



Urbana School District 116

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mentors Assist New Urbana School District Teachers

New teachers in Urbana School District #116 will have the chance to be mentored in their new profession by a veteran teacher.

“Teaching is a job that requires constant ongoing professional development; there really isn’t a way to prepare student teachers for everything they’re going to encounter in their first job. It’s important to have someone who can check in on you, remind you of deadlines, help with a sticky situation you have questions about, and provide some suggestions about classroom instruction,” says Alexis Jones, New Teacher Mentor Coordinator for the Urbana School District.

Jones says she expects 35-40 new teachers to sign up for the mentoring program for the 2007-2008 school year. Mentors will meet with their protégés several times, including three observation sessions in a classroom setting followed by a debriefing. The school district also encourages mentors and protégés to meet informally during the year to discuss teaching issues.

The mentoring program will be further explained at the Urbana School District #116 New Teacher Orientation program August 23-24, 2007, at the Urbana Middle School, 1201 South Vine Street.

Members of the media wishing to attend the orientation welcome session on August 23, 2007 at 8:00 a.m., please contact Mark Schultz at 384-3650. For more information on the Urbana School District #116 mentoring program please contact Alexis Jones at 384-3582.

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