ALONG THE PATHWAY

September 2023 - Issue #5

MONTHLY UPDATE

The Teacher Pathway Team is excited to welcome mentors and mentees to our 2.0 cohort. At the Public Education Foundation (PEF), we are committed to supporting public schools and ensuring that students, families, and educators have the necessary resources to succeed. We are currently collaborating with CCSD and UNLV to address the teacher shortage crisis and increase the number and diversity of teachers within the pipeline. We aim to ensure that more aspiring educators are accepted into the UNLV Paraprofessional Pathways Project (PPP) by June 2024. In honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month, we celebrate Hispanic and Latino mentees (one-third of our mentees) who have committed to becoming educators and supporting our diverse student population in Nevada. This month, we encourage everyone to reflect on the inspiring words of educator Jaime Escalante: "If we expect students to be winners and expect them to do well, they will rise to the occasion."

Current Connections:	Number of Mentees:	Number of Mentors:	Diversity Numbers:
108	108	38	67.6% Mentees 64.1% Mentors

*All data represents last 30 days

Have you registered for your Praxis Exams yet?

All educators seeking licensure are required to pass Praxis® Core. Praxis® Core Academic Skills for Educators (Core) covers the following subjects: Math, Writing, and Reading. PEF has partnered with Study.com to provide free online Praxis tutorial programming for mentees in the Teacher Pathway program. All mentees are eligible for free online Praxis tutorial programming through Study.com. All Praxis fees incurred after 1/31/23 are eligible for reimbursement. Information on how to register for Praxis can be found here.

Path to PPP

$67,999.32 Awarded for the Fall 2023 Semester

Schools Attended by Teacher Pathway Mentees

CSN College of Southern Nevada · Great Basin College · UNLV · Nevada State · TMCC Truckee Meadows Community College

COMMUNITY CORNER

The Teacher Pathway team would like to express our gratitude for our local colleges and universities' cooperation, consultation, and genuine concern. Thanks to UNLV's understanding and flexibility, our PEF Teacher Pathway mentees were able to enroll in required coursework within a tight timeline. It's heartening to see the education community coming together to remove any barriers that might prevent aspiring teachers from pursuing their dreams. PEF is extremely grateful for the support shown to our mentees by institutions from across the state, and we are proud to have provided scholarships to our mentees who are currently working on completing their prerequisite courses at every NSHE institution so they are prepared to enter the UNLV PPP program.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- The Las Vegas-Clark County Library District is hosting a variety of events in celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month.
- Join us for our Teacher Pathway Team Office Hours on 9/11 which will focus on how to complete an Academic Plan.
- Visit our online event calendar for more events.

LEARN MORE HERE

PEF Teacher PATHWAY

Bank of America · Caesars Foundation · Canarelli Family Foundation · CCSD Clark County School District · Chronus · MGM Resorts International · Nevada Gold Mines · NV Energy · NV Epic · Study.com · UNLV College of Education

Teacher Pathway *recruits, supports, and retains diverse, qualified individuals committed to a teaching career in CCSD. This "grow your own" teacher training program helps current paraprofessionals become licensed teachers to address Clark County's chronic teacher shortage.*

Leondrus Wright is a dedicated educator in Southern Nevada who believes in providing a world-class education for every child. After a career shift from being a chef to teaching, Leondrus's journey into education began when he joined Teach for America Nevada. As a mentor in the PEF Teacher Pathway program, Leondrus guides future educators to become exceptional teachers and emphasizes the importance of continuous professional development for educators. Leondrus's favorite aspect of teaching is witnessing those magical moments when a student's understanding "clicks." The excitement and eagerness students show when they grasp a concept are priceless rewards for educators. Leondrus's dedication contributes to a stronger educational community, fostering a network of caring and passionate educators dedicated to their students' success. His experiences, insights, and dedication inspire us all to embrace our true callings and make a lasting impact on the lives of students and the future of education in Southern Nevada.

Read more of Leondrus' story on our website.

TP RECRUITMENT:

DO YOU KNOW A FUTURE EDUCATOR IN THE MAKING?

The Teacher Pathway program is designed to recruit, support, and retain qualified paraprofessionals who are currently working in Nevada schools and are committed to advancing their careers by becoming licensed educators. We recently invited local educators to join our current cohort, which will consist of 38 mentors and up to 150 mentees. This year, the program aims to ensure that 20% of mentees are from rural or charter school districts and that over 70% of program participants (mentors and mentees) come from diverse backgrounds.

- Mentees will have an opportunity to develop career-based skills and cultivate their professional network while receiving support from a dedicated mentor. Additionally, support services like scholarship opportunities, a stipend of $250 per semester to assist with educational expenses, Praxis preparation materials, exam fee reimbursement, and more are available to mentees.
- Mentors will participate in training coordinated by PEF and spend at least 1-3 hours per month supporting mentees as they develop and work toward professional goals while seeking ways to achieve objectives and contribute ideas for solving particular problems.

If there is an educator you know who would make a great mentor or mentee, please contact teacher.pathway@thepef.org

MENTORING RESOURCES

- Did you know that September 8th is International Literacy Day? Learn about the Book Bus and how to bring it to your school at https://engage.ccsd.net/bookbus/.
- The Teacher Pathway Team hosts Office Hours Every Monday from 3:30 - 4:30 PM. Stop by to connect with your peers, learn more about the support services and resources available to all Teacher Pathway participants, and ask Grant and Ashlie any questions you may have regarding your program experience. Academic Plan Office Hours will be hosted on 9/11.
- Visit our Virtual Mentoring Resource Center to access helpful tools on your mentoring journey!
- September is National Self-Care Awareness Month! We've shared some ways to care for yourself throughout the month.

A PARTNERSHIP TO SUPPORT UNDERREPRESENTED EDUCATORS

Nevada Attorney General Aaron D. Ford approved using $4,466,662 million in T-Mobile settlement money to fund grants for three Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation (GOWINN) programs. Among these programs is Teacher Pathway, which aims to address our teacher shortage crisis by creating "grow your own" pathways to developing teaching candidates. PEF has been awarded a two-year grant of $466,662, and we are extremely grateful for the support. The funding will be used to provide stipends for both mentors and mentees, as well as tuition assistance for mentees who identify as women or people of color. We will also be able to fund vital mentorship tracking software and Praxis fees for our mentees. We would like to extend a big thank you to GOWINN (Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation) and the Nevada Department of Education for their help in securing this grant. By combining community collaboration with public and private funding, we can help educators from historically underrepresented communities to further their education and professional growth.

PEF Public Education FOUNDATION

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