

The Sponsor's Role in the Senior Project Program

A sponsor is the member of the broader community (in school or outside of school) who provides the student with the opportunity to learn, serve, and experience life outside the classroom during the period of May 24 – June 4, 2010. The sponsor helps the student set specific goals and evaluates the student's performance. Often, the student corresponds with the sponsor several times regarding plans and hopes for the proposed project. The sponsor's expertise, guidance, and willingness to challenge the student/intern provide for a rich learning experience in the short time available.

1. The purpose of the Senior Project Program is to give students an opportunity to create an independent experience, away from the familiar classroom setting, with the focus on self-directed learning, personal growth, and leadership development.
2. All seniors are invited to participate in the Senior Project Program during the final weeks of their senior year. The program begins on May 24 and runs until June 4, 2010. Some students may decide to continue their program beyond the reporting date, but reflection essays are due to the faculty mentor and a committee member for review by noon on June 7. Senior Project Presentations will take place on June 9, 2010 @ 7:15 p.m. in the PAC.
3. Seniors must submit detailed proposals for review by the Senior Project Committee. Detailed proposals describe the nature and purpose of their projects. The committee determines the viability of the projects in terms of the potential of the applicant and the quality of the mentor.
4. Proof of sponsorship must accompany the proposals. The student/intern you are working with should provide you a copy of the proposal to sign.
5. Standardized forms are sent to the sponsors in May for the purpose of evaluating students. Sponsors return them to school each week and after the projects are concluded. These evaluations subsequently become a part of the student's permanent file, and copies are made available to the student, the committee, and the faculty mentor who assisted the student in the planning stages of the project.
6. Each student must write a full report on his/her project based on the journal he/she is encouraged to keep during the experience. These reports are kept permanently on file in the school library and the school archives and copies are made available to mentors on request.

We are excited that you'll be helping Sandy Spring Friends School students gain invaluable experience in a wide variety of fields. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Vickie Garner (vgarner@ssfs.org) clerk of the Senior Project Committee.