

Supporting Youth Scholars Through Empowerment and Mentorship (SYSTEM)

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Introduction

As a Schweitzer Fellow, our project pairs minority male mentors with at-risk minority boys in a local elementary school. The goal of this mentorship is to help improve self-esteem and provide guidance that allows for behavioral and academic success.

Project Description

Community Outreach

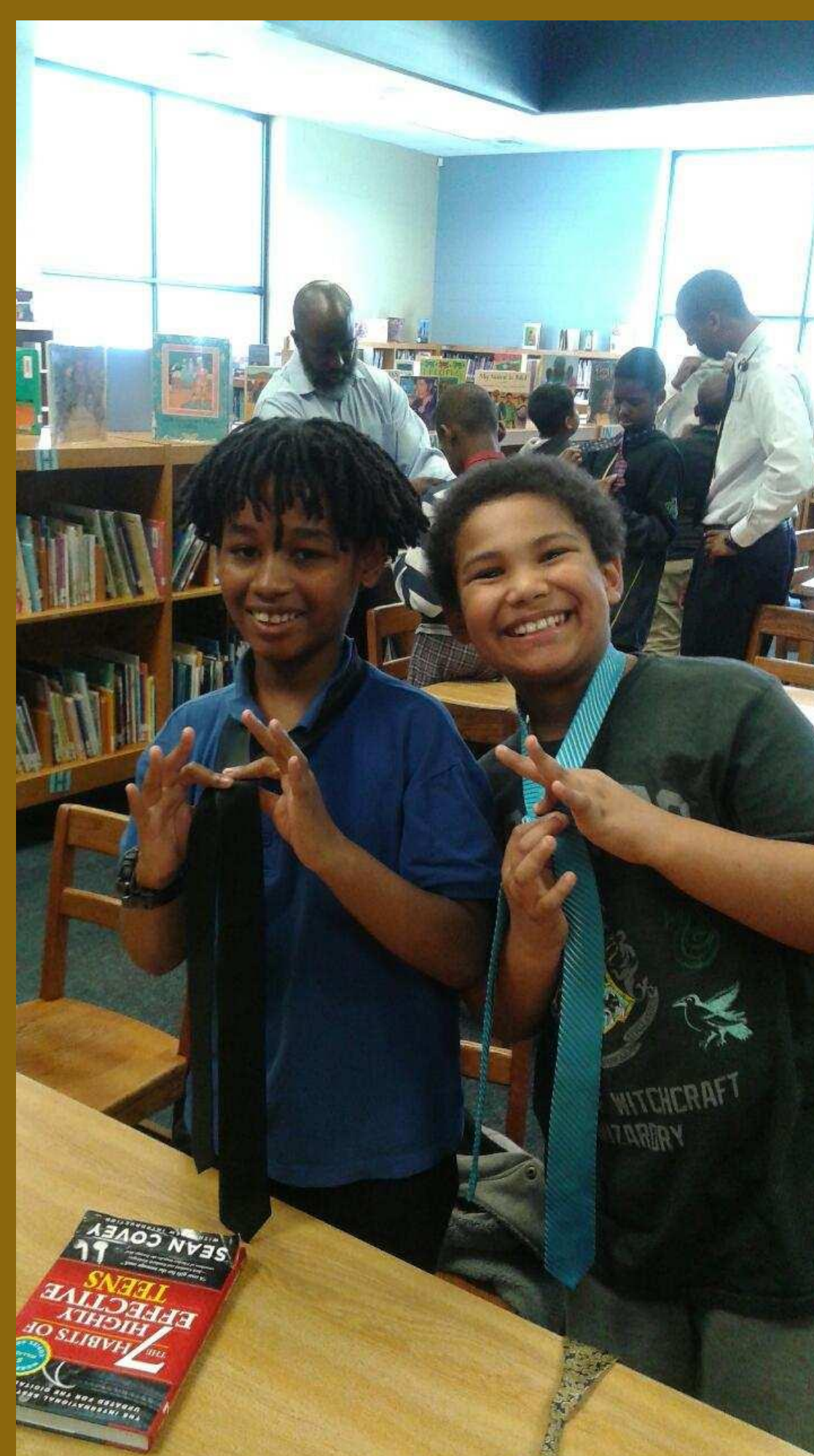
Mentors met with parents of the school to introduce the program and hear the needs/goals of family members for individual students.

17 minority male mentors from the Wake Forest Graduate, Medical, and Physician Assistant Schools were matched with 21 3rd and 4th grade minority boys.

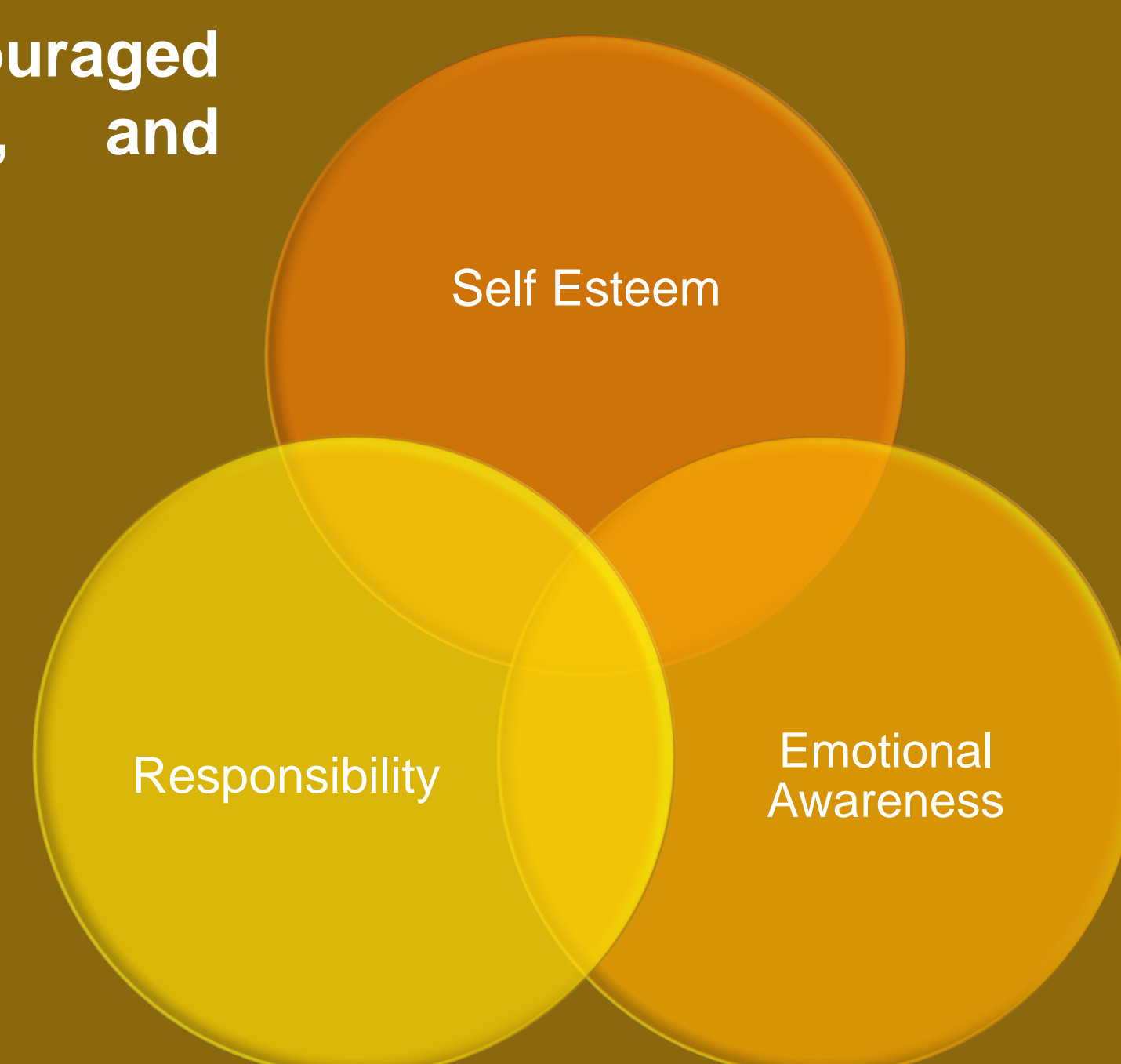
Mentorship

Initial: Mentors ate lunch with the scholar and went to recess, supporting them in common daily interactions, offering advice to encourage communication, responsibility, and respectful behavior.

Eventual: Mentors eventually transitioned to classroom activities during recess that encouraged teamwork, communication, and conflict resolution.



*Mentorship focused on developing these three tools within the students



The Young Scholars of SYSTEM



Outcomes

*According to teachers and mentors, the scholars demonstrated an increase in good behavior, academic effort, and attitude



	Teachers Evaluation	Mentors Evaluation
Scholar Behavior	↑	↑
Scholar Effort	↑	↑
Scholar Attitude	↑	↑

Sustainability

- SYSTEM has been incorporated into the Wake Forest School of Medicine Diversity Office, and Student National Medical Association.
- It has plans to continue working with Cooke Elementary School
- We are also developing a summer program for the students, to maintain the program's influence during the summer

