



Mentoring program gives students a boost

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Photo by Angela Rowlings

Thirty students at the Jeremiah Burke High School in Dorchester are excelling under a federally funded program that pairs kids with mentors and makes them volunteer in an effort to give a leg up to students at underperforming schools.

Quantum Opportunities is an after-school program funded by the Department of Justice being tested in 10 cities across the country. The program takes the 30 students from the school and for four years, pairs them with mentors and tutors to help with homework and day-to-day problems. The students are required to volunteer each week, as well as participate in an extracurricular activity.

In exchange, the students are given a stipend of \$30 a week. In Boston, the program is operating off a \$500,000 grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention and the Eisenhower Foundation.

The program was formally announced yesterday at Burke High School, but the students enrolled in the program last spring.

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