copy!) and be prepared to update your contents. You'll also receive a new journal for your mentee! Light refreshments will be served.

2. NEW: Look for notifications for (mandatory) 'EMERGENCY TRAINING' hosted by the district.

3. We expect to be able to match up MOST mentor/mentee pairs who are ready to go on 9/9/2026. No worries for our seasonal members - let us know when you are ready and we'll work on getting you set up through the next several months.

4. Please connect with us if we can help. Kim's and Donna's contact info is at the top of each newsletter.

5. If you're unsure about what lessons to focus on, go to <https://www.fhgeef.org/mentoring> and find the NEW 'LINKS & LAWS' tab.

6. *[During some time blocks], mentor room was very busy with 20 students/teachers'*

We now have the okay to use all 3 team rooms at MMES and MS opened a 2nd room last year. We're adding 'room assignment' to our data and we'll monitor and relocate as needed when congestion issues arise.

7. *How can mentors access grades? (Chromebooks)'*
- Working on it. This might remain an individual issue - ask your contact teacher if your mentee can borrow a Chromebook for your session to check grades.

8. "Coffee & Catch-ups" will be scheduled at different days/times throughout the year. Please join us for at least one of these community building events.

9. LOOK FOR YOUR GOLDEN EAGLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION MENTOR PROGRAM MONTHLY NEWSLETTER ON THE 15TH OF EVERY MONTH! Each newsletter is also posted on our website!

10. If you've not already done so, go to <https://www.fhgeef.org/mentoring> and fill out your 2026-27 Mentor Profile. Also, check your security clearance and see Kristi Fuda at FHUSD main office if you're due for an update.



As we say thank you and farewell to Jenna VanBeek, our outgoing Board President, please join us in welcoming our new GEEF Board President, Brooke Dyrhaug. More from Brooke next month!



Thank you for all you do!

	MENTOR PROGRAM 2026-2027 Important Dates & Special Events <u><i>This calendar is updated in every subsequent monthly newsletter starting in August - stay connected through the Golden Eagle Website:</i></u> https://www.fhgeef.org/mentoring and monthly electronic newsletter mailings. LOOK FOR THE GMAILED NEWSLETTER ON THE 15TH OF EVERY MONTH!
JULY/AUGUST - students return; co-Coordiators begin mentoring prep	Falcon Fest is July 28. Students return on July 30. Teachers begin working with their new classes as we prepare mentee schedules. - 1st 2026-27 email will be sent to all veteran & new mentors on August 15th. Mentors begin working with mentees AFTER Labor Day.
SEPTEMBER -FERPA LAWS; Our official start is Wednesday, September 9.	-Welcome Back Mentors: 'READY, SET, MENTOR' EVENT, September 9th, Learning Center 8-10:00am. Veteran Mentors, BRING YOUR MENTOR MANUALS for updating. New Mentors - if you want to start right away, attend this mini-training session - you'll receive a Mentor Manual and brief training.
OCTOBER Featured AZ Standards: MATH	-Fall Break; no school October 5-12 First Full length Training/Refresh Session DATE TBD, 9-11am, Chamber of Commerce October 28-30: Pk-8 CONFERENCES (HS final exams). Note that 10/28-10/30, ½ day release; no mentoring will be scheduled during these conference/HS exam days.
NOVEMBER Featured AZ Standards: READING/ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	-Training/Refresh Session: DATE TBD, 9-11am, Chamber of Commerce 'Coffee & Catch Up' OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS - WE'LL TAKE A VOTE ON 9/9. - Wednesday 11/11 - Veterans' Day. No school - Thank a Veteran! - Friday, 11/20-22 - Orme Dam Festival at Fort McDowell - Wednesday, 11/25 - ½ day release; check your mentee's schedule - Thanksgiving Break, 11/26-11/29. Students return 11/30
DECEMBER Featured AZ Standards SCIENCE	Weekly mentoring only; no scheduled training or other events. See your Mentor Manual for gift giving 'best practices', pg.21, item #6 Friday, December 18th, Half-day release; Winter break begins, No Mentoring on this short schedule day. -Winter Break: December 19-January 4 - remember to let your mentee know that you're excited to see them again after the break!
JANUARY Featured AZ Standards: SOCIAL STUDIES & HISTORY	Tuesday, January 5, 2026 - students return -Training/Refresh Session: DATE TBD Chamber of Commerce Building MLK Day, Monday, January 18; No school. Thank You Mentor Gathering, DATE TBD FHUSD Learning Center 8-9:30a
FEBRUARY Featured topic: Play Games	- 'Coffee & Catch Up' DATE & TIME TBD at Fountain View Coffee) - February 15, Presidents Day- NO SCHOOL!
MARCH Featured Topics: Mentoring Test Taking Strategies	-Spring Break: March 5th - ½ day early release; Spring Break Continues, no school March Mon.8-Mon.March 15 TESTING & FIELD TRIPS AND SPECIAL EVENTS - ACCESSIBLE DATES TBD
APRIL Shared data from EOY Survey & Preview of planned changes to the 2027-28 mentor program	TESTING IS COMPLETED AND YEAR END EVENTS BEGIN - BE SURE TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR MENTEE'S SCHEDULE! MIDDLE SCHOOL PIZZA PARTY - TBD MCDOWELL MOUNTAIN ICE CREAM SOCIAL - TBD
MAY Featured Topic: scheduling info for next year and FAREWELL for the summer.	-Last day for Mentoring: Friday May 14 Kinder to 1st Gr.Promotion: T, 5/18, 9:30a-10:30 (at MMES) 5th to 6thMS Promotion: W, 5/19, 5:30p-6:30p (at MMES) 8th to 9th Th, 5/20, 6:00P-7:00P (AT HS Gym) HS Promotion: F, 5/21, 6:00p-7:00p(at the Fountain Park Amphitheater) -Returning Mentor Profile for 2027-2028 is due. please respond by 5/31.



FOUNTAIN HILLS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

FHUSD 2026-2027 Approved Calendar

Fall Term-60 days (ends 10/30), Winter Term-59 days (ends 2/12), Spring Term-61 days (ends 5/20)

JULY						
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JUNE						
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Students Return	July 30, 2026
Wednesday Early Release	August 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2026
Labor Day/No School	September 7, 2026
Wednesday Early Release	September 2, 16 & 23, 2026
Half Day Release (PK-12)	October 2, 2026
Fall Break/No School	October 5-12, 2026
Wednesday Early Release	October 21, 2026
PK-8 Parent Teacher Conferences	October 26-October 30, 2026
HS Fall Term Final Exams (Half Day Release PK-12)	October 28-30, 2026
End of Fall Term (Half Day Release PK-12)	October 30, 2026
Veteran's Day/No School	November 11, 2026
Wednesday Early Release	November 4 & 18, 2026
Thanksgiving Break/No School	November 25-27, 2026
Wednesday Early Release	December 2 & 9, 2026
Half Day Release (PK-12)	December 18, 2026
Winter Break/No School	Dec 21, 2026-Jan 4, 2027
Wednesday Early Release	January 13 & 27, 2027
MLK Day/No School	January 18, 2027
Wednesday Early Release	February 3 & 24, 2027
PK-8 Parent Teacher Conferences	February 8-12, 2027
HS Winter Term Final Exams (Half Day Release PK-12)	February 10, 11 & 12, 2027
End of Winter Term (Half Day Release PK-12)	February 12, 2027
Presidents' Day Holiday/No School	February 15, 2027
Half Day Release PK-12	March 5, 2027
Spring Break/No School	March 8-15, 2027
District Recess/No School	March 26, 2027
Wednesday Early Release	March 31, 2027
Wednesday Early Release	April 7, 14 & 28, 2027
Half Day Release (PK-12)	April 23, 2027
Wednesday Early Release	May 5 & 12, 2027
HS Spring Term Final Exams	May 18, 19 & 20, 2027
Half Day Release (PK-12)	May 18, 19 & 20, 2027
End of Spring Term - Last Student Day/Half Day (PK-12)	May 20, 2027
Graduation	May 21, 2027
Last Day for Teachers	May 21, 2027

- First Day of School
- Holiday/No School
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- Teacher Work Day - No School

- Last Day of Trimester
- Early Release Wednesday
- Half Day Release PK-12