Happy New Year!

Happy New Year and welcome to the 2nd Semester! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. Various testing will be taking place in your schools during the spring semester, so please check with your teachers and staff to see if the testing schedule will have any impact on the times that you volunteer.

Our third GrandFriend training/Senior Sounding Board is scheduled for **Friday, February 21**.

Please save the date for our GrandFriends Appreciation Open House which will take place on April 30, 2020. We hope to see you all there!

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**GrandFriends Training/Senior Sounding Board**

**When:** Friday, February 21, 2020, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

**Where:** District 11 Admin Building
1115 N El Paso Street

**“Student Social Emotional Competencies”**

**Presented by Cory Notestine, Executive Director, Student Success and Wellness**

Please join us for a presentation by Cory Notestine. His work with students has been honored by the North Carolina School Counselor Association, and the Colorado School Counselor Association, as Secondary School Counselor of the Years in 2011 and 2013. The American School Counselor Association along with the White House recognized him as the 2015 National School Counselor of the Year.

We will explore the core social emotional competencies the district is focused on in grades K-8 and the research that supports their implementation. Those in attendance will learn how these skills are taught, understood by our students, and the method the district utilizes to provide additional tiered services. Additionally, we look at how these learning strategies fit with restorative practices in order to build a safer and thriving learning environment for students to reach their personal best.

**PLEASE RSVP to Dawn Enger by February 8 at 520-2311 or email dawn.enger@d11.org.**
Inclement Weather
Safety for students, staff and volunteers is D11’s first priority. If there is inclement weather in your area and D-11 has not closed, please use your best judgement before venturing out. If there is a school closure on the day of our next training, it will be cancelled. If there is a delay, the training will still be held at the scheduled time.

Science Fair Judges Needed
We are in need of judges to serve at various science fairs around the district in the coming months. If interested, please contact Janit Pollard at janit.pollard@d11.org or 520-2202. The following schools have confirmed dates, but we anticipate hearing from others.

Madison Elementary
Monday, April 6, 2020, 12:30-3:00 p.m.

Taylor Elementary
Thursday, March 19, 2020, 7:40 a.m. –9:30 a.m.

Pikes Peak Regional Science and Engineering Fair
Saturday, April 25, 2020, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Logging Hours
We value the time our volunteers spend with our students. Please be sure to keep track of your hours throughout the year. Check at your school’s front desk to see how your time will be tracked. Many of our elementary schools now have the kiosk and you can sign in with your badge. This will automatically log your hours. If your school’s kiosk has not been set up yet and you would like to log your hours online, please contact me and I will be happy to assist you.

Dawn Enger, GrandFriends Project Coordinator, 520-2311, dawn.enger@d11.org