

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fine Art Benefit and Sale

MEGA's annual Fine Art Benefit and Sale (FABS) will be held on Friday, January 13, 2017, at the historic Hippodrome Theater in Richmond. Due to its large success last year, MEGA will include the Silent Auction again as part of the event.

Our goal this year is to raise \$20,000 through this tool. To assist us in reaching our goal, we are asking each MEGA Mentors member to donate or solicit at least one item that can be auctioned. An email was sent to all members on November 10 with more information and the forms needed to make donations.

Chesterfield Education Foundation BRAVO! Awards

The Chesterfield Education Foundation (CEF) Bravo! Awards is an annual celebration of the outstanding achievements of Chesterfield County Public School alumni. This year's event will start at 6 p.m. Thursday, November 17 at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Midlothian. The Bravo! Awards dinner has come to be known as an inspiring evening, offering an opportunity to hear the honorees share their personal story of how a Chesterfield County Public Schools education contributed to launching them on their path to success. Proceeds from the dinner allow CEF to continue providing enhanced educational experiences and support for teachers and students. For more information, visit CEF's website at: <http://www.cefva.org/the-bravo-awards>.

MENTORING HIGHLIGHTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Hope Study

At the beginning of each school year, MEGA Mentors administers a baseline survey to all students in the program to gauge their perceptions of hope, self-efficacy and self-regulation. At the end of the school year, another test is given to measure any changes in these perceptions. Attached to this email are comments students made at the end of the 2015-2016 school year survey. As you will see from their words, MEGA is making a positive, measurable difference in their lives. Thank you to all the Mentors who make our program possible!

Providence Middle School

In recent years, MEGA has selected a mentoring program as the "School of the Year" Award recipient. With the support of IBM, this year's winner, Providence Middle School received a \$5,000 Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) grant on November 9 that will be used to enhance the educational experiences for the student body at large.

Meadowbrook High

MEGA Man Phil Daniel was convocation speaker for the class of 2017 at Meadowbrook High. The October event was highlighted with a presentation on the importance of attitude. Phil talked about how his son (Meadowbrook class of 2000) was not the

smartest student but had the best attitude. His attitude lifted his altitude to a successful military career.

Chesterfield Career and Technical Center (CTC) Hull

CTC Hull has a program called Academy 360, which helps struggling 8th graders catch up academically so they can start high school on time. A360 launched the 2016-17 school year with great successes and a team-building trip to Richmond Ropes, where the students and faculty worked together through a variety of obstacle courses. Building these bonds has helped students adapt to the unique learning environment of the program, where they complete both their 8th and 9th grade requirements in one year. A360's 36 boys and girls enjoy a focused environment in our state-of-the-art facility, with small class sizes and extra support from the faculty. The learners have demonstrated great respectfulness, hard work, and positive leadership qualities, even when navigating the program's special expectations, such as the requirements to dress in uniform and to give up cell phones for the entire school day. These norms help reduce distraction from academics and prepare our young men and women for futures in professional settings.

A360 thanks all the participants in the MEGA Mentors program for taking the time to support and encourage these young adults as they build academic and interpersonal skills and begin to plan for their futures. "Your role in their development is crucial, and they look forward to learning with you every other week," said Stephen Hackett, CTC Hull's assistant principal. "Next time you see our kids, ask them about some of the great experiences they've had this year! We think you'll be just as proud as we are, and just as excited to see what more they will achieve!"

Carver College and Academy

Carver juniors and seniors had a dress-up challenge September 28 during "Dress for Success" day. The male students challenged MEGA's president and mentor Howard Corey to a "dress the best showdown," and the competition was intense! However, the female mentors decided to call the competition a draw since everyone looked so good. Of course, Howard is demanding a rematch!

Carver Middle School

Carver parents, MEGA Mentors, school officials and Broadwater community YMCA staff held a meeting October 26 to discuss coordination and maximizing their services to Carver students. The meeting was very productive and resulted in the YMCA agreeing to create a calendar for its stakeholders to list their activities involving the Broadwater community. The next step will be to post the calendars at both mailboxes in Broadwater to inform the parents of options available for their children. Both MEGA Mentors and the YMCA hope this effort will increase participation in both programs, which would help prove the need for expansion for both organizations. Increased participation in the programs could also help justify the request for a lighted bulletin in the community to announce upcoming events. Carver MS school officials are also looking into the possibility of providing a bus to transport children directly from school to the YMCA.

BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

Committee Assignments

MEGA is currently seeking new members for the following committees: Program; Plans & Processes; Communication & Events; Fundraising; and Recruiting, Membership and Training. If you are interested in joining one or more of these committees, contact Howard Corey at MEGAMentors14@gmail.com. Please put "Committee Assignment" in the subject line and include your name, contact information and which committee(s) you'd be interested in joining.

Communication & Events Committee

The C&E Committee is seeking volunteers with any of the following skills: social media management, writing/editing, website content management, design/layout, and computer skills.

MEGA welcomes and values your feedback in making our website and social media pages more relevant, useful and user-friendly. Please email us at MEGAMentors14@gmail.com with the subject line "Website (or Social Media) suggestion" with your ideas and/or concerns.

Website: www.MEGAMentors.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Megamentors.org

Twitter: www.twitter.com/MegaMentors

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/megamentors>

Development and Fundraising Committee

Thanks to the gracious support of the Robins Foundation, MEGA has received initial funding to secure the services of an experienced grant writer. We are pleased to announce we have selected "The Inclusive Edge," led by Ms. Adele Johnson, to serve in this capacity. By coupling Adele's skills and expertise with our team, we are well positioned to accelerate the mission, impact and footprint of MEGA. Under this partnership, we'll strengthen our fundraising capabilities by:

- Establishing a well-defined case statement that tells prospective donors about MEGA's accomplishments and vision.
- Developing a compelling and persuasive narrative that elevates MEGA's branding.
- Providing a thoughtful prioritization of local, regional and national grant that align with MEGA's mission and strategic play.

HOW TO SUPPORT MEGA MENTORS

Please visit our [website](#) for information on various ways to support our mission. A detailed list of contribution options is also located on the MEGA Mentors Fact Sheet, which is located midway down the home page.

[Click here to access the MEGA Mentors Newsletter archive.](#)

Appendix D: Student Responses

At first i was hesitant, but now that I have attended a couple of sessions, I really do enjoy it. With the guest speakers I see myself meeting the goals I have for myself like they did, I am the only thing holding myself back. Every meeting I come to I feel better about myself and I get closer to acheiving my goals and bettering myself, and that is all due to the Mega Mentors.

I like being in mega mentors , If i have anyting i need to talk about i can talk to them.
I like mega mentors It gives me free time to talk about important things about school and how I want to live in the future . I feel like mega mentors is a great program because students that struggle or have a hard time in school and take this program they help them .

I like the lessons we learn in Mega Mentors.

I love it because it helps me with life. It helps me study, it helps me with a lot of other things as well.

I love to learn respect.
it is helping me somewhat.

I really enjoy Mega mentors it is very useful and helping me achieving my goals and i enjoy coming here because its helpful

I think that going to mega mentors is a good session and I really like going to them.I feel more confidence in going to the mega mentor session.

i think that mega mentors is a great program I would recommend it to other people that will help them reach their goal to success

i think that you should let your students play games that y'all bring in or something

I would like it more if we met more often than just once ever other week.

It has helped me with study tactics because i used to alays have late homework

It has many oppotunities to pursue your career and education.

It is the best part of school to meet your goals to keep you on track.

Mega mentors has been a fun experience and helps expose you to the outside world and college
Mega mentors has helped me a lot, and I really like this program and all that it teaches us. It teaches us students well.

Mega Mentors has impacted my life to study and get better grades thank you Mega Mentors.

MEGA Mentors has influence the way I value my education.

Mega Mentors is a big help to me all my mentors are nice and very supportive

MEGA mentors is a good program and everyone cares about me being successful in the future.

Mega mentors is much more fun because people that i know are in the program with me and i know i am not alone

They are nice and fun but they do not influence me as much as they would hope they are

they dont do anything its boring all we do is talk about non relavent things. we should have fun sometimes and they should actually help out with stuff

They don't do nothing it is boring they bring no food no nothing. I want to have some fun all we do is talk about boring stuff. They need to bring food go on a field trip do something fun

They helped me be confident and proud of my that i can do more and study and get better grades.
This program is great to look forward to if you aren't sure on how to complete a certain goal or even if you aren't sure about your after highschool plans. It's also a great way to communicate with others and build your communication skills. This program goes on many field trips as well, in which you can get to see the fence of life.
Even though i have not been here I have kinda learn some what of some things. Mega mentors can help change life's and i am glad that i am getting better in school because of mega mentors. Even though i have not been they have helped me to get me where i am.
Falling Creek Mega Mentors program has helped me achieve my goals and helped me stay out of trouble. It helped me with my confidence. I am very thankful for Mega Mentors.
I love the mega mentors program and Mrs.Bentley is my bestfrand and she is the best.
I love this program. Also Mr. Moore was awesome along with Mr. Cummings.
I really enjoyed Mega mentors because these people took their time to help us succeed in life.
I Recommended this to other students to get some self confidence
I think mega mentors is great group,they do believing you and mega mentors can either help you to some people or just be a great impact on you
I think that its fun.
I think that the MEGA mentors is a good way to somewhat have fun and a good way to express yourself . Being in the Mega mentors program has helped me bring up my math grade and it is a nice to way to help you study.
I think the MEGA Mentors program will help students there grades, stress, and other problems.
I think they we should meet more
I want to be in it next year!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
I wish that the sessions were till the end of the year, because I am going to REALLY REALLY REALLY REALLY miss the sessions!!! They taught me alot about core values and current life situations. I will really miss them I also look forward to coming back NEXT YEAR!!!!!!!!!!!!!!LOVE EVERYBODY (:
-KEKE (:
I would like to go back to MEGA Mentors next year
i would recommend Mega mentors to another student because, it may rise their confident in theirself.
It is good for other people that have goals but don't share it so you can express your self in mega mentors and it is very good (:
It is very educational
it teaches you how to be a leader
It was a fun experience and helped me be better in school.
It was OK we got to go see a college and that made me want to go to college evan more and we got to got see a war ship and that was cool but mega metors was OK and i learned new things.
It's helped me become independent and more respectful

I've enjoyed being in MEGA Mentors ever since the 7th grade and i still do because they are honestly interested in my future and plans.

Mega Mentors has opened my eyes to a lot and has made me more excited for the future

MEGA Mentors has persuaded me to not just do the minimum to get by in life, but to do whatever i can o achieve my goals; go beyond the limit.

mega mentors have improved my behavior i do better things i think more often like if im mad i think about something to calm me down

MEGA Mentors is a great program with amazing mentees.

MEGA Mentors is a very proactive program that can help students find their way and see possibilities as for proceeding after school. College opportunities and speakers are a valuable asset of this program. if students are unmotivated then attendance will fall sadly. In closing over all MEGA Mentors is a great program that can help the youth of today be successful tomorrow.

Thank you for all your help and what you have did

Thank you for taking your time out of your day to come and help us in our community in school.

thank you so much mega mentors all of u guys are realy fun and u guys are really helpfull and i apriciat that you gu`ys spend your time on helping other pepole

The are very kind and are mind seeing. They listen to what we have to say and try to help us as much as they can. They try to make us feel happy about ourselves. They want us to achive in our life so that one day we can be just like them so thats why i would actually recomend this for anyone else in the world. Thank you for everything you have done for me.

The MEGA Mentors is a good program, because it prepares middle school students for the future, it helps them learn how to cope with certain problems, and helps them in school.

they have helped me in better ways to solve a problem and i have made more friends

They have helped me realize that I need to plan ahead and be thinking about what I plan to do after college. I always need to be one step ahead if I want to achieve my goals.