

Partners Making a Difference: Local Corporations Support Matches at Francisco Middle School

Francisco Middle School, one of the Mentoring for Success sites, is proud to share the news about their corporate partners. Francisco students have benefited for many years from an ongoing partnership with Levi Strauss. Levi has been a generous supporter of the mentoring program by recruiting employees to volunteer as mentors and providing financial contributions to support the mentoring program at Francisco Middle School. Levi encourages employees to give back to the community, offering up to 5 hours paid time off to volunteer at a community agency. This year Levi had seven dedicated mentors who met weekly with their student mentee in the Mentoring for Success program.

Francisco's Site Program Coordinator, Jennifer Donahue, is excited to announce a new corporate partner, Paragon Real Estate Group. Francisco has benefitted from Paragon agent Lisa Miller's energy as a mentor for two years. Lisa has been a tireless support to her student—meeting her at school weekly, attending group activities and field trips, taking her on excursions, and connecting her with babysitting opportunities through friends and families. As her mentee's first job, she has given her student the opportunity to learn about responsibility, accountability, the importance of being on time, and money management--skills that will follow her regardless of her life path. This year Lisa's energy and support went beyond just her student when she asked Paragon to match her support with a financial contribution. At her request Paragon generously donated \$1000 for activities and supplies for Francisco's mentoring program.

It is contributions of volunteer time and financial support from companies like Levi Strauss and Paragon Real Estate Group that help enrich the lives of our students. These partnerships allow participating students exposure to new places and activities, opportunities to explore new interests and ideas, and to learn about potential careers. We gratefully acknowledge the support Levi Strauss and Paragon have offered Francisco Middle School as a community partners.

If you or your company are interested in becoming a partner to Mentoring For Success please contact Erin Farrell for more information, farrelle@sfusd.edu or 415-242-2615.