

Protégé Plus – WAFCS Mentoring Initiative

How does one measure success? Often times the world sees someone's fame or fortune as a measure of their success. But the big question is – do they themselves feel they are a success? It is only when you have an inner feeling of success, because you have achieved what you set out to do, that you are truly successful.

For the new professionals in the Protégé Plus initiative it is their inner feeling of success that is most valuable as it is based on the achievement of their vision of success, not on someone else's. Each new professional set their own goal(s) they hope to accomplish with their mentor. Currently the mentoring teams that have been established include:

- Kayla Leirimo mentored by Donna Dinco
- Leia Blazek mentored by Catherine Lader
- Kama Teske mentored by Barbara George
- Sheryl King mentored by Stephanie Love.

Besides mentoring new professionals one-on-one there are two other options being pursued in Protégé Plus. Small group mentoring of new professionals in a CESA district would focus on a professional need these individuals have in common and then one, or more, FCS professionals would serve as the mentor for the group. It is the plan to pursue this format in CESA 11 this school year.

Lastly Protégé Plus is establishing a “resource bank” that will list FCS professionals and their area(s) of expertise. How will this work? When a new professional has a question that he/she needs additional assistance with they would turn to the “resource bank” to locate additional help. Using the contact info provided, the new professional would contact the individual(s) in the “resource bank” directly and request help. The “resource bank” option is offering help on a short-term basis to new professionals.

WAFCS Members Needed for “Resource Bank”

Each WAFCS member is encouraged to serve as a professional in the “resource bank”. Submit your name, contact info and area(s) of expertise to Catherine Lader at jclader@inwave.com using the subject line of resource bank. Areas of expertise we are looking for include, but are not limited to:

- development of standards-based curriculum
- budget assistance
- professional standards
- advising FCCLA chapter

- construction of exemplary lessons
- modes of effective communication
- management of FCS department
- instructional strategies
- student grading / assessments
- classroom management.

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