

Fall 2009

Call 435-260-9646
for more information

GRAND AREA MENTORING COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

“The time is always right to do what is right.” –Martin Luther King, Jr.

Grand County School District



Mentoring Sites:

- Red Rock Elementary
- HMK Intermediate
- Community School
- Grand Co. Middle School
- Grand Co. High School

A HANDGUIDE to me... (Excerpts)

Denzel Washington put together a book of accounts written by successful people: Muhammad Ali, Yogi Berra, Bill Clinton, Danny Glover, Jimmy Carter, Dick Vitale, Anna Kournikova, and many more. What's the one thing they all have in common?

Mentoring.

Here are a few of their thoughts, taken word for word as written by some of the world's most successful and influential people:

“Every child needs a place where he can feel comfortable, where he can explore, where he can be himself, where people take an interest in him. And to have those islands, those places of peace... well, it was everything.”

–Walter Anderson, editor in chief, **Parade Magazine**

“He never quit on me and he made sure I never

quit on myself. Hour after hour, day after day, all the time he worked with me, he kept building my confidence.”

–Yogi Berra, **Hall of Fame baseball player and manager**

“I was really blessed to have Buddy and my grandfather and a number of other people who took an interest in me when I was young.”

–Bill Clinton, **42nd President of the U.S.A**

“I still see Kelli as a mentor. If I need that extra little boost...I can go to Kelli and she'll give it to me. I don't see her as regularly as I used to, but I still hear her voice in my head. She's still telling me what to do.”

–Dominique Dawes, **U.S. Olympian gymnast**

“Sometimes when I do one of those award shows and they have a teleprompter, I've had some difficulty. I...

[Continued on back page.]

Major Contributors:

George & Dolores Eccles Foundation

Rocky Mountain Power Foundation

Grand Co. School District

U.S. Department of Education

Wells Fargo Foundation

Footprints, Inc.

Financial Update:

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to help us reach our goal of \$5,000 for the second half of the 2009/2010 school year.

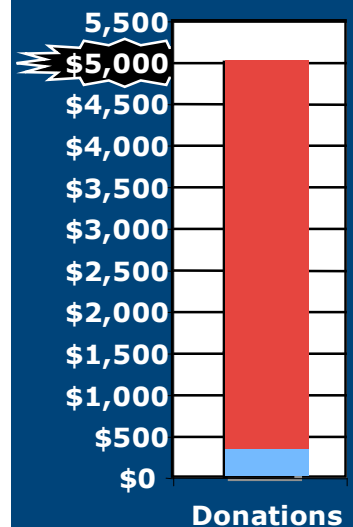
SPONSOR A MATCH: 2009/2010

Want to be a MENTOR but don't have the TIME?

Community members, corporations, public service groups, or associations can make a donation to GrandAM that will support a specific match. Donations will be acknowledged with a match bio, including favorite activities, grade level (student) and occupation (mentor), and a personalized note explaining what the donor's sponsorship means. When available, a photo of the match at a weekly meeting will be included.

Mail checks payable to Grand Area Mentoring at: Grand Area Mentoring, 264 South 400 East, Moab, UT 84532.

- \$49 Level: The Giver**
supplies and equipment for 1 year
- \$149 Level: The Helper**
supplies, equipment, and match support for 1 year
- \$290 Level: The Benefactor**
supplies, equipment, match support, and program infrastructure for 1 year



Grand Area Mentoring

Address:

Grand County School District
264 South 400 East
Moab, UT 84532

Phone: [435-260-9646](tel:435-260-9646)

E-Mail:

grandareamentoring@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

See us at...

www.grandschools.org/mentor

Coordinator:

Megan McGee

Program Director:

Daniel McNeil

Advisory Committee:

Moab Community Action Coalition

Next Mentor Orientation:

Please call for time and
location. 260-9646

About GrandAM...

Funded by the generous donations of local citizens, a two-year Department of Education appropriation award, and public organizations, Grand Area Mentoring is now in its fifth year of service to Grand County.

Mentors aged 24 through 83 years meet with students in one-on-one settings to encourage growth and bolster self-confidence. Their weekly hour-long sessions sometimes include board games, basketball, and computers. Other matches pursue crafts, reading, and talking about school. Mentors and students seek activities that are mutually enjoyable and enriching.

Grand Area Mentoring continuously strives to create lasting and fruitful relationships. New volunteers are trained in mentoring best practices and always supported with regular staff contact. Volunteers simply offer one hour per week and receive the satisfaction of positively impacting a life forever.

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Program Performance 2008/2009

Grand Area Mentoring's annual report for the 2008/2009 school year showed some of the best results to date. All major goals were exceeded. 55% of mentoring relationships were sustained for 12 months or more. 43% of mentored students improved their academic performance. 42% reduced their discipline referral rate. 58% of mentored students attended school more regularly than in the previous year. Those students mentored for more than one year showed even greater improvement.



Also telling were the student interviews conducted at the close of the school year. When asked if mentoring had changed how students felt about school, responses ranged from "I get better grades now," to "My mentor encourages me to do a good job a school.

He makes me want to do better. He also encourages me not to smoke."

Even more inspiring, this sentiment was expressed by many students: "I used to feel lonely and only had one friend. Then my mentor came along."

Handguide (continued story)

invert the letters or the words or something like that, and I laugh at myself and think, 'It's just the dyslexia kicking in.' And then I remember Miss Lumber, and her great kindness and compassion, and I work to get it right."

—**Danny Glover, actor**

"Courtney, do you realize you're going to be a senior next year and the whole school will be looking to you for leadership?" That's all she said and walked away. I don't even know if

that was true or not, but all I could think was, 'Wow.' I kept thinking about this English teacher's charge. That's what put me back in line and sent me on my way. She just spoke into my life in this one little exchange. It wasn't even a conversation. And I think back on it and wonder what happens to kids who don't have anyone to speak into their lives."

—**Courtney B. Vance, actor**

From: [A Handguide to Me](#)
by **Denzel Washington**

Thank your neighbors...

Janet Pierson	Mary McGann	Marcy Till
Barbara Lacy	Cherrie Dolphin	Alison Green
Jenn Oestreich	Sarah Henderson	Sue Kirkham
Joyce Adair	Jessica Driskell	Carol Hoggard
Larry Rosendahl	Joan Gough	Wendy Hoff
Lee Maher	Susan Fullmer	Kathy Cooney
Marilyn Stolfa	Robyn Johnson	Linda Bynum
Dick Bradley	Janie Tuft	Jim Webster
Carrie Fisher	Rosanne Nicol	Peggy O'Reilly
Lindsay Bartosh	Nori Swanson	Karen Henker
Lois Cooper	Colleen Tibbetts	Melinda Snow
Danette Johnson	Lynn Koon	Kathy Reske
Delite Primus	Shirley Cather	Wendy McDougald
Denise Birmingham	Dale Weiss	Michele Onderko
Marlene Huckabay	Kevin McGann	Erin Cooper
Cathy Birsfield	Jim McGann	Lois Jamison
Megan McGee	Anthony Mason	Hillary Mead

for being mentors.

www.grandschools.org/mentor