

FUTURE LEADERS OF THE WORLD MENTORING NEWSLETTER ST. MARY'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Future Leaders of the World

September 2017

WELCOME BACK AND HAVE A FLOW-riffic YEAR!

This year marks the 10th year of FLOW making a difference in the lives of hundreds of students and mentors in SMCPSS!!!

The mission of the Future Leaders of the World (FLOW) Mentoring Program is to foster positive mentoring relationships between students in St. Mary's County Public Schools and members of the community and to provide supported, safe, and inspiring environments in which these matches can cultivate the potential of each youth. (Source: St. Mary's County Schools retrieved from <http://www.smcps.org/strategic-planning/flow-mentoring>)

My name is Christina Coffey, I am the new Program Assistant for the FLOW Mentoring Program. I am excited to be a part of an amazing program and to meet each and every one of our students, site leaders, and mentors. I benefitted as a child from mentoring, and I have been a mentor. It is now my mission to reach as many students as possible with mentoring through FLOW. Our new location is in the Office of Strategic Planning & Communications, 23160 Moakley Street, Suite 108, Leonardtown, Maryland 20650

Site Leader Meeting

The Site Leader meeting will be on September 21, 2017, at the James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center in the Dorhman Room from 4:15- 5:30. Cracker Barrel has donated the meal that will be served. Don't forget to RSVP to Christina Coffey via phone or email. We will be going over new forms and handing out materials. Raffle prizes will be given. You don't want to miss this!

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- The most rewarding reasons to be a mentor.
- Site Leader Meeting
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- FLOW Spotlight shines on . . .
- Flow Mentoring Resource Library

FLOW Contact

Information

Christina Coffey, FLOW Program Assistant.

(301)475-5511 ext. 32258

Tammy Burr, Coordinator of Special Programs

(301) 475-5511 ext. 32257

New Mentor Training

If you are a new mentor, have finished your application and submitted to flow@smcps.org, and have completed the online volunteer training, the next step is mentor training. New Mentor Training will be held on: September 26th and October 12th at the Office of Strategic Planning in the orange conference room from 4:30 -5:30. Please plan to attend one session. If you cannot attend either session, please contact Christina Coffey.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why mentoring?

Because it works! Educational research has shown that mentoring is extremely effective in increasing academic performance and positive social interactions, and you asked for it! A very common request is for a quality mentoring program and we've worked hard to develop one that will meet the needs of our students.

How does FLOW mentoring operate?

FLOW Mentoring carefully matches each student with a mentor who meets at his or her school for an hour and a half every week throughout the school year. With the support of a school Site Leader, mentors and students follow an individualized curriculum to help build social, emotional, and academic skills.

Currently FLOW is running programs in most elementary schools in the system.

How are students selected?

At each school, the Site Leader consults with teachers, counselors, administrators, nurse, and other staff to develop a list of students who are most likely to benefit from the program.

How will students be notified that they have been selected to participate in FLOW?

Each student will receive a letter of congratulations as well as a permission form to be completed by his/her parent(s)/guardian(s).

Who are the mentors? How will they be selected?

Mentors will be business professionals, retired professionals, staff members, military personnel, secondary students, college students, and other caring and responsible community members. They will be recruited by the school Site Leaders and the Program Assistant.

When and where will the mentoring take place?

Mentoring will take place after school once a week for an hour and a half at the student's home school. This will ensure that student will not miss any part of his/her academic day.

How will students get home?

Students will be provided with free bus transportation home after their weekly mentoring session.

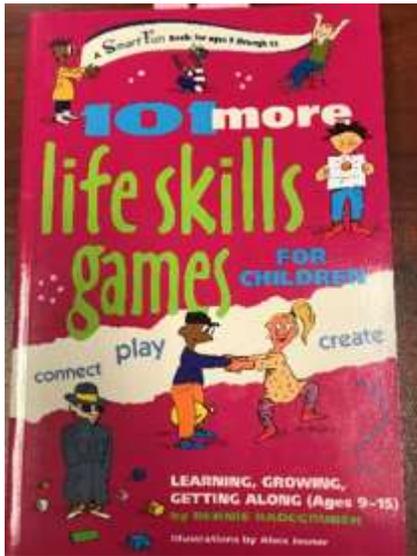
How can I become a part of FLOW Mentoring?

Contact Christina Coffey at (301)475-5511

cmcoffey@smcps.org

Flow Resource Library

Did you know that FLOW has a resource library? We have many books, puzzles, and games that you can check out and return in person or via metro. Each month the newsletter will feature a book that may be of use to you or your program.



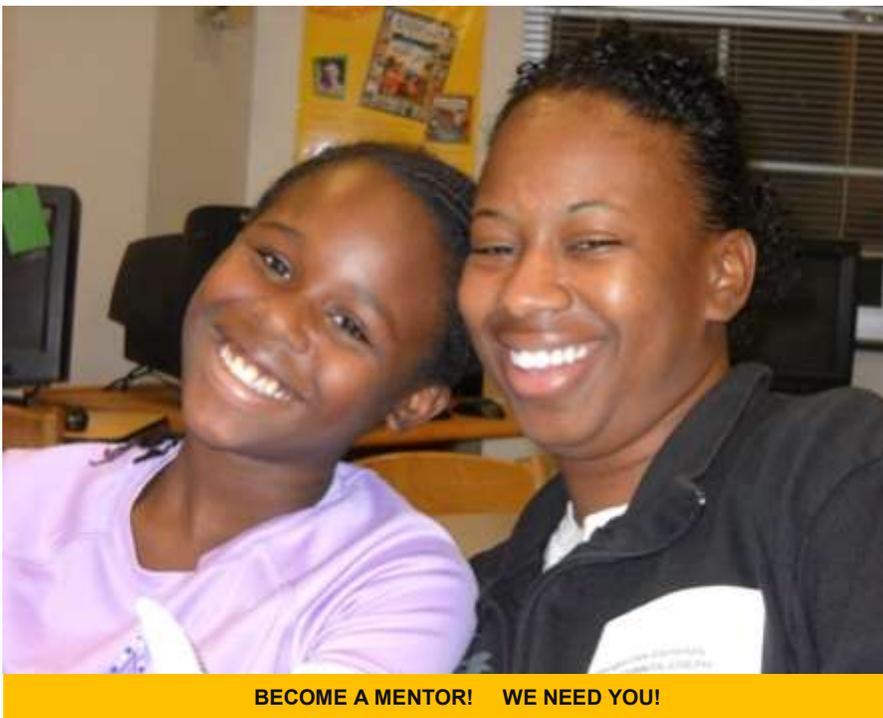
101 More Life Skills Games for Children by Bernie Badegruber is a great resource for helping youth develop basic social and emotional life skills. This book has games and activities that teach life skills while having fun.

Each game in the book has props, goals, directions, examples, notes, reflections, and follow-up games. This book is ideal for planning an ice breaker or even a mentoring session.

If you are interested in this book, you can check it out in the FLOW resource library.

Games Available For Checkout

Apples to Apples	Head of Numbers	Sorry
Apples to Apples Kids	Jenga	Story Cubes
Are You Smarter Than A 5th-Grader	Last Word	Sum Swamp
Backgammon	Life	Suspend
Bananagrams	Mancaca	Taboo
Boggle	Pit	Trivial Pursuit
Buzzword	Playing cards	Tri-words
Candy Land	Puzzles	Trouble
Checkers	Quiddler	Visual Eyes
Chess	Rack-o	Whoonu
Connect 4	Rush hour	Would you rather
Dominoes	Scattergories	Yahtzee
Farkle	Scrabble	You Got to be Kidding
Head banz	Slam	yo-yos



FAST FACTS



76%

- “More than three quarters (76 percent) of at-risk young adults who had a mentor aspire to enroll in and graduate from college versus half (56 percent) of at-risk young adults who had no mentor.



51%

- “At-risk young adults with a mentor are more likely to hold a leadership position in a club, sports team, school council, or another group (51 percent versus 22)”.

What is Your Favorite Thing About FLOW?

“Working with the students.” ~ Kimberly Plagge

“The opportunity to build relationships with students.”
~Phoebe Krammerer

“Helping to build positive relationships between mentors and mentees.”

“My favorite thing about FLOW is providing mentors to students in need. Having a consistent, supportive adult in their lives who cares about them is so special.” ~ Christine Allen

“Really getting to know the students and just having fun!”
~ Kim Knight

“I love seeing the relationships that form amongst our mentees and mentors. FLOW is a special time for these students and a chance for them to be the center of attention!”~Lynda Hamm

“I enjoy seeing the mentors bond with the mentees. I love seeing the mentees light up when they see their mentor.”

For More Information consult our data source—*The Mentoring Effect: Young People's Perspectives on the Outcomes and Availability of Mentoring*

http://www.mentoring.org/images/uploads/Report_TheMentoringEffect.pdf

MENTORS TELL THE REASONS THEY FIND MENTORING REWARDING

- “Seeing the student mature and grow-up over the years.” ~ Phoebe Kammerer
- “It’s the most positive hour of my week!” ~ Kimberly Plagge
- “Helping students to identify, monitor, and meet goals!”
- “ I think the most rewarding thing about mentoring is bonding with your mentee and developing a relationship with them; teaching them that they matter, and developing many skills along the way.” ~Christine Allen
- “Seeing a student achieve more than they may have ever dreamed possible.” ~ Kim Knight
- “The relationships and impact that these relationships have on the lives of those involved.” ~ Lynda Hamm
- “Love the relationships we are able to form with our most at-risk students and seeing them grow through the years.” ~ Lindsay Peterson
- “The positive impact we are able to have!”



Special Guest Wish List:

A Baseball Player (pro or amateur)

Law Enforcement Official

Scientist

Member of the Coast Guard

If you or anyone you know would like to be a special guest at one of our mentoring sessions, please contact 301-475-5511 ext. 32258



**Lynda Hamm, Benjamin
Banneker Elementary**



Something interesting that someone else might not know about you.

Our superintendent was my 9th grade English teacher.

How long have you been a site leader?

This is my 10th year.

What is the most rewarding thing about FLOW?

Seeing the relationships that form between the mentees and mentors. I love when I run into some of my former mentees at local events. They are so shocked that I remember them, and I'm shocked that they remember me! Lots of warm and fuzzy feelings to see our mentees beam just at the sight of their mentor and to know that they are proud to be a part of a selective group of students ... in this program. "

What are your hobbies?

Spending time with my 1 year old, Reece; reading, cooking, baking, crafting, spending time with family.

Where would you love to visit?

Bora Bora

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about FLOW Mentoring.

St. Mary's County Public Schools

23160 Moakley Street
Leonardtown, Maryland
20650

(301)475-5511 ext. 32258

Flow@smcps.org

Visit us on the web at
[http://www.smcps.org/
strategic-planning/
elementary-flow-
mentoring](http://www.smcps.org/strategic-planning/elementary-flow-mentoring)