**DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON**

***PROFESSIONAL MENTORING PROGRAM***

**YEAR 3 REQUIREMENT SHEET**

**July 1, 2025 – April 17, 2026**

**Facilitator:** Carol Ripken

302-573-3133 (office)

443-540-4299 (cell)

[cripken@cdow.org](mailto:cripken@cdow.org)

**AN OVERVIEW OF THE THIRD YEAR OF MENTORING**

This year’s focus is on short-term and long-term professional growth.

Each Mentee will:

* Spend time self-assessing, reflecting, and identifying an area of growth that will enhance teaching and learning in the classroom.
* Select an area of growth for the current academic year and write a professional development plan for maximizing growth in that area. The plan must include:

1. Two goals within this area of growth; one which specifies how you will deepen your knowledge in this growth area and the other on how you will implement what has been learned.
2. Specific actions/initiatives for each goal.
3. A projected timeline in which to implement the actions/initiatives.

* Maintain documentation of each action/initiative implemented to meet the two goals.
* Write a reflection that includes what you learned, how you grew professionally because of the steps in your Professional Growth Plan, and any additions/changes you would make to enhance the outcomes if repeating this professional endeavor.
* Outline initial thoughts for your 2026-2027 Professional Growth Plan.
* Compile, in binder format, a well-organized and thorough portfolio with the documentation outlined below.

**GENERAL INFORMATION THAT ANSWERS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

* There are three meetings with Mentees and two with Mentors this year.

1. One meeting with the Mentoring Program Facilitator at the start of the year for Mentees and Mentors with the purpose of explaining the requirements.
2. One meeting with the Mentoring Program Facilitator, typically in December or January, for Mentees and Mentors to ensure Goal 1 has been completed and is well documented. This meeting will take place at the Mentee’s school.
3. One meeting after the Mentee has submitted his/her portfolio to the Mentoring Program Facilitator. This meeting, typically in May or very early June, will take place at the Mentee’s school. Mentor attendance is optional.

* It is suggested that the Mentor schedule a minimum of one meeting per month with the Mentee. The Mentor must:

1. Review, critique and approve the self-analysis document.
2. Review, critique, and approve the current year Professional Growth Plan.
3. Periodically review and ultimately verify the work done on the current year plan.
4. Periodically review the Mentee’s Log/Tally of Hours.
5. Review and critique the Mentee’s future Professional Development Plan.
6. Review and critique the Mentee’s reflection.
7. Ultimately review and approve the Mentee’s portfolio and sign off on end-of-year paperwork.

To do this well, a minimum of a monthly meeting is needed (in October, there will probably be two meetings); typically these meetings are half an hour or less. The Mentee must log the dates/times (ultimately totaling 20 or more hours) of all work done to meet this year’s goals. The Mentor will also log his/her hours (typically 8-12 hours) in order to receive clock hours or a school-paid stipend .

* The 20-hour minimal requirement may include self-assessment and reflection time, reading and research, attending workshops/seminars, planning/preparing for graduate level coursework and/or classes being taught, observing and/or meeting with other teachers/professionals, writing/analyzing surveys, writing the reflection, completing required paperwork, etc. **It may NOT include actual teaching time**.

**SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

The following is the timeline for your work. You may certainly complete steps earlier than noted below, but you should never complete steps later than what is noted. Any document listed below which is italicized and in quotes can be found on the Catholic Schools Office intranet:

[www.cdowschools.org](http://www.cdowschools.org) Professional Resources PW: Called2025 Mentoring Professional Mentoring Program Year 4 Forms

**Late September and October 2025**

* Step 1: Mentee schedules a meeting with Mentor to:

1. Review the “*Year 3 Requirement Sheet”* to ensure understanding of requirements.
2. Establish meeting dates for the next several months.
3. Discuss initial thoughts Mentee has about his/her growth areas.

***“Year 3 Requirement Sheet” should be placed immediately before Tab 1 of your portfolio and should be a reference throughout the year.***

* Step 2:Mentee spends some time reflecting on needed growth areas using the following as guides:

1. Diocesan Professional Standards and Indicators for Educators or Counselors.
2. DE Professional Teaching Standards (Educators) or ASCA Professional Standards and Competencies (Counselors) which can be found online.
3. Observation/evaluation feedback (from administrators, a mentor, a colleague or self-assessment from the last couple of years).

* Step 3: Mentee does self-analysis:

1. Identification of three specific areas of needed growth and what prompted these to be the

ones identified.

1. Selection of the target growth area you are choosing to focus on this year, and the rationale behind your decision.
2. Completion of the document entitled “*Self-Analysis*.”

* Step 4: Mentor reviews, critiques, and approves “*Self-Analysis”* document

1. Discussion with Mentor about the *“Self-Analysis”* document.
2. If approved, signature of your Mentor on this document. (If not approved, make necessary

changes and repeat Step 4.

**Your Mentor signed “*Self-Analysis” document should be the first document in Tab 1 of your portfolio.***

* Step 5: Mentee completes *“Professional Growth Plan”* document

1. Determination of the *DE Professional Standard for Teachers* or *ASCA Standard* (for counselors) with which your growth area is aligned. Both sets of standards are posted on the intranet.
2. Formulation of two goals to achieve within this growth area – **the first goal** **must focus on how you will** **deepen your knowledge in the chosen focus area** (research, reading, course work, professional discussions, workshops, etc.) and the **second goal must focus on the implementation of what you have learned.**
3. Identification of the **specific actions/initiatives and approximate timeline** which would best allow you to meet/exceed your goals.
4. Completion of the *“Professional Growth Plan For 2025-2026”* document. (See *“Sample Professional Growth Plan”* for a template and *“Sample Growth Areas/Goals”* for ideas.)

* Step 6: Mentor reviews, critiques, and approves *“Professional Growth Plan”*

1. Discussion with Mentor about *“Professional Growth Plan for 2025-2026”.*
2. If approved, signature of your Mentor on this document. (If not approved, make necessary adjustments and repeat Step 6.)

**Your “*Professional Growth Plan For 2025-2026”* *should be the second document in TAB 1 of your***

***portfolio.***

* Step 7: Mentee submits, via email, the signed “*Self-Analysis”* and signed *“Professional Growth Plan”* to theFacilitator by no later than **October 17, 2025.**

Written approval from the Facilitator is required before you proceed; approval will be received

via email unless a meeting is requested.

**Late October 2025 through April 2026**

**Goal 1 is to be completed sometime between December 1 and December 18. Work should be done on Goal 2 from the time you complete Goal 1 through no later than April 10.**

* Step 8: Mentee executes each step of Professional Growth Plan and keeps/organizes all related documentation. *An Example:*

If Goal 1 is to become more knowledgeable about autism and Goal 2 is to provide the best environment and instructional strategies for an autistic student, **TAB 2 of the portfolio** should contain materials such as a bibliography of materials read, notes from your reading, conference registration/notes/certificate, notes from conversations with those knowledgeable about autism. **In TAB 3 of the portfolio,** for Goal 2 show documentation on how you used what you learned to benefit the student. Examples: methods of teaching social skills, non-verbal cues, modified assessments, varying means of presentation, etc.

* Step 9: Mentee schedules December or January meetings as soon as all steps above have been

completed, all Goal 1 documentation is well-organized, and the “*Log/Tally of Hours.*” Is up to

date.

1. Schedule a meeting with your Mentor who will review Goal 1 documentation and offer commendations and recommendations to you.
2. Schedule a meeting with the Facilitator and your Mentor to do a final review of Goal 1 documentation and discuss your implementation of Goal 2. This meeting must be scheduled by December 18, 2025, and must take place by January 30, 2026. (If there are two or three Year 3 Mentees at one school, it is preferred that the meeting take place on the same day.)

**All documentation/evidence/artifacts for Goal 1 should be well-organized and** **in TAB 2 of the portfolio.**

**A copy of the signed *“Mid-year Review Checklist”* should be placed in TAB 5 of the portfolio**.

* Step 10: Mentee executes the implementation process (Goal 2) of your Professional Growth Plan

1. Ensure that everything that you wrote under Actions/Initiatives is well documented.
2. Implementation should be completed by March 31, 2026.

**All documentation/evidence/artifacts should be well-organized and** **in TAB 3 of the portfolio**

* Step 11: Mentee and Mentor meet

1. Meet with your Mentor by no later than **April 6, 2026,** to review all Goal 2 documentation and to discuss your preliminary thoughts for your final written reflection on the current plan and your ideas for future growth goals.

**April 2026**

* Step 12: Mentee completes End-of-Year documents

1. Write the final reflection (see page 1 of this document) of the current year’s professional growth plan. There is no required length; typically, one to one and half typed pages is plenty.

**This document should be placed in*****TAB 4 in the portfolio****.*

1. Complete the form “*Professional Growth Plan for 2026-2027*.”
2. Ensure that your *“Log/Tally of Hours”* is complete.
3. Complete the “*Verification of Services Form for Mentees”*
4. Use the “*End-of-Year Portfolio Checklist” as a final check for portfolio completion.*
5. Complete the “End-of-Year Overview” (which may need to be uploaded into DEEDS)

**These five documents should be placed in *TAB 5 of the portfolio****.*

* Step 14 Mentee and Mentor meet

1. Have your Mentor review your portfolio
2. If your Mentor believes all is complete, he/she should sign off on both the “*End-of-Year Portfolio Checklist”* and “*Verification of Services Form for Mentees”*. (If not approved, make necessary adjustments and repeat Step 14.)

* Step 15: Submission of Portfolio/Wrap-up Meeting

1. Submit your portfolio to the Facilitator by **April 17, 2026**
2. Schedule a time prior to **June 5, 2026,** to meet with the Facilitator. Please know that it is your responsibility to get your portfolio to the Facilitator and to schedule the wrap-up meeting.

**PLEASE NOTE**

* Legally, last names of students may never be used in your portfolio.
* Materials in a professional portfolio are to be typed.