Virtual Mentoring: Harnessing the Power of Technology to Develop K-20 Leadership Partnerships

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Framework

• CAMP (Collegiate Achievement Mentoring Program) Osprey is a leadership-mentoring program in which collegiate student leaders serve as mentors to at-risk K-12 students.

• To overcome geographic and financial barriers faced by our high-poverty, urban/rural partners throughout the state, we will be harnessing the use of "virtual leadership mentoring" and videoconferencing technology available on the UNF campus.

iPads and Cell Phones allow for immersive campus tours
Testimonials:
Rural, Putnam County (FL)

“They are learning skills that will help them overcome obstacles as they progress toward a future of college and careers,” said Principal Joe Theobold. “The students are very excited to be a part of this program, which will culminate in a trip to UNF to tour the school and experience team building and success planning.”
Advantages

By developing **low-cost** initiatives that benefit students at all levels from a variety of backgrounds, virtual mentoring within the CAMP model may serve as an exemplar for those searching for ways to forge learning community partnerships to enhance academic excellence, student engagement and equity in a K-20 setting.
Overcoming Obstacles

• Cost effective
  – Reduction in mentor/mentee travel costs
• Virtual Field Trips and supplemental resources to augment learning
  – College and school campus visits
• Timely and user friendly
  – Mobile apps
  – Adaptable to meet the needs of K-12 school schedules
Best Practices

• Use an established curriculum
  – Manual to Manhood
  – 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens
  – C.A.M.P. Program Guide

• 30-45 minutes per weekly session

• Hands-on, engaging activities

• Consistent support from both mentor and mentee locations (staff, teachers, faculty)
Next Steps

• New partnerships with rural and urban schools
• Continued research to examine mutually beneficial outcomes
• College and Career Readiness Network
  – *K-12 students mentored by collegiate students to become college ready*
  – *Collegiate students mentored by alumni and business community to become career ready*
Articles/Publications/Presentations

• Jacksonville Times Union

• Partnership with Putnam County (FL) Schools
  – http://www.putnamschools.org/news/what_s_new/c_a_m_p_osprey_at_mellon

• Partnership with Rural Districts and JC Penney
  – http://www2.nefec.org/blogpost148/

• Virtual Mentoring
  – https://edtechdigest.wordpress.com/2017/04/05/virtual-mentoring/
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