

HISTORY OF RGV MENTORS

RGV Mentors was founded in the spring of 2010 by Rio Grande Valley native and Harlingen gastroenterologist Dr. Nolan E. Perez. The impetus to create RGV Mentors began over lunch with RGVision Publisher, Gabe Puente. Their enthusiasm for education and community service is evidenced in their involvement and drive to help students succeed. Utilizing the “life coach” style of mentoring was, and it is today, the hallmark of *RGV Mentors*. When Dr. Perez founded RGV Mentors, his purpose was to inspire and motivate students and see knowledge, opportunities, and skill-sets emerge. His goal was to match successful community professionals with aspiring high school students to ensure all participants graduate high school with a college and career-ready mindset.

In late 2010, *RGV Mentors* joined forces with RGV LEAD (formerly *Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley*), which is a partnership between education and business that prepares young people for today’s skilled workforce. This partnership involves well-established relationships with high schools, colleges, universities, businesses, and governmental agencies throughout the Rio Grande Valley. Their method of needs’ assessment and promotion of post-secondary education and career readiness is a solid fit with the goals of *RGV Mentors*. Dr. Perez now serves on the RGV LEAD Executive Board.

"Life Is Like Riding A Bicycle. In Order To Keep Your Balance, You Must Keep Moving."

Albert Einstein



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**BUILDING A
BRIGHTER FUTURE,
ONE STUDENT AT A TIME!**



**STUDENT- INDUSTRY
LEADER
MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

"Tell Me and I Forget, Teach Me And I May Remember, Involve Me and I Learn."

Benjamin Franklin

SCHOOL-BASED MENTORSHIP (SBM)

The SBM component targets primarily **freshmen and sophomore students** (although junior and senior students are also allowed to participate).

This SBM program engages students in dialogue with college, business, industry and/or community representatives. High school students are supported as they identify and pursue goals that will lead them to success in post-secondary education, in careers, and ultimately in life.

The SBM can be used as a pre-requisite for students interested in participating in the community-based mentorship program.



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of RGV Mentors is to match successful community professionals with aspiring high school students to ensure all participating students graduate from high school with a college and/or career ready mindset

Learn from Your Mentor!

The advantages of participating actively in the RGV Mentors School-Based Component include, but are not limited to:

- Build a “working relationship” between the Protégé and the Mentor.
- Reduce fear of going to college.
 - Learn “soft skills”
- Learn about life experiences

Excellent practice proven to strengthen education and workforce partnerships.

“The delicate balance of mentoring someone is not creating them in your own image, but giving them the opportunity to create themselves.”

Steven Spielberg

COMMUNITY-BASED MENTORSHIP (CBM)

The CBM component targets **junior and senior students**. The RGV Mentors Protégés participate in an outside of the school mentorship with assigned business and industry representatives. Adult mentors are carefully selected and follow a curriculum designed to help guide and enhance the Protégés’ experience. The resulting relationships may continue well beyond high school to ensure that Protégés ultimately fulfill their ambitions and develop into citizens who will give back to their communities.

The hallmark of RGV Mentors is its comprehensive, “life-coach” style of mentoring.

