



Savannah - Chatham County
Local. Outreach. Volunteer. Educators.

L.O.V.E.
MENTORS

Helping
Children
Learn

www.lovementors.org

February, 2023

Message From The Leadership Team

Many thanks to all of our mentors who have returned to one-on-one mentoring. As of now we are back in 8 schools and have over 75 mentors. We have seen that the learning loss as a result of the pandemic was much more



severe than we expected, and the children need our help more than ever.

We urge you to reach out to your friends who might consider joining our ranks as the schools

have asked us for more mentors. Remind them that no experience is required -- just a desire to help a child. You are our best recruiters.

There have been changes in the leadership team as we re-assembled for this school year. Now leading the group as Chair of the Board of Trustees is Roy Samras who previously was Recording Secretary. You can see all the changes at the end of this newsletter under Leadership Team.

We feel this team has the experience and determination to make L.O.V.E. Mentors a dynamic organization which will continue to make significant contributions to our community.

You are an important and valuable part of the team!!

Book Fair and Mentor Huddle

Monday, February 20

4:00 p.m. SIUMC

The Book Fair has returned, and all mentors are invited to come to the Skidaway Island United Methodist Church to select free books for their students. We are focusing on books for the early grades. These are books that you can give to your student to take home once you read it with them.

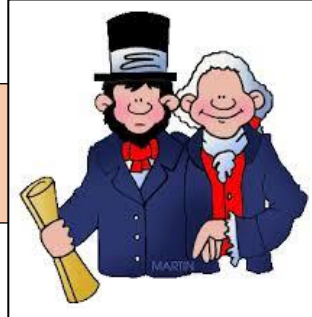


NEW THIS YEAR: THE MENTOR HUDDLE
Many mentors have said they would like an opportunity to talk with other mentors in their school since they don't have much time to do that at school. Tables will be set up for each school and mentors can gather there and discuss issues and exchange ideas. Tables with refreshments will be set up.

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

Check the School Calendar for Days Schools are Closed

PRESIDENTS' DAY
February 20



ST. PATRICK'S DAY
March 17 and 20

SPRING BREAK
April 3 - 7



SUMMER CAMP

Once again L.O.V.E. Mentors will make it possible for many students to attend one of the summer camps. This is so important for them not only to have summer fun, but to continue academic learning. Details to follow.



Thank You, Laura

L.O.V.E. Mentors was extremely fortunate to have Laura Wehrle as our leader for 7 years. Bill Monroe and Ginny Pierce speak for all of us in thanking her for her leadership and guidance.

By Bill Monroe

As I look back over the last seven years, Laura was at the center of everything we did in the L.O.V.E.



organization. In the early days of the camp program she provided much needed guidance and support when we were not sure the program should go forward. She made presentations with me and helped to write requests for funds. She was never against rolling up her sleeves and working on a project. Her greatest gift to

me was in her strategic support and guidance for the various programs we were developing. This was never more evident than during the days of the Covid shut down. When she moved away from Savannah she still supplied support for the various remote learning programs and partnership agreements we formed during this time of school closure and Zoom mentoring.

By Ginny Pierce

Laura joined the L.O.V.E. team at Low in 2015 and was a natural at mentoring. When I was Chairman, she was



Secretary of the Board and held strategic meetings with Site Directors on improving the L.O.V.E. Program.

She reached out to the Superintendent of Schools and made strides to improve the relationship of L.O.V.E. with the community and school principals.

When Karen retired from her Chairmanship, Laura was instrumental in keeping the Board running smoothly without one person in the role of Chairman. She continued with others on the Board to run meetings even after moving to Tennessee.

Laura still cares deeply about the program and will support whatever we need. She is a GEM!

Remembering Karen

Karen Lindholm was a devoted L.O.V.E. Mentor. She was a Site Director for 15 years, was Vice Chair and then Chair for 3 years.



In addition to expanding the program, she was devoted to the children she tutored and followed several of them for many years. She instilled the value that children thrive with the one-on-one mentoring that they receive from their L.O.V.E. mentors.

In Karen's honor, L.O.V.E. provided three Adirondack chairs and an indoor-outdoor rug for the reading porch outside the media center at Haven to be dedicated to Karen. The chairs and rug are dark green, Haven's colors. A memorial plaque in Karen's honor will be mounted in this area and dedicated to Karen's memory.

Her service will continue to support these children and encourage reading.





L.O.V.E. believes that improving a child's education is the foundation for improving quality of life. Classroom teachers have little opportunity to work one-on-one with students. L.O.V.E. provides this benefit to students.

L.O.V.E. Leadership Team For 2022 - 2023

Chair of the Board of Trustees Roy Samras, Officer
 Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees Open
 School Liaison-SCCPS Open
 Mentor Recruiting and Assimilation Dan Malachuk, Officer
 Reporting Secretary Roy Samras (acting), Officer
 Treasurer Kevin Dutton, Officer
 Mentor Resources Ginny Pierce
 Publicity and Events Carol Fallon and Denis Healy
 Camp Coordinator Carol Black
 Training Specialist Catherine Ruhl
 Director of Special Projects Bill Monroe
 Administrative Support Mike O'Neill
 Publication Design Dr. M. Louise Walters, The Leadership Center

Schools

At the current time, L.O.V.E. Mentors serves 8 Title I schools in the SCCPSS.

SCHOOLS	L.O.V.E. SITE DIRECTOR
Andrea B. Williams.....	Carol Fallon and Tom Rood
Gadsden.....	Bill Monroe
Haven	Kevin Dutton
Hodge.....	Bill Monroe
Isle of Hope.....	Shannon Baxter
Low	Ginny Pierce
Pulaski.....	Ginny Donaldson and Jill Corbin
Windsor Forest	Sue Burns



**Thank You For
Helping Children Learn**