

Y2Y Mentoring Program Outline

(youth to youth)

Email: y2ymentoring@gmail.com

Program overview:

- 25 student pairs (tenth through twelfth graders mentoring eighth and ninth graders)
- 2 meetings a month over 5 months, with one meeting focused on founding a relationship between pairs and the other a workshop about useful high school.
- The five topics that the workshops will cover are: goal setting and life skills, drug and alcohol awareness, teacher relationships, testing skills and class signups, and a session outlining opportunities available in Cambridge.

Mission:

Our Mission is to empower the youth of Cambridge to pursue their life goals by establishing a lasting and meaningful relationship with a peer mentor.

Philosophy:

As youth, we are able to provide a relatable and accurate perspective on navigating through high school at Cambridge Rindge and Latin. We believe that the most effective mentoring is established through peer to peer interactions in which the older student provides insight and advice to help the younger one achieve his or her goals. Peer mentoring is also very valuable to the mentors, as they are able to reciprocally learn from their younger peers.

Goals/Purpose:

In order to effectively support the goals of the mentees, students will be encouraged to spend time together outside of our program; however, only two meetings a month will be mandatory and facilitated by CYC staff. We hope to make students aware of the many opportunities available to them at Cambridge Rindge and Latin, so that they can maneuver through their high school experience effectively and successfully.

Objective:

We plan to have 25 mentor pairs in which upperclassmen mentor underclassmen and 8th graders.

We will have training for the mentors so that they will all have a thorough understanding of Cambridge's resources and effective mentoring strategies in order to be positive role models. We also will train the mentors in efficacious communication techniques with their mentees. We will administer community building games and activities at meetings, for which the winners will receive gift cards from local businesses.

We plan to play a role in the community bonding work that is being done by the Cambridge Youth Council to facilitate youth participation in important and pertinent conversations about the many societal issues of our day and age.

Program Guidelines:

The program is based around peer to peer mentorship with two whole group meetings per month -- one based around an activity to help establish a bond between mentor pairs and the other, a whole group workshop allowing students to share valuable knowledge and talk over problems that they may be facing. The meetings will be two hours in length with a wide variety of activities and informational workshops. The meetings will take place at the Cambridge Rindge and Latin school in the cafeteria at from 3:30-5:00pm.

The mentor pairs will continue as long as each is in high school, with the remaining individuals matched with new mentees.