



# I-Beam

**I-Beam** is a lunchtime literacy and mentoring program that connects volunteer adult mentors with 2nd-5th grade students who scored below the 25th percentile of MAPP testing and/or qualify for free and reduced lunch, and/or are recommended into the program by their teacher. On the same day each week, volunteers travel to a nearby elementary school for one hour of lunch and socializing and one-on-one reading with their student. For the one hour session, the mentors promote the skills and love of reading and offer consistent adult relationships.

**I-Beam** has completed its 6th year in partnership with many of Mt. Pleasant's elementary schools. We have grown from serving 41 students with 55 mentors from 2 churches in one school to serving 2010 students with 265 mentors from 19 churches and organizations in 7 schools. Below are the schools that we serve along with our recent survey that will give you some information on the results of the program from both a teachers and mentors perspective. Please share this information as we I-Beam continues fill the need of matching children in need with a mentor

Charleston >excellence is our standard  
County SCHOOL DISTRICT



**BELLE HALL**  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*Excellence is Our Standard.*



**St. James-Santee**  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



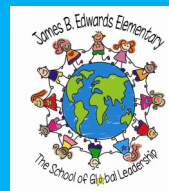
**CHARLES PINCKNEY**  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



**LAUREL HILL**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



**Jennie Moore**  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS





### 2015-2016 I-Beam Teacher and Mentor Survey Overview

97% of I-Beam Mentors ranked their overall interaction with their student as positive or very positive

94% of I-Beam Mentors plan to mentor again in the 2015-2016 school year

93% of I-Beam Mentors feel that they made a difference in the life of their student

80% of I-Beam Teachers have noticed an increase in self-esteem

86% of I-Beam Teachers have noticed a positive difference in reading skills (comprehension)

83% of I-Beam Teachers have noticed an increased level of enthusiasm for learning

72% of I-Beam Teachers have noticed a very positive difference in classroom performance





## Teacher Comments

- The students look forward toward meeting with their I-Beam partners each week. The individual support provides each student with a special connection in knowing that there is an adult who cares for him/her with an emphasis on becoming a better reader. Thank you for your dedicated focus on providing support toward individual literacy growth in our public schools East of the Cooper!!! With Great Appreciation!!!
- Both volunteers are enthusiastic and encouraging to my students.
- They are such wonderful supporters for our students! They do a wonderful job!
- I have been very pleased with the mentors themselves and the impact they have on the students. The mentors are very approachable, decent people and the students benefit from spending time with them.
- I love the program and the positive impact that it has had on my students. I am very thankful for our IBEAM volunteers!
- I love the program and my I-Beam students always look forward to seeing their mentors. Thank you for this program. It makes a huge difference to these students' lives!

## Mentor Comments

- As the weeks went on, my student became more open and excited to read and chat every week. It was great to see that change in him over time.
- Over the past four years he has greatly improved in his reading skills as well as his attitude and enthusiasm for learning.
- Her reading greatly improved so that by the end of the year she was reading with hardly ever missing a word! And she read with enthusiasm which was a delight to me!
- He has gone from disliking to read to reading the entire time we are together.
- When I started mentoring, I was concerned the children participating in I-Beam would feel singled out in a negative way. It has been the opposite. They enjoy the time with their mentors and some of the other children in the classroom act like they wish there was someone to read with them as well.
- Sharing the joy of reading with this precious child is fun and rewarding.

