

Beyond School Walls

VIDEORAY | POTTSTOWN

CHANGING PERSPECTIVES

The Bigs in Beyond School Walls mentoring programs expand a child's perspective by spending one-on-one time with them during the school day. Big Brothers Big Sisters partners with a variety of institutions and companies in the Independence region. In Pottstown, we partner with VideoRay to match their employees (along with professionals working in the Pottstown area) with students from Pottstown Middle School. This is a great first glimpse of corporate America and allows young people to build relationships with professionals they may not otherwise have known! No matter what they do, the time that Bigs and Littles spend together is proven to enhance school performance.

TIME COMMITMENT

Once every other week for one hour during lunch for the entire school year.

WHAT YOU DO

Every other visit, there will be a structured Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) facilitated activity, and during the other meetings, you will do something that you and your Little both enjoy: play games, craft projects, visit your office, etc.

WHEN YOU DO IT

Littles visit VideoRay every other week on Thursdays from 12-1pm, lunch is provided and part of the fun!

WHERE YOU DO IT

Littles are transported from Pottstown Middle School to VideoRay at 212 East High Street Pottstown, PA 19464.

WHY MENTOR

Studies have shown that only 56% of students reported having a school staff person to go to for school problems and just two-fifths had someone in school to talk to about personal problems. That's an awful lot of students with something to say and no one to listen.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

We are a community-supported organization. More than 20% of our funding comes from individuals like you—and this funding makes it possible for our professional staff to support the children and dedicated volunteers. Consider donating at independence bigs.org

RESULTS

Young people in BBBS School-Based mentoring programs show an increase in academic performance, feel more competent academically, are less likely to skip school and feel that that they would attend and finish college. That's a lot of impact for two hours a month!

NEXT STEPS

Submit an inquiry form <u>here</u>. BBBS will contact you to set up your virtual interview in the following weeks. The process also includes background checks and references. We commit to keeping your personal information secure.

Contact: Jasmine Hughes at JHughes@IndependenceBigs.org