

TRANSITIONING TOGETHER



Newton North's mentor program for first generation students applying to college
Melissa Hanenberger, Director and College Counselor

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

- ▶ To provide families, who do not have experience with the American post-high-school planning process, with individualized one-on-one help to keep them on track to attend college



OUR HISTORY & RESULTS

- ▶ Class of 2014
 - ▶ 13 mentees matched with 13 mentors
- ▶ Class of 2015
 - ▶ 29 mentees matched with 28 mentors (1 set of twins)
- ▶ Class of 2016
 - ▶ 36 mentees matched with 36 mentors
- ▶ Class of 2017
 - ▶ 35 mentees matched with 34 mentors (1 set of twins)
- ▶ Every Class has had 100% of mentees accepted to college
- ▶ Class of 2018
 - ▶ 29 mentees matched with 29 mentors



OUR CURRENT DEMOGRAPHICS



- ▶ Class of 2108 Mentee Demographics: 29 students
 - ▶ 100% are first in their family to attend college in the United States
 - ▶ 41% receive Free or Reduced Lunch
 - ▶ 45% are English Language Learners (ELL) or former ELL (FLEP)
 - ▶ 10% in METCO
 - ▶ 41% live with a Single Parent
 - ▶ 7% live with someone other than either of their biological parent

MENTOR RECRUITMENT

- ▶ Parents who have gone through the college application process with their own children
 - ▶ Parents of Graduating Seniors
 - ▶ Empty Nesters
- ▶ Community Members who work in Higher Education
- ▶ Newton North Graduates
- ▶ Word of Mouth



SUPPORT FOR OUR MENTORS

- ▶ NNHS College Planning Guide
- ▶ Speakers & Handouts at monthly meetings
- ▶ T² Website - www.nnhs2.org
- ▶ Twitter Feed - [@NewtonNHSCandCC](https://twitter.com/NewtonNHSCandCC)
- ▶ Emails from T² Mentor Coordinator
- ▶ Weekly Homeroom with Mentees
- ▶ School Counselor
- ▶ Naviance
- ▶ Team Members –
 - ▶ Melissa Hanenberger, Director & Mentor Coordinator
 - ▶ Jillian Hall, Content & Programming Coordinator
 - ▶ Brendan Amedio, Alumni Coordinator
 - ▶ Jennifer Geraghty, Mentee Coordinator

CALENDAR OF EVENTS




- ▶ Junior Year – Monthly Meetings
 - ▶ January – Meet Mentor and attend Junior Parent Night together
 - ▶ February – Full Day Retreat at Mount Ida
 - ▶ March – Tour and Information Session with Torch Scholars at Northeastern University
 - ▶ April – What does a First Generation Application Look Like?
 - ▶ May – College Admissions Panel
 - ▶ June – Essay Brainstorm Workshop – review Interview Tips & Summer Timeline

CALENDAR OF EVENTS CON'T.....

- ▶ Senior Year Monthly Meetings
 - ▶ September – Collect Essay Drafts, Pre-Meeting before Senior Night
 - ▶ October – Attend Newton North College Nights & Financial Aid Night Together
 - ▶ October – Transitioning Together Visits to 3 local colleges
 - ▶ Late October – Application & Essay Workshop
 - ▶ November – Follow Up Financial Aid Session with MEFA representatives & Immigration Attorney
 - ▶ December – Application & Essay Workshop
 - ▶ January - March – Mentors & Mentees meet individually to meet all application, financial aid and scholarship deadlines
 - ▶ April – Financial Aid Night for all Seniors – Making Sense of Financial Aid Packages
 - ▶ May – Closing Celebration



INDIVIDUAL MEETING TOPICS



- ▶ Get to know each other
 - ▶ Visit museum, athletic event or enjoy a meal together
- ▶ Discover Student's Interests, Strengths and Preferences
- ▶ Visit Local Colleges of Interest
- ▶ Research Colleges on List Generated by Counselor
- ▶ Work on College Essay
- ▶ Work on Applications
- ▶ Work on Financial Aid Forms – attend FAFSA day together

OTHER T² YEARLY EVENTS

- ▶ Nominations from Counselors, Administrators, ELL and METCO Coordinators – Fall
- ▶ Applications due in November, Acceptance Notification in December
- ▶ Mentor Solicitation & Training – Fall & Winter
- ▶ Alumni Breakfast – December
- ▶ Test Prep for Juniors in Spring
- ▶ Weekly Homeroom with Mentees
 - ▶ Junior Year Spring & Senior Year Fall



STAFFING

- ▶ 2013-2014 = 3 stipend positions
 - ▶ Mentor Coordinator
 - ▶ Mentee Coordinator
 - ▶ Programming Coordinator
- ▶ 2014-Current = 3 stipend positions plus .25 FTE
 - ▶ Director -.25 FTE
 - ▶ Mentee Coordinator
 - ▶ Alumni Coordinator
 - ▶ Programming Coordinator



FUNDING

- ▶ For Staffing
 - ▶ School Budget – stipends, FTE
- ▶ For Program Materials, Transportation, Food, Test Prep Materials
 - ▶ Grants
 - ▶ Donations
 - ▶ Community Members
 - ▶ Mentors



THANK YOU FOR LISTENING



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