



Saint Paul's School

CORE Pack Program

(Catholic Opportunity for Responsive Education)

Mentor Program



Saint Paul's Peer Support Program: Mentor Wolves

High school peer support programs for students with developmental disabilities have grown out of an evidenced-based practice known as Peer-Mediated Instruction and Intervention. "Peer mentoring is defined as a process through which a more experienced individual encourages and assists a less experienced individual develop his or her potential within a shared area of interest. The resulting relationship is a reciprocal one in that both individuals in the partnership have an opportunity for growth and development. Peers are individuals who share some common characteristics, attributes or circumstances. These may relate to age, ability, interests, etc. Peer mentors are individuals who have more experience within that common area along with additional training in how to assist in acquiring skills, knowledge and attitudes to be more successful" (Gillman, Debra. "The Power of Peer Mentoring" *Wisconsin Healthy & Ready to Work: A Series of Materials Supporting Youth with Special Health Care Needs*. Wisconsin Council on Developmental Disabilities. 2006. Page 5. Accessed 27 Apr. 2017.).

The CORE Pack Mentor Wolves Program is Saint Paul's brand of peer mentoring, an empirically validated recognized strategy for increasing not only the instructional effectiveness but also enhancing social interaction among a wide range of peers. Meeting new people and forming friendships is paramount to a memorable and rewarding high school experience. In order for all Saint Paul's students to reap the greatest benefit from all that our school has to offer, partnering students with each other is a critical means to achieve the stated goals of the CORE Pack Program.

As a Mentor Wolf, one will have the opportunity to actively participate in the Saint Paul's Lasallian mission. Implementing each of the Five Core Lasallian Principles is essential to the success of both the mentor and mentee. In order to become a Mentor Wolf, one must be willing to give of himself spending quality time and service to aid in our CORE student's success.

Anticipated outcomes of the Mentor Wolves Program are as follows:

For the CORE Pack student

- Peer interactions and friendships

- Motivation and confidence
- Social communication skills
- Self-determination
- Problem-solving skills
- Leisure skills and activities
- Resiliency

For the Mentor Wolves

- Authentic modeling of the Saint Paul's Lasallian Core Principles
- Leadership skills
- Problem-solving skills
- Patience
- Gratitude
- Dependability
- Self-awareness
- Self-confidence
- Empathy and moral reasoning

Mentor Wolves must meet the following criteria:

- Mentors must be upperclassman to serve in the classroom.
- Second semester freshman, as well as upperclassmen, may be lunch buddies.
- Participate in peer mentor training session
- Attend monthly peer mentor meetings