

## Check & Connect Mentor Competencies

Focus Area	Competency
	<i>Mentors will be able to:</i>
<b>Overview of Check &amp; Connect</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Articulate the four core components of Check &amp; Connect and explain how Check &amp; Connect mentors use them in implementation</li> <li>• Understand and be mindful of the theoretical underpinnings of Check &amp; Connect in their work as a Check &amp; Connect mentor</li> <li>• Present a 30-second overview description of Check &amp; Connect</li> </ul>
<b>Role of the mentor</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain the purpose and role of the mentor in Check &amp; Connect</li> <li>• Identify personal and professional characteristics of an effective mentor</li> <li>• Articulate the main functions of a Check &amp; Connect mentor, providing specific examples</li> <li>• Make a long-term commitment to students and persist despite challenges</li> <li>• Keep the focus on education and learning</li> </ul>
<b>Resilience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify protective factors and risk factors in Check &amp; Connect mentees' home, school, and community environments</li> <li>• Understand and explain the role of the Check &amp; Connect mentor in reducing risks and enhancing protective factors for students who face adversity</li> </ul>
<b>Student engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verbalize the importance of student engagement in the context of their role as a Check &amp; Connect mentor</li> <li>• Understand the role of student engagement in the larger context of dropout prevention</li> <li>• Identify and provide specific examples for each of the four sub-types of engagement</li> <li>• Articulate the importance of person-environment fit and provide examples of strategies to improve it for their mentee(s)</li> </ul>
<b>Building relationships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a plan for introducing himself/herself to the mentee(s)</li> <li>• Identify characteristics of an effective mentor-mentee relationship in the context of child development and individual and cultural differences</li> <li>• Understand that building relationships is a process which follows a natural cycle; learn how to use the natural cycle of relationships within Check &amp; Connect</li> <li>• Create and use a plan for initiating and maintaining communication</li> </ul>

Focus Area	Competency
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>with administrators, teachers, and others that are involved internally with their mentee(s)</li> <li>• Understand the importance of building on the strengths of the student and family</li> </ul>
<b>Problem-solving and capacity building strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Articulate the importance of using problem-solving and capacity building strategies with students</li> <li>• Identify and demonstrate the use of the 5-step problem-solving process</li> <li>• Facilitate goal setting, both short-term and long-term goals</li> </ul>
<b>Case management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiate between status and alterable indicators of disengagement</li> <li>• Identify sources of data that are monitored to determine student engagement</li> <li>• Identify how student data is typically accessed</li> <li>• Articulate the typical intake process</li> <li>• Demonstrate the ability to document and assess multiple data points on a monitoring sheet/data-based system</li> <li>• Articulate common criteria for student selection for Check &amp; Connect</li> <li>• Identify appropriate information for case notes</li> </ul>
<b>Data-driven intervention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Articulate the difference between a basic and intensive level of intervention</li> <li>• Understand common criteria for moving from basic to intensive intervention levels</li> <li>• Demonstrate how to access and identify potential interventions based on student data</li> <li>• Explain the process they will use to monitor the impact of intensive interventions</li> </ul>
<b>Engaging parents and families</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify a plan for introducing himself/herself to the mentees' parents/family</li> <li>• Articulate the importance of engaging parents/families in student engagement efforts</li> </ul>
<b>Personal motivation and persistence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Articulate the need for a focus on intrinsic motivation: promoting autonomy, belonging, and competence</li> <li>• Identify strategies for assisting students to take responsibility for their own motivation and persistence</li> </ul>