

# **Rhode Island Association of School Principals**

## **Principal Mentor Program**

### **Mentor Expectations and Application**

The Rhode Island Association of School Principals, the Northern Rhode Island Collaborative, and the eleven districts that comprise the Northern Collaborative have joined forces in an effort to provide newly appointed principals in those eleven districts with the support of a trained mentor principal. With funding from a SAELP II Grant, additional financial support from the districts and the logistical support of the Northern Collaborative, this initiative will match new principals and mentors in a structured relationship designed to assist new building administrators as they cope with the challenges of school leadership.

Matching new principals with mentors will be a collaborative process involving RIASP, the district superintendent or designee, the program facilitator, and the Northern Collaborative Office. Among the factors that will be given consideration when matching mentors with new principals are the following: the grade levels of their respective school, geographic proximity, and the personal and professional strengths and weakness of each.

Experienced principals with an interest in assisting the next generation of school leaders as they begin their work are invited to apply to become mentors. The following list of expectations is offered in the interest of clarifying up-front the responsibilities to be assumed by mentors as well as the support that they will be provided:

- All mentor principals and all new principals will be expected to participate in a two-day orientation/training session with a cohort of mentors and new principals during the later part of August.
- The cohort of mentors and new principals will be led by a facilitator provided by the RIASP Principal Mentor Program.
- Each mentor principal will be expected to hold weekly, hour-long meetings with his/her new principal to assess progress and address concerns. Communication between the two is expected to be regular and on-going through personal visits, phone calls, email, etc.
- Each mentor will document his/her work with the new principal in a manner that is agreeable to all parties, including the program facilitator.
- Each mentor principal and new principal will participate in monthly meetings of the entire cohort and engage in an on-going dialogue about common issues.
- Mentors will have the support of the facilitator and the RIASP staff at their disposal and will be expected to consult with at least one of those resources when dealing with very sensitive or unusual situations.
- A concluding event of some kind will be held in June as a means of bringing closure to the mentoring experience while helping RIASP and the Northern Collaborative districts to plan for second year of the mentoring program.
- Pending funding support, the mentoring relationship will be continued into a second year to allow mentors to provide on-going support for new principals.
- Mentors will be paid \$1000 per semester for their services.

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**Principal Mentor Program**  
**Application**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Current Position\_\_\_\_\_

School\_\_\_\_\_

School Address\_\_\_\_\_

School Phone\_\_\_\_\_

School Fax\_\_\_\_\_

Home address\_\_\_\_\_

Home phone\_\_\_\_\_

Email address\_\_\_\_\_

Why are you interested in becoming a mentor for a new principal?

What special qualifications do you possess for becoming a mentor? (Please list unique experiences, special training, and/or previous mentoring experiences.)