



Pair Event: Hi, My Name Is...



EVENT OBJECTIVES

Pairs will engage in icebreaker activities to get to know each other.
Pairs will create commitments on how they want their relationship to proceed for the first semester.

PURPOSE & CONTEXT

The mentor-mentee relationship is central to our program's impact and nearly all activities students experience through the programming. This first in-person event is critical to building comfort and establishing trust. This event provides students and their mentors several opportunities to learn about one another and begin to establish expectations for their relationship moving forward.

EVENT PREP

Set up a check-in table with event packets, pens/pencils, name badges, seating assignments and check in documents.

Post a few copies of the seating assignments on the walls. Make sure to use a large enough font!

You will need raffle tickets to hand out for the bingo game and prizes for winners. Speak with your manager to source these items.

AGENDA (90 min event/20 min huddle)

10 min	Welcome
30 min	Chat and Chew: <i>Pair Bingo</i>
15 min	Group Activity: <i>Rock, Paper, Scissor Battle</i>
25 min	<i>Pair Commitments & Handshake</i>
10 min	Closing: <i>Reflections & Announcements</i>
20 min	Mentor Huddle: <i>Relationship Arcs</i>

FACILITATOR NOTES

The first pair event will set the tone for the rest of the year. Give yourself enough time to prepare in advance for the event. Ensure that you have a good understanding of the activities so that the event will run smoothly. Also, you will want to ensure that your support staff knows exactly what their duties are during each part of the event.

We recommend that you run this event in-person. If you must run it virtually, you can eliminate the "rock, paper, scissor battle" and incorporate a group icebreaker during your event intro.

AGENDA	
ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
Welcome and Intro (10 min)	<p>TALKING POINTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome, everyone! <i>(Note - This is the first time your mentors will be meeting you in-person so make sure to provide a brief background about yourself)</i>• Tonight, we have a fun event in store for you. As you can see on your agendas, while we eat, we will play a bingo game in our mentee-mentor pairs. Each “bingo” achieved will earn you a raffle ticket, so try to answer as many questions as possible.• After we finish eating, we’ll do a quick group activity—a rock, paper scissors battle! More to come on that later.• Then, we will come back together in pairs, to make pair commitments and seal the commitments with a pair handshake. <p><i>Let pairs know what time mentees will be dismissed from the event. Share any housekeeping logistics (where the restrooms are, how to get your attention during the event if they need it, introduce other school and event staff in the room, etc.).</i></p>
Pair Bingo/Chat and Chew (30 min)	<p>TALKING POINTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may now go and line up for dinner. When you return to your tables, please begin the bingo activity! Call me over when you have earned a “BINGO” so I can confirm and give you a raffle ticket.
Rock, Paper, Scissors (15 min)	<p>TALKING POINTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We are going to come together as a group for a rock, paper, scissors battle. We will all play the same way: you say rock, paper, scissors, shoot. On shoot, you will show what you have chosen from the three options.• Before we start the group battle, we will play a few rounds as pairs to “warm-up.” Make sure to take advantage of this practice time!• After warming up, everyone will play individually at their table, elimination style. So if you lose, you are out. It is best out of 3, so you will square off three times against your opponent.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The winner from each table will stand up to battle the other tables' victor, until it comes down to the final two. • Any questions? <p><i>Give pairs two minutes to warm-up. The group battle should take about 10 minutes. Shout out your winners to the full group.</i></p>
Pair Commitments (25 min)	<p>TALKING POINTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When you start any new relationship, it is important to set commitments in order for everyone to know what is expected of them. • We would like you to make pair commitments that are specific to you as individuals and what you hope to accomplish together. Each relationship will have their own specific dynamic, it is important that you reflect on what you want your relationship to look like! • There are two categories in which we would like for you to make commitments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Relationship Commitments</i>: How will you two support each other to ensure that you will build a strong mentor-mentee relationship? What needs to be true for your relationship to feel healthy? - <i>Post-Secondary Commitments</i>: "Post-secondary" means after high school. What can you two start to do now that will help in the exploration of a path after high school? • The other two spaces are open for you to create other commitments you would like to make. If you need some help creating these commitments, there are probing questions for you to answer. • Once you have made your pair commitments, seal the deal by creating your own pair handshake!
Closing (10 Min)	<p>TALKING POINTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can I have a few volunteer pairs share their handshake and one thing they learned about each other? • Review: next date of event/any important school announcements • Conduct the pair bingo raffle. • Thank the pairs for joining the event!

Mentor Huddle: Relationship Arcs	
Activity/Topic	PM Notes
Ice Breaker (7 min)	<p>ENGAGEMENT: Mentors will be introduced to the concept of the mentor huddle. They will reflect on the event and build community.</p> <p>TALKING POINTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you so much for joining our first event of the year! • After each of our events, we will spend around 20 minutes debriefing the event together. This will be known as our mentor huddle. • The goal is to create an intentional space to reflect on how the mentorship is going, build community and learn from other's experiences. • We are going to start off by getting into groups of 4. Within your groups, share: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Your name - Why you chose to join our program - A quick reflection on your first meeting with your mentee <p><i>Ask a few mentors to share out how their first meeting went after the group activity.</i></p>
Relationship Arcs (8 min)	<p>ENGAGEMENT: Mentors will review the concept of the mentee/mentor "relationship arc." They will talk through steps that they can take to ensure that they are building strong relationships.</p> <p>TALKING POINTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you for sharing your thoughts! It's always fun to hear about the excitement of the first pair meeting. I wanted to bring us back together to discuss how your relationship with your mentee may change over time! • When a pair first meets, the relationship tends to be superficial and positive given how new the pair is and the excitement of going through the matching process. • As the newness of the program wears off and pairs transition into more practical curricular topics, pairs often experience a lull in relationship growth. Similarly, some pairs may experience a challenge or make a misstep that causes their relationship to weaken (i.e., lack of continued engagement consistency, stand-ups at events, etc.). • I want us to take a few minutes to proactively plan for this lull. If we are mindful of keeping the relationship fun and positive, we can lessen the

	<p>impact the lull has on the overall relationship and ensure that relationships can grow to be meaningful and impactful for both you and your mentee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● In your groups, please brainstorm around the following question. “What steps can you take to create positive engagement with your mentee and keep them excited about working alongside you?” <p><i>Bring the whole group back after a few minutes and ask for people to share out. Emphasize the importance of consistency and modeling openness. Let mentors know that if they are ever struggling in their relationship, they should reach out to you.</i></p>
Announcements/Closing (5 min)	<p>TALKING POINTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Share any important program updates.● Encourage mentors to leave their mentee a note after the event in which they reiterate how excited they were to meet them/how they are looking forward to the next meeting.● Thank mentors for attending the event.● Remind mentors that they can always reach out for support.