



Dear Potential Mentor:

You have been proposed as a mentor for the Senior Project; thank you for considering this valuable donation of your time and expertise. An involved and knowledgeable mentor is an important part of student success in this graduation requirement. Please take a moment to read this overview of the mentor's job before signing the agreement to act as mentor. Specific Senior Project information can be found on the SVHS web site at <http://www.sonomavalleyhigh.org/seniorproject.html>

Who could be a mentor? What do mentors do?

- The mentor should have experience, knowledge and resources in the area of the student's project activity, and be willing to spend time supporting the student in the project activity. Although some mentors choose to become involved with other aspects of the project, such as the research paper or presentation, this is not required—the mentor's obligation is to support the student in his/her project activity.
- The mentor must be at least 25 years old and should not be a close relation of the student's. The student should not be paying the mentor for services directly related to the project.
- A mentor might: propose modifications or additions to a student's original proposal; share information or demonstrate technique; inspect project progress; give constructive criticism; connect a student with resources for a next step; introduce a student to other knowledgeable adults; suggest solutions to problems that arise; alert the school staff when extra support is needed.

What are the mentor's responsibilities?

- Meet with the student early in the Fall semester to ensure mutual understanding of the planned scope and outcome of the project.
- Sign a hard copy of the approved Letter of Intent, indicating you have read this letter and are qualified and willing to serve as mentor on a specific project.
- Work with the student throughout the project activity, meeting with the student often enough to be aware of problems and efforts. Though time spent mentoring varies with each project, 3 hours total time for meetings with the student in the Spring semester is a realistic minimum estimate.
- Sign the Mentor Verification Form hard copy when the project activity is completed, certifying that the student's activity was carried out as planned and described.
- Contact your student's Senior Project Advisory Teacher or the Senior Project Coordinators if you have concerns about the student or the project.

Mentors offer invaluable real-world education and advice, offering bridges to the adult community our students will soon be joining. We look forward to working with you in this important partnership.

Sincerely,

Jessica Hutchinson, Vice Principal