ALONG THE PATHWAY

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MONTHLY UPDATE

We are thrilled to kick off this year's newsletter by celebrating the achievements of our mentees who have been accepted into the University of Nevada Las Vegas's Paraprofessional Pathways Project Cohort 5.0. Congratulations! We are equally excited to welcome both our continuing and new mentees on the Teacher Pathway. We believe that every new step on this journey brings a fresh opportunity to learn and grow, and we are looking forward to supporting you. In this issue, we are proud to introduce you to University of Nevada Las Vegas's new Rebel Start Academy. This pre-apprenticeship program provides a durable yet flexible approach to completing NSHE General Education requirements of a bachelor's degree. We believe this program will be a great resource for our mentees and we encourage you to learn more about it. As we begin the new year, we also want to recognize that January is National Mentor Month. We are incredibly grateful to our over 40 mentors who have dedicated themselves to investing in the success of Nevada's future educators including featured mentor Nathan Inkenbrandt, who has been an educator in CCSD for five years and a mentor in our program for two years.

147 mentoring connections during the 1st semester

83% have had a positive experience in the Teacher Pathway

2683 messages exchanged

692 meetings attended

*those who completed surveys within the fall 2023 semester

The Power of Mentoring: National Mentor Month

National Mentoring Month is dedicated to promoting the positive impact of mentoring relationships and an excellent way to start any year! This month-long observance began in 2002 and has grown to include businesses, nonprofits, and government agencies committed to expanding access to quality mentoring programs. Mentoring relationships offer numerous benefits to both mentors and mentees. According to Moving Ahead research, 87% of mentors and mentees feel empowered by their mentoring relationships and have developed greater confidence. A study by the Dominican University of California found that participants are 40% more likely to achieve their goals if they write them down and share them with someone to keep them accountable, such as a supportive friend or mentor. The Journal of Vocational Behavior also found that mentoring can reduce anxiety and improve mental health for both mentors and mentees. The Teacher Pathway Team invites you to encourage experienced educators you may know to reach out to us if they are interested in becoming a mentor and making a positive impact on the next generation of leaders.

Path to PPP

Teacher Pathway Mentees Joining Paraprofessional Pathway Cohort 5.0

25 of 144

Mentees Joining Rebel Start Academy

40 of 144

TEACHER PATHWAY PROGRAM CELEBRATED AT PEF'S GOLDEN APPLE GALA

The Public Education Foundation (PEF) recently held its annual Golden Apple Gala at Paris Las Vegas, which brought together over 330 educators and public education supporters. The event served as a tribute to those who ardently advocate for public education. One of the highlights of the evening was the inspiring story shared by mentee Zivon Sewell, who talked about the positive impact the Teacher Pathway program has had on her journey to become a licensed educator. The Teacher Pathway program, in partnership with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and other organizations, has been instrumental in mentoring over 150 school paraprofessionals who aspire to become teachers. The Golden Apple Gala raised funds to help 32 more paraprofessionals achieve their dream of becoming teachers. The Teacher Pathway program's success is a testament to the power of mentoring and community support in helping aspiring teachers achieve their goals, and events like this are an excellent way to raise awareness and funds for such programs.

PEF Teacher PATHWAY

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.*

Nathan Inkenbrandt is a teacher and mentor to aspiring educators in the Teacher Pathway program. He fell in love with teaching after joining CCSD as a long-term substitute in 2016 and has been making a positive impact on students' lives ever since. Nathan believes teaching is a communal activity that requires building relationships, igniting learning, and opening doors.

As an experienced mentor, Nathan emphasizes the importance of professional development for educators, treating every student as an individual and realizing the impact that teachers have on thousands of lives. He advises those considering becoming educators to find one safe person outside of education and one expert on the licensing process to build a support network. Nathan's positive impact on his mentees is palpable, as he inspires, empowers, and uplifts educators in his educational community.

Read more of Nathan's story on our website.

REBEL START ACADEMY- A NEW PATHWAY NEVADA'S FOR FUTURE EDUCATORS

Rebel Start Academy (RSA) is a pre-apprenticeship program that offers a flexible approach to completing NSHE General Education requirements for a bachelor's degree. RSA provides specially designed courses to center student success and focus on the needs of non-traditional students.

Students can earn up to 60 credits within four semesters based on their educational needs. RSA serves non-traditional adult students who may be underemployed or seeking formal higher education degrees for workforce retraining, linking workforce, employment, and educational needs while ensuring zero out-of-pocket expenses for its students.

RSA also supports Nevada's future licensed educators in positioning themselves to successfully apply for UNLV's Paraprofessional Pathways Project through support from the Teacher Pathway Program, making it an ideal program for those seeking a career in teaching.

MENTORING RESOURCES

- Did you know that January is Get Organized Month? As you are working towards your professional goals, we encourage you to revisit the steps you need to take with your mentor to ensure that you are on track for success.
- Mentoring Month is a great time to consider reaching out to a mentor who has positively impacted your life or consider becoming a mentor to someone in your community.
- The Teacher Pathway Team encourages you to review the updated Praxis preparation materials from Study.com. Visit our Chronus Announcements for details on how to access them.
- Don't forget to submit your Praxis Reimbursement request as soon as you register for your next Praxis exam!
- Join Grant and Ashlie for Office Hours Every Monday from 3:30 - 4:30 PM.

COX AND LV LIBRARY DISTRICT KEEPING EDUCATORS CONNECTED

One of our key partners at the Public Education Foundation is Cox Communications, who is helping the Library District with a grant to provide free wi-fi through June 30, 2024. This grant was designed to increase wi-fi access throughout our community - and the nation!

This free wi-fi access is now available to our Teacher Pathway participants, Post-Program Support participants, and recipients of scholarships from our Scholarships Plus program. Other major internet providers are also participating in this grant, so when traveling, users will automatically connect to free wi-fi where it is available.

PEF recently surveyed program participants to determine who was interested, and Cox has already sent instructions and a unique code to each respondent. A heartfelt thank you to Cox Communications for their unwavering support for public education.

PEF Public Education FOUNDATION

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