

LOWER MERION HIGH SCHOOL THE SENIOR PROJECT

Dear Mentor:

The seniors of Lower Merion High School will participate in a final project designed to allow the student to experience an authentic learning environment by taking part in a community activity. This senior project is an exploration of a topic of interest to the individual student. Beginning in early May students will receive release time from all classes for approximately fourteen (14) days and at least seventy (70) hours, which will facilitate an intense focus on an essential question created during the semester. The student who has given you this letter believes that you could provide some assistance in this experiential phase of the project.

The intent of this letter is to introduce the student and program to you, a potential mentor. Without partners like you from our community, the program could not function. Your willingness to consider being a mentor is appreciated. I am sure it will prove to be a mutually rewarding and satisfying experience.

During your initial meetings with the student, you will see the senior project student handbook—which describes the role of the mentor and the responsibilities of the student. Also, the Mentor agreement form and the Mentor evaluation will enhance the understanding of your role in the project.

In general, you will do the following:

- Work with the student as he/she creates and researches his/her essential question for the senior project
- Work with the student to design a schedule to meet the 70 hour requirement during which he/she researches his/her essential question
- Reach agreement with the student on expectations regarding attendance, attitude, quality of work and responsibilities
- Provide the student with resources and experiences through which the student researches his/her essential question.
- Encourage the student to challenge him/herself and take intellectual risks.
- Give the student regular feedback on his/her performance and progress
- Complete the Mentor Evaluation form provided by the student
- Attest to the student's completion of the 70 hour requirement.
- Notify the Senior Project Coordinator immediately if any concerns or problems arise

Again, thank your for assisting us in making the senior project a truly worthwhile experience for our students at Lower Merion. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,
Eric Lynn
Senior Project Coordinator
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