



November 2025 Newsletter



SHS Mentor Parker and Buddy

Mentor

I've been an Athletes for Kids mentor since my junior year, after hearing about it from two of my best friends, and I knew it was something I wanted to do. When I became a mentor, I knew a little about what to expect, because my friends told me, but the program has far surpassed every expectation I had coming into the program.

Every week I get to hang out with my buddy for two hours, and we always have a blast. I can confidently say that as much as this mentorship has positively impacted my buddy's life, it has done the same for me. I always look forward to hanging out with my buddy, no matter what we are doing. Whether we are riding bikes or playing board games, it's nice to step back and enjoy every moment. Mentoring my buddy has taught me a lot, and I hope that we can both continue to learn and grow together as we keep making memories with Athletes for Kids.

Mentee Parent

Parker Power: Super Strength, Super Heart

When I asked my 8-year-old son what makes his Athletes for Kids mentor so special, he said:

"Parker's superpower is making people feel happy and brave. He's smart, super

Parker's superpower is making people feel happy and brave. He's smart, super funny, and makes everything more fun!"

With college application season underway, we thought it'd be fun to take a twist on the article — so together, we turned his words into a "college letter of recommendation," typed by Mom but powered by my son's imagination.

Dear College,

I'm eight years old and I would like to share my thoughts with you about an applicant. Parker is my Athletes for Kids mentor, but I think he might secretly be a superhero. Here's my proof:

- **Super Strength:** He carried my baseball bag, two bats, and my basketball on the hottest day of the year.
- **Super Speed:** He can run five miles before breakfast.
- **Super Bravery:** He helped me build a huge snowman without gloves!
- **Super Patience:** He doesn't get mad when I change the rules halfway through a game.
- **Super Kindness:** When I hit the ball into the blackberry bushes, he just smiles and says, "Nice power!"

When Parker's around, even boring days turn into adventures. His biggest superpower isn't running fast or being strong — it's making people feel important. That's what I think colleges should care about most: who makes others better. Parker does that every single time.

Sincerely,

A very happy young boy. (Age 8)

Note from the parents: Parker's mentorship with Athletes for Kids is a shining example of what connection and consistency can do for a child's confidence. Thank you, Parker, for showing up — not just as an athlete, but as a hero in everyday life.

Upcoming Event



Join us for our 2025 fundraising event

Boots & Bling for Buddies

presented by

Alaska | HAWAIIAN

Food • Auction • Raise the paddle

Pickering Barn - Issaquah

Thursday, November 13th

5:30 - 8:00 PM

Saddle up some fun at our annual Athletes for Kids fundraiser for an evening dedicated to supporting children with disabilities and

special needs and the high school athletes who mentor them. With a night packed full of fun, good company, and a sprinkle of western charm, you won't want to miss this hoedown!

\$100 per person, effective November 1st

Our Boots & Bling for Buddies fundraising event is now less than two weeks away! This is a fantastic chance to connect with fellow AFK families and supporters and directly invest in our mentees, mentors, and mission. Come and enjoy an engaging evening of good company and western charm, and help us continue to **impact lives, one mentorship at a time.**

[Click Here to Register](#)

With Gratitude



A huge THANK YOU to the National Charity League of Young Women, Lake Sammamish, for once again organizing the wonderful annual Fall Festival for mentors and buddies. The inclusive atmosphere and joyous energy created a perfect space for connection and fun. We loved seeing all the smiling faces, decorated cookies, and fan favorite, pumpkin golf. AFK is incredibly grateful for NCL's continued support and dedication to making this event a memorable experience for all involved. Finally, a huge shout-out to Sarah Auckland, who had to put in A LOT of extra effort to secure the venue! We can't wait for next year!

AFK Moments





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

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