



# ROTARY STRIVE ORIENTATION

## STRIVE 2.0

*"We make a living by what we get;  
we make a life by what we give."*

Winston Churchill

**Agenda**  
**STRIVE Orientation**  
2018-19 School Year

Welcome and Introduction of Attendees

Overview of STRIVE Program & Criteria

Mentor Responsibilities

Student Responsibilities

Mentor Experiences

Funding/Schedule of Events

Comments/Questions

# STRIVE MENTORING PROGRAM

## Overview of the STRIVE Program:

- A mentoring program for juniors and seniors at [Lee High School \(2500 Meridian Street, Huntsville, Alabama 35811\)](#) and [Huntsville High School \(2304 Billie Watkins Avenue, Huntsville, Alabama 35801\)](#) who want to improve themselves and plan for a better life but need additional help and guidance.
- Started over 15 years ago under Lee Hoekenschnieder's leadership. The Program is based on a similar program of the Grand Rapids, Michigan Rotary Club.
- Originally, the STRIVE Program worked with Butler High School. However, several years ago the Program began a transition to Lee High School. Beginning during the 2014-2015 academic year, all students participating in the Program are students at Lee High School.
- The STRIVE Program is funded through the Huntsville Rotary Club's Foundation.
- The Program addresses factors that can make a difference such as motivation, attendance, work habits, self-esteem, and success both in and outside the classroom.
- Students commit to three things (the Three A's):
  - (1) Academics - Maintain a minimum "C" average
  - (2) Attendance - Maintain a 90% attendance record
  - (3) Attitude - Maintain appropriate conduct and a positive attitude
- Students are rewarded in a number of ways:
  - (1) STRIVE students are eligible to apply to receive one- and two-year college scholarships - **\$1,000** per semester for a total of **\$4,000**. Please note that the scholarship and eligibility have changed recently. The general rule is that STRIVE students must attend a junior college before attending

a 4-year college. However, scholarship can also be used at a trade school. Additionally, the scholarship can be used for summer school (other scholarships do not normally pay for summer school). In order to receive the scholarship, students must provide the following information to Debbie Dryer:

- A copy of Lee High School or Huntsville High School transcript confirming an overall 2.0 average and attendance (must have less than 10% absences)
- A letter from the college/university confirming acceptance.
- A statement from the college or university of tuition and fees owed after Pell Grant and/or other funding sources are applied.
- A copy of the student's class schedule - *please note the student must be enrolled full time (at least 12 hours) or the scholarship will be prorated.*

(2) Monetary incentives for summer employment for the summer following graduation from High School

- Rotary will pay the student \$1.50 for each hour worked up to a maximum of \$720.

(3) Tuition for summer school following junior year

(4) ACT Tutoring and Testing

- All students are eligible to attend ACT Tutoring that Rotary will provide to STRIVE Students.
  - ACT Tutoring will be in the Fall
- Provide monetary incentives for attending all tutoring classes and taking the ACT Test
- Rotary will pay for student to take one ACT Test. Additionally, most of the students also qualify for 2 free ACT Test.

(5) Field trip to Space and Rocket Center

(6) End of the Year Banquet

## **STRIVE Program**

Huntsville Rotary Club will sponsor STRIVE programs at two local area high schools - Huntsville High School and Lee High School.

Rotary will conduct STRIVE related activities during the Power Hour (11:31 am - 12:33) p.m. at both schools. Mentor meetings will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month during the school year at 11:00 am prior to Rotary

**Due to state requirements for adults working with children, STRIVE mentors will undergo a routine background check focused on criminal history checks.**

Mentors will only be required to meet with their mentees twice monthly rather than weekly. One of the meetings will be a monthly lunch and learn program; the other meeting will be for mentors to discuss a pre-selected focused on personal growth and improvement of academic performance.

### **Goals and Objectives:**

- Provide a positive role model to students.
- Build student self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Give students the opportunity to develop relationships with adults in the business world who may serve as role models.
- Improve student performance in the academic environment, as evidenced by improved grades, increased school attendance, positive involvement in school activities, and improved attitude.
- Provide "leadership training" to participating students.
- Motivate students to seek success in all areas of life---academics, economics, and personal integrity.
- Provide one-on-one attention to students from a caring, reliable adult.
- Motivate and encourage students to stay in school and graduate!

### **What is a mentor?**

A mentor is a caring, reliable adult who is willing to be a good listener and a non-judgmental friend to a young person in need of attention. A mentor helps a young person, or "mentee" by:

- Meeting regularly with the student on a one-on-one basis.
- Building self-esteem
- Helping the student to focus on academic and personal goals
- Encouraging the young person to accomplish those goals

By example, a mentor is a positive role model who expands the young person's awareness of alternatives to despair, drug and alcohol abuse, truancy, dropping out, and many other pervasive problems that affect our youth today.



## **Mentor Responsibilities**

- Foster a supportive relationship with the student.
- Set a positive example.
- Reinforce the student's success.
- Assist the student in setting goals and exploring the means for achieving those goals.
- Expose the student to the business world and help them to explore career options/paths.
- Build student self-esteem through development of a personal relationship.
- Encourage the student to stay in school.
- Maintain contact with the student and be accessible.
- Follow-through on commitments.



## Mentee Responsibilities

- Meet regularly with the Mentor on a one-on-one basis, in small groups of mentees and mentors, and with the entire group of STRIVE program participants. It is important that both mentor and mentee notify each other if they miss a meeting
- Build self-esteem and celebrate successes with mentor
- Set and achieve educational and personal goals, focused on academics, attendance, and attitude
- Obtain an understanding of the real world and the importance of basic academic skills for success and the need to remain in school
- Interact with a positive role model who maintains contact, is accessible and follows through on commitments



## Frequently Asked Questions

- **What kind of commitment is required?**  
Approximately two hours per month spent with your student during the school year; the time may be spent talking together over lunch at the school, discussing school work, attending sporting events, visiting the library, etc. **Lunch is held during what's called Power Hour.** Lee High School piloted the Power Hour during the 2016-17 school year to allow students dedicated time during the school day to combine a lunch break with the ability for students to participate in extracurricular activities during regularly schedule school hours.

Following the success of last year's Speakers Series, mentors will now be required to meet with their students two times per month. One meeting would be lunch and conversation between mentor and mentee that lasts between 30 - 60 minutes, to be determined between agreement between mentor and mentee. The second monthly meeting will feature a speaker on a selected topic, presented during a Rotary Club sponsored lunch attended by mentors and mentees.

In addition to the twice monthly meeting commitment, mentors are asked to attend a Rotary sponsored outing, usually a sporting event, prior to which, mentors get the opportunity to meet family members or guardians of STRIVE program participants. The outing is a chance for parents and guardians of mentees to learn about the STRIVE program and its benefits.

Mentors are not limited to the previously set forth time commitment parameters. Some mentors have formed long-lasting relationships through additional time spent together outside the framework of the formal STRIVE program.

- **How is a student assigned to a mentor?**

Generally, students are paired with mentors of the same gender who may have common interests. If, for some reason, the relationship does not work out, another student will be assigned to the mentor. Parents must give permission for their child to participate in this program.

- **Do I have what it takes to become a mentor?**

No special skills or knowledge is required. All that is needed is a sincere desire to make a positive difference in a young person's life by developing a personal relationship and growing together.

- **What do I do when I arrive at the school to meet with my student?**

Please go directly to the main office and report in by identifying yourself to staff members. Mentors will follow the volunteer protocols of the school attended by their respective mentors. **Do not go to the student's classroom without checking in at the office.** Each school will designate the location for mentors and

students to meet for individual lunches and for the STRIVE Program Speakers Series.

- **Can I take my student off campus for lunch?**

You are not allowed to take students off campus during the Power Hour as taking a student off campus grounds during the school day requires written permission from the parent or legal guardian and approval by the school administration.

Mentors can opt to meet with their students during breakfast prior to the start of the school day with written permission obtained from the program participant's parent or legal guardian.

- **Are outside activities allowed?**

Absolutely! Activities outside of school are encouraged and may consist of any activity that is of interest to your student and yourself, with approval from parents. Some possibilities are museums, movies, the zoo, parks, or sporting events. The financial arrangements for those events should be discussed and shared with the student if possible. Mentors should not give students money. Mentors must also be cognizant and avoid placing themselves in compromising situations.

- **Is contacting the parent important?**

Yes, the mentoring relationship that includes an involved parent has the potential for a positive impact upon the entire family system and may result in significant, positive changes. Parents are invited to attend an orientation meeting as well as other workshops and activities throughout the year.

## STRIVE Program Power Hour Activities<sup>1</sup>

In recruiting club members to serve as STRIVE mentors, a suggestion was made to provide mentors with material and ideas to facilitate discussions with their mentees. It's been suggested that a more structured framework to deliver the program might attract more club members willing to serve as STRIVE mentors. To that end, STRIVE 2.0 will feature two components to enhance the program experience for both mentors and mentees, a monthly theme that mentors can use to initiate discussions with their mentees and a monthly STRIVE Speakers Series. The monthly speaker's series was rolled out during the 2018-19 academic year at Lee High School and was a resounding success.

Proposed discussion themes for the 2018-19 school year:

- September Program Introduction
- October Who Am I
- November The Four-Way Test
- December Career Possibilities
- January Community Service
- February Financial Literacy
- March Personal Goal Setting
- April What's Next
- May Program Wrap-Up

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<sup>1</sup> Discussion materials will be provided to mentors by the Chair/Co-Chair Community Service Committee

## Proposed Speakers Series Topics<sup>2</sup>

- October Goal Setting
- November Time Management and Priorities
- December Community Service
- January Making Good Choices - Ethical Decision-Making
- February Life Skills - Networking
- March Table Etiquette and Manners
- April Future Employment
- May End of Year Banquet - Guest Speaker



## **Additional Mentoring Activity Suggestions**

- Eat lunch together at the school
- Attend special school activities
- Have weekly half-hour tutoring sessions
- Review homework

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<sup>2</sup> Speakers to be determined by the Chair/Co-Chair for Community Service Committee

- Work together on the computer
- Assist student in setting goals
- Weekly phone calls to see how things are going
- Explore career options
- Have a problem-solving session together
- Send student a card for a special occasion (birthday, Christmas, etc.)
- Discuss educational plans with student and family
- Take student to your place of employment
- Ask to see their report card or view grades online together
- Write a family history (family tree)
- See a movie together
- Attend sporting events together
- Involve student in your hobby and vice versa
- Visit the library
- Introduce them to area attractions that they normally may not see



## **Reminders for Effective Mentoring**

- Establish a warm, genuine and open relationship
- Be a good listener
- Establish rapport by remembering personal information about your student
- Focus on student's strengths and potential rather than limitations

- Monitor student's progress toward educational goals
- Determine reasons for poor academic performance and direct student to appropriate support/resources within the school
- Be realistic with student
- Follow-up on commitments made to student
- Encourage student to consider and develop career alternatives when appropriate
- Don't betray confidential information
- Be yourself and allow student to be him/herself
- Don't make decisions for student; help him/her to make their own decisions
- Provide accurate information
- Keep in frequent contact with student
- Use all available information sources
- Keep an anecdotal record of significant conversations for future reference.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of your mentoring.

*Extracted from "Advising Skills,  
Techniques, and Resources" by David  
Crockett, Vice President, Public Affairs,  
American College Testing Program*

STRIVE Dates to Remember  
(Subject to Change)

- STRIVE Orientation for  
HHS Students September 2018 (Lunch)  
LHS Students September 2018 (Lunch)
- Kick Off Meeting (Mentors  
Attend this Event and Meet  
Students) September 2018 (Lunch)
- ACT Test Dates See Below
- Parent / Student Event TBD
- ACT Tutoring  
Juniors/Seniors ACT Tutoring  
Dates: Fall 2018 - TBD
- Students to Attend Rotary April 2019
- Field Trip Space & Rocket Center –  
Spring 2019
- Monthly Mentor Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Each Month
- End of Year Banquet May, 2019

# 2018-2019 SCHOOL CALENDAR

## HUNTSVILLE CITY SCHOOLS 2018-2019 CALENDAR

APPROVED: 6/8/17

2018						
JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

  

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

  

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

  

OCTOBER						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

  

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

  

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

30 Jul - 1 Aug Mon-Wed	Professional Dev.
2-Aug Thurs	Institute Day
3-Aug Friday	Teacher Work Day
6-Aug Monday	First Day for Students
3-Sep Monday	Labor Day Holiday
19-Sep Wednesday	1/2 Students Full Day Teachers (PD)
5-Oct Friday	End of 1st 9 Weeks
8-12 Oct Mon-Fri	Fall Break
21-Oct Wednesday	1/2 Students Full Day Teachers (PD)
12-Nov Monday	Veterans Day Holiday (Observed)
19-23 Nov Mon-Fri	Thanksgiving Holiday
21-Dec Friday	End of 1st Semester
24-31 Dec Mon-Mon	Winter Holidays
1-3 Jan Tue-Thur	Winter Holidays
4-Jan Friday	Teacher Work Day
7-Jan Monday	Students Return
21-Jan Monday	MLK Holiday
30-Jan Wednesday	1/2 Students Full Day Teachers (PD)
18-Feb Monday	Possible Snow Day
27-Feb Wednesday	1/2 Students Full Day Teachers (PD)
8-Mar Friday	End of 3rd 9 Weeks
18-22 Mar Mon-Fri	Spring Break
23-May Thursday	End of 2nd Semester
23-May Thursday	Last Day for Students
24-May Friday	Teacher Work Day
23&24 May Thurs-Fri	Graduation Day
27-May Monday	Memorial Day Holiday

Student Instruction Days		
Work day for 15-/12-month Employees (as defined by dates)		
No Classes-Students/Teachers		
Holidays - Schools & Central Office		
Teacher Workdays- No Students		
Teacher Professional Development		
Possible Snow Make-up Days		
Graduation - May 23 is a School Day/May 24 is a Teacher Work Day		
Calendar Adjustment Day - Non-charged Leave for 15- and 12-month Employees		
No Classes-Students/Teachers (N/A for 2018-19)		
	Student Days	Teacher Days
First Semester	88	88
Second Semester	92	86
	180	187
Employee Holidays	17	

2019						
JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

  

FEBRUARY						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

  

MARCH						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

  

APRIL						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

  

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

  

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

	Start Dates:	End Dates:	Total Work Days	Should Total
12-month Employees	July 1, 2017	June 30, 2018	260	260
11-month Employees	July 30, 2017	June 15, 2018	261	261
10-month Employees	July 19, 2017	June 6, 2018	202	202
9-month Employees	July 27, 2017	May 25, 2018	187	187

180 Student Days  
 Coordinate with other Districts  
 End by Memorial Day  
 Full Christmas Break  
 Spring Break @ ~ 9 Week Point  
 Fall Break @ ~ 9 Week Pt  
 Full Thanksgiving Break

### 2018-2019 Test Dates (National)

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
September 8, 2018**	August 12, 2018	August 13-26, 2018
October 27, 2018	September 28, 2018	September 29-October 14, 2018
December 8, 2018	November 2, 2018	November 3-19, 2018
February 9, 2019*	January 11, 2019	January 12-18, 2019
April 13, 2019	March 8, 2019	March 9-25, 2019
June 8, 2019	May 3, 2019	May 4-20, 2019
July 13, 2019*	June 14, 2019	June 15-24, 2019

Rotary will pay for a student to take the ACT Test once.

Most of the STRIVE students also qualify for 2 free ACT Tests. In order to receive the 2 free ACT tests, the student must obtain a certificate from their counselor at Huntsville/Lee High School.

All juniors at Huntsville and Lee High Schools will be given the ACT Test in the spring.



## **STRIVE Scholarship Criteria For 2019 Graduates**

To receive STRIVE scholarship funds, a student must provide the following to the Huntsville Rotary Club Executive Director on or before July 30<sup>th</sup>.

1. A copy of the high school transcript confirming an overall 2.0 grade point average and 90% attendance.
2. A letter from the college/university confirming acceptance.
3. A copy of the class schedule. Please note if the student does not attend full time, the scholarship will be pro-rated.
4. A statement of tuition and fees after all grants, scholarships, etc. have been applied.
5. STRIVE scholarship does not exceed \$1,000 a semester for four semesters.
6. STRIVE scholarship will be paid directly to the college/university and cannot be returned or refunded to the student.
7. STRIVE scholarship is designated for tuition or books only. There must be a balance available following payments from other grants and/or scholarships.
8. STRIVE payments are submitted for the amount of the tuition balance not to exceed \$1,000. If student has a balance in their scholarship fund, the balance can carry forward for up to a maximum of 3 years.

## **STRIVE Contacts for 2018-2019**

### **Contacts at Rotary:**

Executive Director: Debbie Dryer-Coates (256) 679-4554  
[Huntsvillerotary@huntsvillerotary.com](mailto:Huntsvillerotary@huntsvillerotary.com)

STRIVE Director: Grant Thomson (256) 783-6329  
[grant.thomson@morganstanley.com](mailto:grant.thomson@morganstanley.com)

STRIVE Director: Hal Fulmer (256) 541-9694  
HFulmer@brookdale.com

STRIVE Liaison: Richard Purdue (256) 658-0219  
rperdue@ssbank.bank

### **Contacts at Huntsville High School: [www.huntsvillehigh.org](http://www.huntsvillehigh.org)**

Principal: Aaron King (256) 428-8050  
[aaron.king@hsv-k12.org](mailto:aaron.king@hsv-k12.org)

Vice Principal: Kari Flippo (256) 428-8050  
[kari.flippo@hsv-k12.org](mailto:kari.flippo@hsv-k12.org)

STRIVE Liaison: Cory Muhammed  
[Cory.Muhammad@hsv-k12.org](mailto:Cory.Muhammad@hsv-k12.org)

STRIVE Liaison: Mrs. Parker

### **Contacts at Lee High School: [www.leehigh.org](http://www.leehigh.org)**

Principal: Tony Woods (256) 428-8150 Ext. 103  
[Anatony.woods@hsv-k12.org](mailto:Anatony.woods@hsv-k12.org)

STRIVE Liaison: Nicole Fields (256) 527-9500  
[Nicole.Fields@hsv-k12.org](mailto:Nicole.Fields@hsv-k12.org) -