



- A Mentor Initiative by Bay District Schools -  
"Lifting Our Kids to New Heights"

**Our Vision:** Elevate Bay exists to support and encourage the most at-risk students within Bay District Schools. As we continue to connect with our students and their families to find the best path forward, we have identified multiple obstacles that hinder far too many of our students. These hurdles continue to include sustained homelessness, familial instability and chronic absenteeism. TOGETHER we made great strides last school year! However, there is still much work to be done. As a community, we must work to close the gaps and see our children reach "new heights" in their schools and communities.

## Our Why:

- 1,726 homeless students identified during the 2022/2023 school year
- Bay County is ranked 5th in crime per capita (2021)
- 1,500+ weekend food bags are provided each week to students of all ages
- Bay County is ranked 4th in Florida for opioid prescriptions per capita (2020)

## Our Current Status:

- 300+ individual students on mentor waiting lists across the District
- 70% of students identified are male
- 52% of BDS third grade students scored below grade level in reading

**Our Next Step:** Our goal is to eliminate our waiting list and support students as we strive to improve attendance, scores, confidence and perseverance. We know our students are the future of Bay County and we believe in them – many just need an extra dose of support to push through hard things and reengage with their future story. Your investment of time and energy WILL change the life of a student and bring positive change to Bay County!

## YOUR next step:

Contact Stacey Legg, Mentor Initiative Specialist  
Via phone : 850-767-4128  
Or email: [LEGGSL@BAY.K12.FL.US](mailto:LEGGSL@BAY.K12.FL.US)

*Minimal Commitment, Immeasurable Impact!*

*"A mentor is  
someone who  
allows you to  
see the hope  
inside yourself. "*

*- Oprah Winfrey*

## What Can You Do:

- **Classroom Mentor**—working in a specific classroom in small groups for academic /behavioral support for the students.
- **One-on-One Mentor**—working primarily with one student focusing on specific needs.
- **Lunch Buddy**—join either a group/class during the lunch time to be that extra support they need outside of the classroom.