

TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN/MENTOR TOPICS

Greetings

Welcome to the first publication in a series of correspondence designed to address topics that relate specifically to you, our valued mentors. For those mentors who were not available to pick up this publication at our "Meet and Greet" on March 4th, we are happy to be able to send it along via cyberspace. We hope to provide you with information, resources, encouragement and support as you pursue the important work of mentoring a Take Stock in Children student.

Here's One to Try

Academically, this is a particularly important time in the school year. The third of the four quarters will end on March 27th and there will be an emphasis on moving through the curriculum. In your Mentor Toolkit Book, you may choose to have your mentee complete Activity #63, Time Management Assessment. This activity can be found on page 77. The information that is obtained may be a helpful discussion prompt for using time efficiently.

Some Statistics Worthy of Pride

Since 1995 the statewide Take Stock in Children Program has provided scholarships, mentors and hope to Florida's at risk and low income students. It is through the joint effort of corporate sponsors, government leaders, the Florida legislature, individual donors and **YOU**, the devoted volunteers, that over 12,000 students have had the opportunity to pursue a post secondary school education.

Here in Manatee County, Take Stock in Children was established in 1996 and thus far 260 of our students have been granted scholarship dollars. Presently, our team of mentors is 105 strong! We support 120 students and are excited about expanding that number to 200 in the 2008-09 school year.

We're Here For You

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MARCH DATES TO NOTE:

March 4th: Meet and Greet Tea/Mentor Mingle at the Administration Building Conference Room #203 from 3:00-5:00.

March 11-25: FCAT Testing: Check with your mentees for changes in their schedules.

March 21: No School

March 31: Spring Break



TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN/MENTOR SURVEY

Help us to help you achieve the maximum satisfaction from your work with your Take Stock In Children mentee by sharing your thoughts. Please print, complete and mail your survey to: Take Stock in Children c/o SaraGold Braden River Elementary School, 6125 River Club Blvd. Bradenton, Florida, 34202. Thank you.

Contact Information

1. Do you have a current school calendar that includes testing dates, exam dates, in-service etc.? _____
2. Do you have up to date telephone (cell and home) and or e-mail contact information for your mentee? _____. Do they have your information? _____
3. Do you have the name and number of the school contact person in the event that you need to contact your mentee at school? _____
4. Do you have the Take Stock In Children staff telephone and or e-mail contact information? _____
5. Have you had difficulty maintaining contact with your mentee due to mentee attendance or school site concerns? _____ If yes, please elaborate _____

Program Information

Please put a check next to any strategies that you would like to participate in, or would be of help to you:

1. Periodic meetings to provide mentor to mentor exchange ____ program information from Take Stock In Children Staff ____ School Staff ____ other community organizations (i.e. Manatee Community College) _____.

Would these meetings be best held at lunchtime? _____ After school? _____ early evening? _____

2. Monthly Newsletter _____ If yes, what might you like to see in this publication? _____

3. Do you feel you need or would like additional training/assistance? _____ If yes, are there specific types of information that would be helpful to you? _____

4. Would you be willing to participate in a group activity that could include all mentors/mentees? _____ If yes, which activity seems most desirable? A community service event? _____ A gathering for mentors/mentees and mentee parents? _____

5. Please rate your mentoring experience thus far on a 1-10 scale with 10 being the highest number ____ How can the staff at Take Stock In Children help to raise your number? _____

Name: (optional) _____