

DIXON PUBLIC SCHOOLS #170

"A Place to Grow"

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Introduction

Dixon Public Schools adopted the "buddy/mentor" teacher program in the late 1980's. This "unofficial" mentoring program was established to provide new teachers support and guidance during that initial year of teaching when everything is new and unknown. The Illinois State Board of Education approved our Induction and Mentoring Program in 2006. The goal of our program is still to provide support and guidance to new teachers as they start their career. Our State approved format allows new teachers and their mentors to grow together through the exploration and application of the Illinois Teaching Standards. It also allows new teachers to become familiar with the protocols and procedures that are unique to Dixon Public Schools. At Dixon Public Schools, we feel it is **all** our responsibility to support and guide our new teachers during their first years in the classroom. Research has proven that new teachers who are supported during those first years are more likely to have students who perform better academically, and are more likely to continue their career in education.

In order to be a mentor with Dixon Public Schools, you must be a tenured teacher, have achieved a minimum of satisfactory ratings on your evaluations, and complete four class sessions on being a mentor offered through a Regional Office of Education. It is important to us that our mentors are of the highest quality possible!

We look forward to growing and refining our Induction and Mentoring Program every year. We thank all those amazing educators who have participated in the past, and look forward to meeting those who will complete the program in the future.

"I am convinced that nothing we do is more important than hiring and developing people. At the end of the day you bet on people, not on strategies."

— Larry Bossidy

Dixon Public Schools, in cooperation with the community, will provide students with a comprehensive educational program that produces well-educated, self-sufficient, and involved citizens.