



MENTORING MATTERS

Jasper County Mentor Program Newsletter

October 15, 2014

Teen Mentors in Action

Forty juniors and seniors at Piedmont Academy and Jasper County High School trained to serve as mentors in September. Due to their overwhelming response to the call for mentors, the mentor program is now able to serve 100 children in the Jasper County Schools. In fact, for the first time, the mentor program actually has more mentors than primary and elementary school-aged children referred to the program. Three boys in grades 7-12, however, remain on the wait list for adult mentors.

Field Trip to Maker Faire, GT & Aquarium

Early on Saturday morning, parents dropped off over 60 children at the high school, where they loaded two buses headed for Atlanta. Thanks to a donation from IBM, the mentor program was able to provide all field trip participants with a t-shirt. The t-shirt design was created by Sneha Pai Singh of Atlanta.

The first stop of the day was the Maker Faire, a festival with over 200 booths devoted to "makers," various artisans, hobbyists and do-it-yourself enthusiasts.

Students made their own paper, constructed rulers, problem-solved, created mini-vehicles and learned about a great variety of technology.

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Newly trained teen mentors from Piedmont Academy and Jasper County High School

Teen Mentor Taylor Edwards exploring the booths at the Maker Faire



Teen Mentor Emmi Wade testing out homemade bikes at the Maker Faire



We're So Proud of Our Mentored Children



Three high school mentees are involved on campus. **Jehan El-Jourbagy's** mentee, **Gage Osborn** (pictured left cheering on the 'Canes at a home game), is a member of the spirit cheerleading squad, where he cheers on the Monticello 'Canes at football games.

Speaking of football, **James Chandler's** mentee **Jamaric Bonner** is on the football team, and **Walker Jordan's** mentee **Travaus Sims** plays tuba in the marching band. They are both pictured on page 5.

Mary Lou Jordan's mentee, **Johari Stone**, is a member of the Jasper County Middle School football team. He also attended the recent field trip. **Jackson White** (pictured left on his unicycle), **Sherry Barnett's** mentee, was featured on the school system website and the newspaper for being a part of the "Unicanes," a unicycle group at the middle school. Both he and his mentor attended the field trip.



Zion Blake (pictured left), the new mentee of board member **Elvis Singleton**, was "Caught Being Good" at Jasper County Primary School. In particular, his teacher noted that he was being extra helpful. **Diamond Heard**, the mentee of **Warrdean Davis**, was pictured in *The Monticello News* working on a collage in art class. **Aden Grant** and **Luke Wilson**, the mentees of **Jacob Hutchison** and **Dawn Johnston** respectively, were both pictured in *The Monticello News* for doing well in a summer reading program.

Mentor **Liz Caldwell** reported that her mentee, **Harold Harley**, now a third grader at Washington Park, has really improved.

"He is excited about reading. He has been a joy and inspiration," said Ms. Caldwell. She continued, "He came to meet me and his smile made my day. We are working hard with improving his AR level."

Mary Camp's new mentee, **Alex Torres**, was pictured in *The Monticello News* for celebrating Constitution Week at the primary school.

Tammy Boggs is very proud of her long-time mentee, **India Thomas**, a seventh grader at Jasper County Middle School.

"She has come a long way with her grades since I first met her," Ms. Boggs reported.

She continued, "India played softball this summer and did an awesome job. She got to play on the All Star team that played in Madison. She plans on playing basketball on the middle school team."

Ms. Boggs said, "India has become very much a part of our family, and I am very proud of the young lady she has become."



Marching 'Cane Travaus Sims (tuba player second from right) during competition



The entire group just outside the Georgia Aquarium before heading home.

STEM Field Trip in Atlanta

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After spending time at the festival, everyone met up and walked to Saponi di Napoli, a pizzeria owned by two brothers from Southern Italy. With a traditional pizza oven in the background, students enjoyed three appetizers and two types of pizza topped with buffalo mozzarella.

Thanks to customers of Tri-County EMC who round-up their electricity bills, the mentor program also visited the Georgia Aquarium and toured the exhibits and watched the Dolphin Tales show. More pictures from the day are on page 6.



Sitting down for pizza in downtown Decatur (El-Jourbagy standing with baby Steen)

14/15 Donors

Individuals

Jim & Patricia Burch

Mary & Warren Camp

Jeff & Mary Greeson

Meredith Jordan

Sonya & Wiley Jordan

Debby & Robby Kelly

Patti & Ray Lanier

Judy & Harold Moody

Bob & Sheryl Schwartz

Sneha Pai Singh

Johnny Smith

Ellen & CD Watson

Russell Watts

Organizations

Bank of Monticello

Earth Fare of Athens

Georgia Power

IBM

Ingles

Jasper County Schools

Monticello Baptist Church
in honor of Nancy Lynch

Monticello Presbyterian

Shady Dale Rodeo

Tri-County EMC

Wildwood Forest Studios

The Mentor Program's MENTOR HALL OF FAME

Please thank them when you see them.

Adult Mentors

Patty Batchelor
Sherry Barnett
Lauree Belcher
James Belcher
Tammy Boggs
Jim Burch
Liz Caldwell
Mary Camp
Skye Camp
James Chandler
Lisa Cronan
Jim Daniel
Warrdean Davis
Diane Davis
Skip Davis
Jehan El-Jourbagy
Jan Evans
Adrienne Forchilli
Sheri Guli
Kasey Hall
Susan Haynes
Stacy James
Gary Jenkins
Ruby Jenkins
Dawn Johnston
Walker Jordan
Mary Lou Jordan
Joanne Jordan
Deborah Kelly
Marian Lawson
Adult Mentors
Continued
Larry Lynch
Nancy Lynch
Betty Maddox
Sarah McMichael
Kathy Mercer
Nancy Mitchell

Linwood Moist
Judy Moody
Vickie Noth
Richard Noth
Jackie Pate
Donnie Pope
Hannah Pope
Tomiko Rooks
Sheryl Schwartz
Sandra Shockley
Elvis Singleton
Patricia Slavens
Johnny Smith
Susan Smith
Angie Steele
Elizabeth Strawn
Rindy Trouteaud
Laura Waggoner
Ellen Watson
Renaee Watts
Russell Watts
Rufus Whitlock
Lynda Wise
Brittany Wood

Teen Mentors

Chris Cain
Chad Cain
Summer Collins
Chris Coogler
Jeremiah Dave
Kolby DeGarmo
Amelia Dodson
Regan Duke
Taylor Edwards
Cheyenne Galloway
Cori Griggs
Cameron Hallman
Braxton Hardy
Sarah Holland
Becca Hopper
Jacob Hutchison
Owen Kimball
Morgan Leach
Steve Martin
Andrew Mitchell
Marissa Mooneyham
Jade Padgett
Seth Pettis
Anna Phillips
Bridgette Phillips
Emily Richardson
Garrett Scroggs
Matti Ruth Smith
Taylor Swart
Morgan Tillman
Haley Tyler
Caleb Usry
Faith Vaughn
Emmi Wade
Hunter Whiting
Dana Wright
Chase Young



Mentor Morad El-Jourbagy with Nikiel Mohorne, Jakobe Goins and Kevonta Standifer at the Maker Faire



Mentor Richard Mix with Noah Madsen

How Can I Help?

The mentor program start its annual campaign on Tuesday, November 3. For those of you who would like to maximize your contribution, wait until Thursday, November 13, which is Georgia Gives Day.

On November 13, when you give online through the Georgia Gives Day site, your contribution will be eligible for local matching funds and will be entered into drawings for additional prizes (such as \$500)!

In Kind

Our most important donation need is the donation of time — thankfully, we have plenty of wonderful volunteer mentors.

In addition, we are in need of the following:

- Stamps
- Office supplies (Amazon or Staples gift cards would be greatly appreciated)
- Security envelopes



Fundraising Goal: \$12,500

Generous donors already at work

The mentor program needs funds to recruit and retain mentors, provide a memorable educational holiday program and dinner and take inspiring field trips.

Starting in November, the mentor program hopes to raise \$12,500 by December 31 at 11:59 pm. In an effort to reach this goal, the mentor program will participate in Georgia Gives Day on Thursday, November 13.

Examples of donor incentives include a \$500 prize to the organization that receives the donation with the billing zip code the furthest away from Macon and \$1,000 to the first organization to reach \$500 in donations from three separate donors.

We are so grateful to everyone who has contributed thus far.



IBM Awarded the Mentor Program \$2,000 in September. Jamaric Bonner is pictured with IBM employee and mentor Russ Watts, Jehan El-Jourbagy, mentor Walker Jordan and his mentee, Travaus Sims.



Manager Shane McCarthy presenting Ingles gift card, which purchased healthy snacks



Waters and bananas donated by Earth Fare



Tri-County EMC Operation Round Up donated \$1,000 for the STEM field trip. Mentor Kasey Hall is pictured with Mason Copeland, DeArione Alexander, Jehan El-Jourbagy, Jasmine Stone, mentor Warrdean Davis, Jocelyn Daniels and Kim Bonner with Tric-County EMC.

More Scenes from the STEM Field Trip



Thanks to Georgia Tech alumna Betty Jean Jordan, a GT Student Ambassador led a campus tour; a great view from a GT roof top garden, mentor Sheri Guli with Johari Stone, Jasmine Stone and Stephon Williams and an aquarium window to a mentored child.



Bianca Stills, Jazmin Norwood and El Ammons checking out a wooden submarine, Joseph Nolen and Cadacia Hardwick making rulers and Callie Fowler and Jamya Thomas exploring a booth at the Maker Faire



Machi Victrum with JCHS gifted student Tristan Armstrong, Jasmine Stone testing out a recliner at the Maker Faire, Debby Kelly's mentee Kendall Candler making paper and JCHS gifted teacher Tyson Harty and children at the Maker Faire



Pam Edge, the new Principal at Jasper County Primary School, observing a classroom.

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Principal at the high school, where she has served for the last year and a half. Read on to see Ms. Edge's thoughtful answers to questions we had:

What do you like about your new job?

Every day is a great day at Jasper County Primary School. It is great coming to school every day where kids think you are a rock star! In all seriousness, kids here have a passion for learning. They want to explore. They want to know more. They want to impress their teachers, parents and administration, but they also want to make themselves better!

We are striving to increase rigor here at JCPS. That means getting students to explain, justify, and tell us how they solved a problem. We are also trying to be sure we are building the foundation and teaching the basics of reading and mathematics. We must get this right at JCPS! We must be sure that students know how to read and read well before moving on to Washington Park.

What do you like about the mentor program?

I have seen such positive interactions between mentors and students. They light up when they see that consistent person walk through the door weekly. I see mentors reading with students on a daily basis. But most importantly, I see the student being mentored smiling because they feel special.

What is it like seeing high school mentors in the schools?

Seeing the high school students becoming mentors is awesome! Having worked as a high school assistant principal, I know that teenagers love working with youth, and younger students strive to be like them. However, sometimes children see older students make bad choices. What a great idea, having positive older students come and spend time with our younger students!

I am so pleased we have added them to the mentoring program! This is the first time in years we have ever had to wait on students to be referred. We have too many mentors???? What????? Love it!

2 SUPER EASY ways to help the mentor program:

amazon.com

If you shop online using Amazon, link your account with the Jasper County Mentor Program by going to smile.amazon.com.

Every time you make an Amazon purchase, a percentage will be donated to the mentor program. How awesome is that? You shop AND give to a great cause at the same time.

goodsearch
simply do good

Use GoodSearch.com for your Internet searches. Every time you do a Yahoo! Powered search using this service, one cent is donated to the program.

In addition, by using GoodSearch and GoodShop, a percentage of your purchases at hundreds of online merchants will go towards the mentor program.

Meet the New Primary School Principal



No stranger to Jasper County, Pam Edge, the new principal at Jasper County Primary School, is actually a lifelong resident, having moved to the county with her family when she was just three years old.

After graduating from Jasper County High School, where she met her husband in her junior year, she pursued a degree in early childhood education from Georgia College. After she graduated, she married her high school sweetheart, and they have two children, Chasen (15) and Baylor (12).

She later earned a masters in foundations of education from Troy and an educational specialist degree in educational leadership from Georgia College.

She was a classroom teacher at Washington Park Elementary for sixteen years and then served as the instructional coach at the high school. She was then hired as an Assistant

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Jasper County Mentor Program

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about mentoring or how to support our program.

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Visit us on the web at
www.jcmentorprogram.com

JCMP is a 501(c)(3).
Donations are tax exempt.

We believe every child deserves at least one person unconditionally committed to his or her success

Jasper County Mentor Program

Jasper County Mentor Program, Inc.
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