

**Goal Buddy of the Quarter
Steve Wade, Belvedere Elementary**



It is with great pleasure and much respect that I nominate Mr. Steve Wade for "Goal Buddy of the Quarter" award for 3rd Quarter. Steve works for First National Bank and is currently Senior Vice President of First National Investment Services.

Mr. Wade has made such a strong personal and professional investment in P4K and with the students of Belvedere. He is one of the most dedicated volunteers and P4K partners; and frequently is accompanied to events by his lovely wife Mary Beth.

In addition to believing in the vision and mission of P4K, Steve serves on P4K committees, has gifted us with not only his time as a goal buddy in Mrs. Wees' 4th grade and Ms. White's 4th grade classrooms but finds ways to contribute funds to school and P4K fundraisers, and has judged student led events and much more where he is completing his 2nd year.

On a personal note, I have truly enjoyed getting to know Steve and although he prefers to stay in the background, it is necessary to take a moment to recognize such a giving soul who always strives to lift-up our young people as well as his fellow goal buddies.

Congratulations Steve for a job well done and being such a change maker in the lives of many.

Nominated by: Yolanda R. Williams/Ms. Yo
Elementary Program Manager

**Middle School - Mentor of the Quarter
Marisol Del Toral, Norris 8th Grade**



Sol has been an incredible mentor with our Norris 8th graders. Her ability to relate to her girls and earn their trust in such a short time has been remarkable to observe. Sol began mentoring at Norris this fall and she started getting to know her girls right away, taking them on their first outing to Amazing Pizza Machine just a month after they were matched. She has been able to relate to her mentees' lives in a personal way and I have seen them open up to her and can tell they really trust her and love being around her. Unfortunately, Sol is moving this month but as she usually does, Sol went above and beyond when saying goodbye to her girls. She took them on another outing to talk about their time together and give the girls closure in their relationship. She also plans to stay in touch with them and made sure that they know how to get in touch with her if they need anything. Thank you, Sol, for taking your commitment to your girls so seriously.

We are really going to miss you and wish you the best in your new endeavors!

Nominated by: Elizabeth Gerner, Program Coordinator

High School - Mentor of the Quarter
Joanne Poppleton



Joanne Poppleton has been selected as the HS Mentor of the Quarter for multiple reasons. I once heard a quote by Oprah that said "A mentor is someone who allows you to see the hope inside yourself." As I have observed Jo and her mentees I believe this is what she offers to them. Jo always knows what is going on in their lives she knows how they are doing socially, academically, and personally. She knows her mentees and she has an understanding of their strengths, their weaknesses, what will set them off what will calm them down. One of her mentees explained to me that Jo is the first person he calls when he needs support and understanding. Jo is not afraid to have difficult yet meaningful conversations with her mentees about life, attitude, grades, perception, being bullied etc.. Jo's mentees have consistently reported to me that she is their champion, and they know without a doubt that their relationship to their mentor matters and she makes them a priority. Jo spends time with her mentees outside of group and takes time to expose them to whatever opportunities will benefit them.

Nominated by Toia Phillips, Program Coordinator