

The School Board of Sarasota County, Florida

Proclamation in Support of National Mentoring Month January 19, 2016

Whereas, mentors across the United States teach, inspire, and guide young Americans as they reach for their dreams and strive to realize their limitless potential; and

Whereas, mentors help children build confidence, gain knowledge, and develop strength of character; and

Whereas, students with mentors have better attendance in school, higher self-esteem, a greater chance of pursuing higher education, and fewer incidents of risky or unhealthy behavior; and

Whereas, hundreds of neighbors, teachers, community volunteers and other dedicated individuals in Sarasota County work selflessly through mentoring programs to improve children's odds for success; and

Whereas, our community has a number of organizations that promote and facilitate mentoring, including the Sarasota County School District Volunteer & Partnership Office, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast, Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, Girls Incorporated of Sarasota County, Jewish Family and Children's Service of the Suncoast, Inc., the Sarasota YMCA, and Take Stock in Children of Sarasota County; and

Whereas, January has been designated as National Mentoring Month, in which America honors mentors and encourages men and women across the country to become mentors;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that, the **School Board of Sarasota County** does hereby proclaim **January 2016** as **Mentoring Month in Sarasota County**, and calls on all citizens, businesses, public and private agencies, religious and educational institutions to celebrate the mentoring movement, become a mentor and inspire a child today!



Shirley Brown, Chair
School Board of Sarasota County
January 19, 2016