

Fire Destroys School Library...

Mr. Pace,

You may or may not remember me. I am the Library Media Specialist at Pollard McCall Jr. High School in Brewton, Alabama which is in Escambia County. I received a copy of your book *Mentor The Kid & the CEO* several years ago. I was so encouraged and inspired by the book that I first shared it with my husband who is a Juvenile Probation Officer and then my brother who happens to also be my boss and principal. They too were inspired by the book. My husband uses the book with programs that he is involved in with his job and also with kids that he works to help on a daily basis. As principal, my brother encouraged me to implement the book into my curriculum with our eighth grade students which I do each year. Just recently we ordered the workbook to go along with the books and was looking so forward to using it this upcoming school year. We had also purchased the book on CD. You have been so kind to us in the past. You even called my brother after receiving one of his emails which shared his excitement after reading the book.

We recently had a fire at our school which started in my room the school library. I am so thankful that the students on campus that day evacuated and were not harmed. The library was separate from the original

school building which turned out to be a blessing. However, the library was a total loss. After walking down to look at the library later that day, I asked a firefighter to see if he could open my desk draw and salvage anything. To my surprise, the contents of my desk drawer were untouched by the fire. In that desk drawer was the first copy of the book you sent with the letter. I was so excited that it had survived because not much of anything else did. You can go to the website www.northescambia.com and look for the article on the fire, and it has a photo album of pictures



Anyway, I was sad to realize that not only did we lose all of my copies of *Mentor The Kid & the CEO* but we also lost all of the workbooks that we had recently purchased and never got to use.

After this tragic event, I got to thinking about how excited I had been the first time I read your book and I remembered laying in bed those years ago and telling my husband that I was going to run a marathon. He told me I was crazy. Well, I haven't ran a marathon.....YET! But, when I saw that book in my burnt up desk drawer I knew I couldn't continue to teach the book and ask students to set goals and work toward them if I didn't. So, I had signed my husband and I up for a 5K weeks before the fire but it was mainly to support the high school from which he graduated from. I never really knew if we would actually do it. I am happy to tell you that we both finished our first 5K even though we didn't have a chance to train.

I want to continue to use the book with our students. If there is anyway that you could help us replace what we lost in the fire, we would be very grateful.

Sincerely,
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