

## Finding a Mentor

### Ways to find a mentor:

1. Networking: Ask your friends, parents, and teachers if they know someone in the field you're studying who might be able to act as your mentor.
2. Cold Calling/e-mailing: You may need to call or e-mail businesses and talk to people you don't know. This can be intimidating, but don't give up! You will find someone to help you.

When asking someone to be your mentor, you can follow this general script:

*Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ . For my Senior Project at Poway High School I will be \_\_\_\_\_ . Since you have expertise in this area, I was wondering if you would be willing to act as my mentor. Being a mentor requires a commitment through May 2011. You would need to be available to meet with me in person at least once a month and communicate via phone calls or e-mails throughout the project. I'm looking for someone reliable who can answer questions about \_\_\_\_\_ , steer me in the right direction, and connect me to other people in the field. (You can add in some things here about the fact that you are hard-working, reliable, etc.) Does this sound like something you'd be interested in doing? –or– If this sounds like something you'd be interested in please e-mail/call me back at your earliest convenience. (Don't forget to provide your contact information).*

If they say yes, get their information (e-mail address & phone # if you don't have both already) and ask them the best way & most convenient time to communicate with them. Tell them you will send them the **Mentor FAQ sheet** right away. Ask them to call or e-mail you once they have read it over so you can set up your first meeting. If you don't hear from them within a few days, send a follow-up e-mail.

If they say they are interested but need more information, offer to send them a copy of the **Mentor FAQ sheet**.

If they say that they are too busy, ask if there's anyone else they would recommend.

**Persevere!** If you don't hear back from someone in a few days, call someone else or send a follow-up e-mail.

If you have tried all of these things and still cannot find a mentor, talk to Principal Fisher. He is very good at finding mentors.