

## MONTHLY



## UPDATE

## A Note from Our Team

Summertime has flown by, and we have heard so many fun stories from mentors about what they have been able to do with their mentees. From pool times to library events, there has been a good mix of air conditioning and water to keep us nice and cool. We have also heard from some about how they are working through some school goals to try to hit the school year with energy. We also enjoyed a fun outing to the movie theater with our mentoring community. There was a good showing while we know many of you were unable to attend, and we hope to have more of these events in the future. As always, we have some fun transitions in place for Intentional Mentoring and are excited to bring some new members into our community over the next few months! If anyone knows someone who would like to build a relationship with a Madison youth, let us know since the beginning of the school year often comes with a bunch of interest!

## Summer to School: Helping Students to Thrive

While the 90-degree weather tells us that summer is still in full swing, August begins the time we think about the eventual start of the school year. As we soak up these sweet summertime days, we caught up with Katie Mae Imhoff-Bebeau, Intentional Mentoring Founder and Program Coordinator, about what's been going on this summer here at Intentional Mentoring and how we can support our students in their transition back into the classroom this fall.

Looking at last school year, "we saw a huge increase of students and families—school staff and organizations too—looking for mentors to support students as they are still facing some challenges and wanting to work toward goals that were present pre-pandemic. These only got amplified during this time. While we

know that the community of adults and potential mentors is also trying to figure out what life looks like post-pandemic, we have heard and strongly believe that these mentorships have been an encouragement and positive part of the lives of both mentors and mentees," explained Katie. "We know that many students are also wanting to find motivation and support to grow back into the rhythm of school life, and it is often helpful to have someone there to encourage them in their goals. It is also important for them to find balance between school, home, and community/activities; mentors can play a role in this." This support can make all the difference for students as they look to transition into the next school year.

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## Shout-out

To the RISE organization for working with us to collaborate around mentoring students!



## Announcements

This last month we welcomed TWO new mentor coaches to Intentional Mentoring.

Stay tuned for a special welcoming once we have them rolling!



## Online

#intentionalmentoringmadison  
@intentionmentoring  
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In addition, “we are also working on a partnership with RISE,” continued Katie. “Families are connected through RISE as they are dealing with incarceration within the family. As RISE works with families, they are reaching out to us to find mentors who could be paired with younger students within these families to be another adult person to support them in their growth.”

These mentorships are especially important as we head into another school year so that students can feel confident and like they’re starting the school year off strong. While every student has different feelings as they head back to the classroom, “mentors can play an important role to help ground students and help them to feel seen and heard, coming alongside them to see how they are feeling, what excitement and worries they have, what goals are in sight, and more,” explained Katie. “Even talking through last year and what stands out to them would be valuable. Helping them to connect with their teachers is also greatly important. Students need to know that there are resources available in the people around them, and they can continue to learn how to advocate for their learning and their goals.”

As for the numbers, we currently have eight pairings, some long-standing and some new. We anticipate at least 10 students requesting mentors going into the school year, and RISE is requesting at least six pairings. While we saw an influx of mentors last fall, we have seen a decline this spring and summer. Part of this is people trying to find their own balance of doing things once again, and part of this is travel that has now opened up. As we approach this school year and summer wraps up, we hope people find themselves in a place to begin a mentorship and support our Madison students through the school year.

We are always looking for mentors that we can pair with these awesome youth, so if you or someone you know is interested in getting involved with a mentoring relationship, click the BECOME A MENTOR button to the right or contact Intentional Mentoring for more information. We always get an influx of student requests as the school year begins, so there will be plenty of opportunity for new pairings.

As always, thank you for supporting Intentional Mentoring, and here’s to a great school year!

Interested in getting involved with Intentional Mentoring but not sure you have the skill set or the available time for coaching/mentorship? We still value your contributions! Consider monthly community outreach or helping to organize one of our events. Have questions about what help Intentional Mentoring could use or other ideas for ways you think you could help? Email us at [katiemae@intentionalmentoringmadison.org](mailto:katiemae@intentionalmentoringmadison.org).

Contact Us

## Our Mission Statement

*With guidance from coaches, mentors interact with school staff, community members, and families in order to strengthen the support network for students facing adversity.*



## Upcoming Events

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