

Invitation to the Mentor

Dear _____,

Narragansett High School has adopted the Senior Project as a graduation requirement. The components of the Senior Project include:

- A final product that the student creates based on knowledge gained by working with a mentor in the field and through additional research.
- A research paper that reflects in-depth study of a topic connected to the student's Project.
- A portfolio that contains documentation of the entire Senior Project process.
- A presentation before a panel of community/faculty judges.

Although the success of the Senior Project depends on the support of parents, faculty, and the student's commitment, responsibility, and self-discipline, community mentors play the most important role in helping students complete the learning stretch required for their Project.

You are invited by _____, an NHS senior, to serve as a mentor for the fieldwork portion of the Senior Project because you possess the knowledge and skills in an area of interest to the student. Your guidance will help the student complete the requirements listed above. A qualified mentor must

- Be a community member who is willing to work with a high school student on a regular basis for a minimum of 15 hours. **Students may not work with their mentor during regular school hours. Travel time and/or practicing are not part of the 15 hour requirement.**
- Have expertise or certification in the student's area of interest.
- Be at least a 21 year old adult who is not a relative, household member, or employer of the student.
- **Undergo a state criminal background check. Use these links for more information:**
 - **For Narragansett residents: walk-in to Narragansett Police Department**
http://p13cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_162655/File/NPD%20Background%20check%20request.pdf
 - **For non-Narragansett residents: visit your local police department or walk-in at Attorney General's Office** <http://www.riag.ri.gov/BCI/index.php#>
 - **Complete a Narragansett School System Release of Information form**
- Help with the research paper, if possible, by providing information through a personal interview and/or identifying sources of information for the student's research.
- Help with the product by
 - Providing instruction as well as offering support and guidance.
 - Assisting with resources (not monetary).
 - Encouraging the student to achieve to his/her maximum learning potential.
 - Confirming completion of mentoring hours
 - Verifying that student made the final product
 - Writing a mentor evaluation regarding the student's performance.
- Be available to help the student complete the fieldwork so that the student may successfully complete his/her project by the required deadline, which is usually in April.

The mentor is a guide only and is not expected or permitted to do the work for the student or accept any form of compensation for his/her services. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Graduation by Proficiency Coordinator, John O'Brien, at 401-792-9400 ext. 4025/ 401-792-9410 (fax) or by e-mail at jjobrien@nssk12.org.

Sincerely,

John M. O'Brien, Graduation by Proficiency Coordinator