

ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 MENTORS

September 12, 2005

Lunch will be **SACK LUNCH** so you can pick up your lunch, life lesson sheets (if you didn't print them OR forgot them) and GO if you want! **ALWAYS** inform Mary or Shelley if you are going off-campus. **YOUR STUDENTS ARE NOW ABLE TO TRAVEL OFF CAMPUS BY A LICENSED DRIVER. REMEMBER, YOU ARE NOT TO DRIVE STUDENTS.** Don't forget to contact Barb DePew (456-2214 or depewb@usd320.k12.ks.us) IF your group is NOT going to eat the school lunch. Barb will take orders for chef salad up to 9:00AM Wednesday.

Topic of the Day: *Welcome Back and Linking NOW and LATER*

All Quadrants will meet in the **LOWER GYM** in your designated quadrant "spots".

Group A gets their food *first* and stays in the **LOWER GYM** to continue group interaction.

Group B gets their food *second* and stays in the **LOWER GYM** to continue group interaction.

Group C gets their food *third* and stays in the **LOWER GYM** to continue group interaction.

Preparation Aides: The following suggestions concerning the sequencing of activities are at YOUR discretion. Please follow lunch schedule listed above. ☺

Activities:

1. If you have a new student or "new-to-your-group" student, take time to get acquainted and tell something about yourself and have mentees share about them. This could also be a review and assessment of your group's Code of Conduct. Things can change and the beginning of the year could be the time to do it! During Lunch, introduce your students to the shift in mentoring that will occur. This year they will begin to focus on career exploration and learn about life/work roles and how NOW links with LATER!
2. The **Life Lesson Cards** are attached to this email. Print them, cut them into 10 cards, and put them in a *Shoe? Box? Basket?* Bring a **BALL** or other tossable item, and have your mentees draw a card after a toss and introduce their "catch" to your group. This will be a start to providing opportunities to understand **how their high school years provide relevance to life after high school.**
3. **Review Attendance Policies.** Now is the time to reestablish your group's rules, expectations, and parameters for this school year. Students in your group should be there. Unexcused absences will result in in-school suspension. Shelley will continue to take attendance.
4. **Review Driving Policies.** Your students are now able to travel off campus by a licensed driver. Remember, **YOU ARE NOT TO DRIVE STUDENTS.**
5. Discuss summer activities. What do they want to talk about? **YOU COULD USE THE "BALL/ITEM TOSS" TO INITIATE THESE CONVERSATIONS.** Include discussion about changes in schedules from spring to summer to back-to-school. You may talk about flexibility versus rigid or inflexible schedules and how each person responds to that shift scheduling. Are they more or less productive at work? Home? School? You may want to talk about summer jobs, camps, vacations, family reunions. How did they feel about coming back to school? In what extra-curricular activities are they participants? What is cool about the changes at the school? What problems are they encountering? Again this year, students will be REQUIRED to take finals in ALL CORE CLASSES. This could still be a "HOT" topic and could provide some lively discussion. You could provide insight that life does NOT frequently or readily provide OPT-OUT conditions. (This could get into "soft skills" issues or what we could define as personal moral issues: Being there on time. Doing your best. Internal vs. External rewards.) Do you/should you get rewarded just for doing what is expected? *Just what are the expectations in today's world?*
6. **What are some of the changes that you see in your mentees?** As juniors, what are they noticing about the younger students? What changes do they realize about themselves as upperclassmen?
7. **Changes in the High School and have them give YOU a tour!** Now that high school construction is essentially complete, you might talk about what it is like to be ½ way through their high school career, what thoughts do they have about the new Freshman Class, what is the biggest improvement with the construction, what clubs are they joining, are they trying out for the play, what are they glad is still a part of Wamego High School?