



May 2025 Newsletter



MIHS Mentor Seb Gonzalez

Mentor

I have been matched with my buddy since the beginning of my sophomore year, and since then, he has changed my life in ways I didn't expect. Being part of a mentorship program, I knew that I would be faced with situations that would force me to grow as a person. But, over my two years with my buddy, I am overjoyed to say that my partnership has brought me much more than that.

Over the years, my buddy and I have made many memories. From playing countless sports and games at the local field, to venturing to stores and out of the house, even playing a harmless prank. The time I spend with my buddy is the highlight of my week, and I am grateful to have made a lifelong friend.

Mentee Parent

The contribution Seb has made to our family is truly priceless. He is punctual, accountable, responsible, kindhearted, open-minded, genuinely curious about others, forthcoming about himself and his life, and sincere in the way he navigates friendship with our son. He never pushes our son to be anyone other than who he is on any given day, and he consistently checks in and shows up—eager to spend time with a boy seven years his junior.

Seb's maturity far exceeds his 18 years. It's evident in his ability to ebb and flow with our son's ups and downs, always meeting him with grace and

with our son's ups and downs, always meeting him with grace and understanding. He has consistently offered more to our family than what is visible on the surface. Through his actions and presence, he has shown us what it truly means to be a mentor—embodying qualities we ourselves sometimes struggle to teach our own child.

As Seb prepares to head off to college, we hope he knows—deeply and truly—just how much more wonderful our lives have become simply by knowing him. We are profoundly grateful for him and can wholeheartedly say that we have been left better than he found us three years ago, a testament to the high quality of character and person that he is. Thank you, Seb and AFK!

Upcoming Events



2025 Senior Mentor Celebration



Skyline High School

Thursday	June 5th	6:00 to 8:00 PM
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[Click Here to Register](#)

Senior Mentor Celebration

Join us to celebrate our 2025 AFK mentor graduates! Dinner and dessert will be provided. Free admission for all graduating mentors. Family members are welcome for \$15 per person. Click the image above to register!

GiveBIG 2025





We are participating in Washington Gives' annual statewide GiveBIG campaign! On May 6-7, thousands of people will show their support for their favorite WA nonprofits during GiveBIG. Your contribution will help us advance our mission to **impact lives, one mentorship at a time.**

Early Giving is now open! Click the button below to donate and help us reach our goal. We can't wait to celebrate the difference your generosity will make when you GiveBIG!

[Click Here to Donate](#)

With Gratitude

SNO-KING ICE ARENAS

Thank you to Sno-King Kirkland Ice Arena!

On Saturday, April 5th, over 50 mentors and buddies were treated to a day on the ice at Sno-King in Kirkland. From the onset, the entire event was true perfection. Mentor and buddies were greeted upon arrival, outfitted with skates, and given a locker and a coach to work with each group. The energy was electric, and by the time the mentors and buddies took to the ice, there was no stopping them. Some had never been ice skating, some were "old pros", and many found a new passion, but all had a great time. A huge thank you to Sno-King, Lisa Ware, and skating extraordinaire Stacy O'Daffer for organizing, leading, and preparing for this amazing mentor and buddy event. We look forward to partnering again! Thank you!

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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