

We'd like to recognize Wendy Burns of Linking Learning to Life Mentoring program. Wendy Ellis, Linking Learning to Life Program coordinator, will present this award.

Wendy Burns began meeting with her mentee, Caeleigh, in the fall of 2001. Caeligh had just turned 10. They began meeting at Caeleigh's school where they would play games, eat lunch, or just hang out. When Caeligh went to Middle School, more of their time was spent talking, and really getting to know each other. They continue to meet, talk, laugh, get on each other's nerves, and as Caeleigh moved through her middle school years, one thing became apparent, Wendy, her mentor, became not just a weekly appointment, but a true friend that Caeleigh trusted and looked forward to seeing. Wendy and Caeleigh are beginning their 7th year together! Their relationship has matured into a meaningful friendship that both look forward to continuing for years to come. When Caeleigh was asked why she thought her mentor deserved this award her response was simple, and to the point, "My life is more exciting with her in it!" (156 words)

Thank you Wendy for being such a committed friend.

Here to give Wendy her award is her mentee Caeleigh.

