

Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools

Information for Parents

The Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate program has been operated by the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools since 1995. Our goal is to help students become successful in and out of school. We use volunteers to help support students who are trying to learn and grow. Your child's school has recommended him or her for referral to the program. If you are interested in having your child participate, here is some of what you need to know:

The Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate program:

- Matches a volunteer mentor with your child
- Helps you get support in the school system for your child
- Provides tutoring services through a weekly evening tutoring session
- Provides opportunities for your child to go to summer camp

What Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate expects from parents and children:

- Children should meet with their mentor for at least two hours every week; this happens outside of school hours.
- Children should be willing to try new things with the mentor and to learn from those experiences.
- We want parents to work with the mentor and our staff to help your child do better in school.
- Parents and children should tell the mentor if your child is having difficulty at school, home, or in the community.

How do we choose which students will be in the program?

We only bring kids into the program in 4th grade. The family specialist at each elementary school works with teachers, principals, and others at their school to identify potential kids for the program. Unfortunately, we never have enough mentors to match all kids who want to be in the program. When we match a child with a mentor, it is because we think they will get along well. If a child doesn't get into the program, it is only because we couldn't find a good mentor to match with the child's interests or personality.

What else do you need to know?

If your child gets into the program, we'll work with him or her through high school graduation. Our mentors make a two-year commitment. Sometimes they'll keep working with a student beyond two years. Sometimes we need to find your child a new mentor along the way.

For more information:

Contact your school's family specialist or the BRMA Program Coordinator, Graig Meyer at 918-2170.

IF YOUR CHILD IS SELECTED FOR THE PROGRAM, WE ASK THAT YOU ATTEND A PARENT INFORMATION SESSION. DETAILS ARE ON THE BACK OF THIS PAGE.

Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate

Introduction Sessions For Parents

If your child is matched with a mentor, you must attend an introduction session to learn more about the program. At this session, you will:

- Meet the people who run the program
- Hear more about what the program has to offer to you and your child
- Learn about your role in supporting your child's mentoring relationship
- Hear from other parents in the program
- Be able to ask questions about the program

Please plan to attend one of these two sessions:

Saturday, October 14

10:30-12:00 PM

or

Monday, October 16

7:00-8:30 P.M.

Both sessions will be held at Lincoln Center on Merritt Mill Rd.

Child care, transportation assistance, and translation are available (please call ahead)

Please tell your family specialist or call Graig Meyer at 918-2170 to let us know which session you would like to attend. Please also let your family specialist or Graig know if you need child care or transportation.

For more information
Or if you have questions, contact:

Graig Meyer
BRMA Coordinator
Lincoln Center
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918-2170
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