



## men-tor: “a wise and trusted guide and advisor”

### Dear Friend of WJCC Public Schools:

As we begin a new school year, we are gearing up to provide each of our “at-risk” or “at-promise” students with a caring and competent mentor. Often these children are “at-risk” due to impoverished circumstances, family difficulties, academic failure, and/or exposure to a variety of negative influences. To move these students from “at-risk” to “at-promise,” ***you*** may play an important role.

From research we have gathered, we know that students with mentors are:

- 52% less likely to skip school
- 46% less likely to use drugs
- 37% less likely to skip class
- 27% less likely to use alcohol.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Williamsburg and the Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools are partnering to renew and expand our efforts to provide mentors for our students “at-promise.” Should you decide to be a mentor for one of our students, it will require you to:

- undergo finger printing for routine background checks
- participate in two 90-minute orientation/training sessions on mentoring
- commit to one hour per week as a mentor at one of our public schools.

For more information, please contact either of the following:

- Dr. Angelina Hopkins, Supervisor for Minority Achievement, WJCC Public Schools [Phone Number: 253-6701]
- Ms. Elizabeth Chisolm, Executive Director, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Williamsburg [Phone Number: 253-0676]

Thank you for considering mentoring. It is a labor of love that we ask you to commit, but one that has prospects for ***reaching and teaching*** a child, young lady, or young man. In education terms, please help us “close the achievement gap: one-student-at-a-time.” In human terms, help us change a life . . . .

Sincerely, we are,

Gary S. Mathews  
Superintendent

Angelina Hopkins  
Supervisor for Minority Achievement

Elizabeth Chisolm  
Executive Director,  
Big Bros./Big Sisters