

Dear ***Name of potential mentor***,

I'm contacting you about a specific need a student in our building has. I have a student who was born in prison and her mom has gone back to prison recently. She is very bright, does well academically, and has amazing potential. She really wants to be a vet when she grows up.

What I'm writing to ask you, is whether you might consider being a mentor to this girl. Our program here is run by a nonprofit organization called The Mentoring Network and it's an amazing program. [www.mentoringnetworkid.org](http://www.mentoringnetworkid.org)

The program is school-based, which means you'd come on campus once per week for around 45-60 minutes, whenever works best for you & the child's schedule. Mentors become a trusted friend, a special person who consistently shows up each week. I cannot tell you how simple and yet how powerful this is.

A former student of mine, Frank, slunk around, mumbled, got into trouble, never did his work, and performed poorly academically. He was matched with a young woman in college. After about a month, Frank walked by me in the hall, posture erect and confident, and said clearly, "Hi, ***Mrs. Counselor Name***." I nearly stopped in my tracks. I wanted to ask him who he was and what he'd done with Frank. His reading scores also skyrocketed. I asked his mentor, "What are you doing together?" She told me that they were playing some card games and chatting, and she seemed to feel uncertain she was helping him at all. For the rest of his elementary career, Frank did so much better socially, academically, and behaviorally. His life trajectory was altered, in such a simple yet meaningful way.

I know you are a very busy person. I will tell you that I also mentor a student (at a middle school) and it's been a "tank filler" and not a drain of my time, energy, or resources. I haven't seen her since last spring and I'm chomping at the bit to get mentoring started again. Mentors start doing this for the kid, but they keep doing it for themselves. I've seen the rewards over and over.

If you'd consider mentoring, or have any questions, please give me a call or shoot me an email.

Thanks for your time,

***Counselor name***

***Contact information***