Action Planning: Incorporating mentoring at your school

**Best Practices to Consider**
- Structured settings w/an onsite coordinator work best
- It is easiest (not necessarily best) for mentoring pairs to be made when all parties are at the same school site
- Be aware of the time involved—mentoring programs involve extensive recruiting, screening, matching, training, & monitoring
- Provide mentor training before matches are made to prepare mentors; give mentors guidance regarding their role
- Mentoring is at its best when it lasts throughout a year, and when the mentoring pair meets frequently
- Enthusiastic leaders are needed for mentor recruitment & program longevity

**Action Plan**
1. Does your school have a mentoring program? If so, what are its strengths?

2. If not, do you have the flexibility at your site to put together a mentoring program?

3. What would be the focus of your school’s mentoring program? (ie. College prep, self-esteem, behavioral improvement, academics, etc.)

4. Could the more senior students serve as mentors to younger students? Could your school collaborate with a neighboring school? Alumni?

5. Are there mentoring programs in the area with which you could collaborate?

6. Who might be a good candidate for the onsite coordinator role, and why?