

STEM Success Buddies: College Mentors for High School Achievement



1. Program Goals

- Support high school students academically, especially in core subjects (math, science, history, writing, etc.).
- Offer mentorship and college-readiness insight.
- Provide meaningful leadership and service experience for college students.

2. Key Stakeholders

- **High Schools:** Provide student referrals and space for sessions.
- **College/University:** Recruit and oversee tutors from Clarkson University
- **Tutors (College Students):** Deliver academic support and mentoring.
- **Program Director:** Brenda Kozsan
- **Program Coordinators:** Wisdom Attipoe and Johannes Richter

3. Structure & Logistics

Numbers (see below High School Enrollment section)

- Initially start with 5-10 students based on information from partnering schools

Format

- **In-person** (if possible) once a month for tutors to meet with their students
- **Virtual** (Zoom, Google Meet) **meetings with tutors** with permission of a parent(s)/guardian(s)
- Sessions 1-2x per week, 60-90 minutes.
- 1-on-1 or small group (max 3 students per tutor).
- YouTube videos and other resources provided by program coordinators and tutors

Subjects Covered

- Math, English, Science, History, SAT/ACT prep, Study skills but dependent on student needs

Schedule

- After school or weekend sessions??
- 8-12 week sessions per semester (one in person session a month)

4. Tutor Recruitment & Training

Recruitment

- Partner with the Honors Program and The Clarkson School and other students on campus who have interest and experience tutoring.
- Offer community service hours, pay or leadership certification.

Training

- **1-2 hour orientation covering:**
 - Tutoring techniques and boundaries
 - Cultural awareness and communication
 - How to work with diverse learners
 - Mandatory reporting & ethics

5. High School Student Enrollment

- Referral by teachers, counselors, or parents - 5-10 students each semester to begin
- Application (in person and online) to assess academic needs and matching with tutors
- Parental consent required (especially for minors)

6. Program Tools & Materials

- Shared Google Drive or LMS for resources - use of Kahn Academy as it offers free resources, Quizlet.
- Tutoring logs and progress trackers - Brenda, Wisdom, Johannes and tutors will develop a form. Develop a point system or recognition each week of meeting milestones with an end of the semester BIG prize.
- Feedback surveys (midway and end-of-program) - goes out to students, teachers and parents.

7. Supervision & Support

- Weekly check-ins or email updates between tutors and coordinators. Brenda will meet with the tutors as well weekly.
- Open communication channel for questions/issues.
- Optional tutor debriefs or peer support meetings - meet on campus once a month during the regular school visits to campus for tutor/student relationship building.

8. Evaluation & Outcomes

- Pre/post academic confidence surveys
- Student, teacher and parent feedback
- Tutor reflection assignments or testimonials
- Track grades, attendance, and progress

9. Recognition

- Weekly or monthly recognition at the campus events - what does that look like?
- Gifts, certificates or celebration event at the end of each semester.
- Highlight success stories in IMPETUS newsletters or social media
- Gift certificates for outstanding tutors based on student and teacher feedback