12-1-2017

Mentoring with Core Academy

Danielle Olson

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, olsond2@unlv.nevada.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/educ_sys_202

Part of the Education Commons, and the Service Learning Commons

Recommended Citation

https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/educ_sys_202/16
Mentoring with Core Academy

Site Info:
West Preparatory Academy 2050 Sapphire Stone Ave, Las Vegas, NV 8019
The Roger’s Foundation/Core Academy Office 701 S 9th St, Las Vegas, NV 89101

Social Issues

- The empowerment and development of our community’s under-resourced youth.
- Giving children a chance to have one person who is always rooting for them and having a positive reinforcement in their life.

My experience

- Attend and chaperone Core Academy events and
- Meet, visit, and mentor my assigned mentee at least a few times each month to set goals and see progress.

Expectation vs. reality

- Rowdy and disrespectful kids • Kind-hearted and inspiring youth
- Awkward meetings/forced interaction Comfortable and easy going
- Little to no profound outcome/“mindless” credit retrieval Volunteering/mentoring I will continue for the foreseeable future.

Big take-away’s

- Mentoring is a vital tool in youth development and empowering success; Nevada’s graduation Rate is 71.3%, one of the lowest in the country.
- A 2016 study from The Mentoring Project, shows that children with a mentor are 75% more likely to graduate HS and mentor.

Service to community

- Core Academy Harvest Festival.
- Meet and greet with Mentee; Mentee and Parents; Mentee and Mentoring Program Coordinator
- Chow program with Chef Natalie Young

Reflectio

Changes in myself

I think one of the first things I noticed was how common my Mentee and I were. Even though almost 5 years separated us, we liked a lot of the same things and could relate to one another. This was personal awakening to me to become more inquisitive of others, no matter age and also a reflection of my own High School years and how to help my mentee make better or similar choices. It was like having the little sister I never had.

Changes at the Site

After 3 months of being a part of Core Academy, I feel like I have contributed to the close knit family that Core Academy is. They graciously invited me into the mentoring program with ease and support. Core Academy upheld their reputation as a hero of the community of youth in Southern Nevada.

Changes in the Social Issue

Within this program, I was able to give one more student the opportunity to have a mentor. The program consists of more than 150 students, of which