

Emerging Themes of Mentorship

As many of you know, I start each day in my kayak watching the sun rise over Lake Ontario.

Many mornings I think about the day before and the day ahead but many others I think of you – the literally thousands of

mentors our team in the Teaching Policy and Standards Branch (TPSB) has the privilege of working with and learning from across Ontario.

The themes of mentorship below reflect our learning from what you have shared during over 60 NTIP board visits and mentoring professional learning sessions. Our hope is they provide useful “food for thought” and perhaps some inspiration as you continue on your mentoring journey.



Listening

Listening is a complex skill. Simply being present and attending fully is an integral part of establishing the relational trust that is an essential component of any mentoring relationship.



Attributes Based Approach

By purposefully seeking out the strengths our colleagues possess we empower not only the beginning teachers we are working with, but continue to engage in our own learning and growth. Mentoring relationships that flourish are reciprocal – all parties learn and grow.



Wellness

By taking care of ourselves we have more to give to others. Basic things like daily physical activity, reflection, nutrition, and laughter are powerful gifts we can give ourselves, those we mentor, and ultimately the students we teach.



Looking for practical mentoring tools and resources?

- [Mentoring Moments Ning](http://mentoringmoments.ning.com) - <http://mentoringmoments.ning.com>
- [TeachOntario](https://www.teachontario.ca) - <https://www.teachontario.ca>

