



Student/Partner Alliance Fall, 2017

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Upcoming Events

Wed, January 11, 2018

S/PA Holiday Party

Wed, January 24, 2018

Mentoring Month

Wine and Cheese Reception

New Mentors Trained and Welcomed!

Training Workshop Well Attended



New Partner/Mentors Steve Lubiak and Rob Fowler meet their new St. Benedict's students following mentor training in September.

Dear Marianne

Greetings everyone and welcome back to the fall semester. We kicked off the 2017-2018 school year with a bang! We hosted *breakfasts/lunches* for our students and their mentors/partners at each of our schools. We had our very important *parent/student orientation* to set goals for the year. We held our largest *mentor training* session in S/PA's history, and we even hosted 14 school administrators for a lunch at our offices to discuss our important partnerships with them.

If that wasn't enough, we welcomed four new board members who bring great depth to an already solid board.

S/PA celebrates its **25th Anniversary** this year and we're as energized and excited about our mission today as we were in 1993!

Emmett Daly
President

Welcoming New Board Members



L to Rt, Mark Boffa, Celia Honohan, Shey Vincent, Christine Waldron

Mark Boffa, C.P.A. is a co-founder of Student/Partner Alliance's Young Professionals Network, and has been volunteering with S/PA since 2013. Mark is a CPA in practice at Boffa & Co, a public accounting firm started by his



New Partner/Mentors Anne Childers and Yvonne Ventresca enjoy their first meet with mentees from Immaculate Conception and St. Vincent Academy. S/PA welcomes a record number of new Partners/Mentors!! Our annual mentor training this year took place on **Thursday, September 28th** with a group of **28 participants**. General S/PA guidelines were presented along with encouraging facts about mentoring and suggestions for making the most out of your mentoring relationship. Lively discussion followed the distribution of real-life situation scenerios for breakout groups to resolve.



Orientation for Freshman Students and Parents

The S/PA Program Benefits Explained



Our student body is now up to 185 students - a record number for our 25th anniversary year! 55 new students and their parents were welcomed at the **new student orientation** at the **Leaguers Bldg** in Newark on **Saturday, September 16th**. S/PA staff, mentors and some S/PA grads helped to lay the

father 35+ years ago. The firm provides tax, accounting, and advisory services to individuals & small businesses. Mark has experience working with not-for-profits in several capacities. He served as the Development & Finance Officer for a human rights organization and advised charities through his work as an accountant. Mark received his MBA from Rutgers Business School, where he currently

groundwork for an exciting and successful Student -S/PA connection over the upcoming four years.

Like Us on Facebook!
We count on you to be an Advocate for Student/Partner Alliance and Our Students!!!



Mentor Ariane Osit is a graduate of St. Vincent Academy where she has mentored her student for the past 3 years! Alumni from several of our schools have become mentors or partners through S/PA.

Send Marianne your photos and stories of good times with your student! Send to:
mmbusby@studentpartneralliance.org

serves as President of Net Impact. His BA is from Drew University. He currently resides in Morristown.

Celia Honahan joined the S/PA Board in 2017. She is the President of Immaculate Conception High School, a school she herself attended while growing up in Montclair, NJ. Celia has been an influential figure at Immaculate, raising funds to keep the school open when closure looked imminent in June 2014. She and her husband, Jim, created the *Endowment for Students at St. Joe's* and she wrote a foundational grant to create the St. Joseph's Youth Players, an afterschool theatre program in New York City. Celia and Jim live in New York City and have three daughters.

Shey Vincent has been working with various mentoring programs for over 10 years. She brings her passion for advocacy of exceptional educational opportunities for youth to the S/PA Board of Trustees. She has been in the Aerospace and Defense industry as a stakeholder in the advancement of highly regulated complex technical solutions for over 12 years. Ms. Vincent holds a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Clark Atlanta University and a MS in Engineering Management from Tufts University. Currently she works at Harris Corporation, as a Senior Manager within Program Management. She resides in Piscataway, NJ.

Christine Waldron, C.P.A. is a S/PA Partner and a graduate of Marquette University. Christine began her career 23 years ago as a small investment manager while also spending time at KPMG in assurance practice. Christine is currently Executive Vice President of U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC & Global Head of Alternative Investments. She lives with her daughter in Westfield, NJ.

New Meets - and Greets
Mentors and Students alike look forward to twice a year school visits

During October, Partners and Mentors met at S/PA schools to visit with their students over a casual meal. Of course, getting a class pass is something any student would love - but to meet (or see once again) their mentor - reminds

them they are special students to their S/PA friends. It's informal and friendly with smiles all around!



Several new mentors were treated to the "nickel tour" of their students' school. Cell numbers were exchanged since texts seem to be the most convenient mode of communication.

*Please visit our website at
www.studentpartneralliance.org
Donate to our cause at:
www.studentpartneralliance.org/donations*