



August 2024 Newsletter



EHS Mentor Hudson and his buddy

Mentor

During my almost two years of mentorship, I have gained a whole new perspective on the impact of friendship and the value of giving time to others. The two hours spent together each week is something I look forward to and I always wonder what fun the meeting will bring and the smile on my buddy's face when he opens the door is more rewarding than anything else. The mentorship has improved many important qualities in my life such as flexibility and communication and this will continue to benefit me as I go off to college next year. The kindness and support of the buddy family is something I am forever grateful for. Most of all, Athletes for Kids has truly provided me with a friendship I will cherish forever, and I look forward to the continued growth and adventures that the future holds.

Mentee

Dear Readers (And Hudson),

Hudson is truly a friend of friends. He is not just someone that I aspire to be, but he is also kind, supportive, friendly, helpful and an inspiration to me. I hope that one day I can help people and be like Hudson, so that I can inspire that same hope, to help others when they need it most. Through Hudson, I can be able to have a friend that I know won't laugh at me for my faults, who will hang out with me, and have fun with. He is an outlet for me and makes me happy.

This is not scripted, but rather from the heart. Hudson is someone whom I hold

dear as a friend. He is an amazing, awesome person who has always been there to listen to me when I need it. The AFK program is something wonderful. Hudson is one of the nicest people I have ever met, and I expect that even after AFK and high school, he will have a long, successful, and happy life.

I cannot fully express in words my gratitude for Hudson. Hudson has played video games with me, gone to the movies with me, played cards, taught me some football plays, and even how to catch a football. He is always eager to help others and hang out.

Thank you, Hudson, for always making time to be with me. You rock!

Mentee Parent

Hudson has been such an important part of our son's growth & mindset. He is an amazing human being; truly a role model and a steady for our son.

Our family is so thankful to the AFK program and especially to Hudson's parents who have raised such an amazing young man.

With Gratitude



Thank you to The Partners Group!

Thank you to **THE PARTNERS GROUP** for selecting Athletes for Kids to be recognized at the first ever Paddle Palooza pickleball fundraiser. The Partners Group is a purpose-driven consulting, insurance, and financial services firm, celebrating more than four decades. TPG has been named one of the top 100 largest insurance brokerage firms in the US. Its consulting services include employee benefits, retirement plans, wellness, total absence management, healthcare analytics, wealth management, and commercial and personal insurance. Visit thepartnersgroup.com for info.

Athletes for Kids received \$25,050 from Paddle Palooza and we are most grateful. The monies will be used to further the mission of the organization as we enhance the lives of children with special needs and the high school athletes who mentor them.

AFK Moments





As we look back on a month of memories, we look forward to more friendship moments and choosing kindness, acceptance, and inclusion every day.

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