

*Education Support Professionals (ESP): Supporting our Own through  
Mentoring*  
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In order to retain the best of the best, ensure that ESP are satisfied with their careers and have the guidance they need to succeed, we must professionally support one another through mentoring. Mentoring is a partnership between two individuals, often with similar career assignments, focused on developing personal and professional growth and skills through a strong learning relationship. We understand the need for early career support on the job and we believe ESP mentoring and supporting our own is a large part of the answer.

Join us to learn more about ESP mentoring, the benefits and challenges of setting up ESP mentoring programs, and about three different models from Washington, Colorado and Minnesota that are actively supporting ESP around the country so they can meet the needs of the whole student.

**Presenters:**

Kathie Axtell, Washington

- UniServ Council President, WEA Chinook, Washington Education Association
- Administrative Assistant, Olympia School District (full time release)
- 2009 NEA ESP of the Year

Judy Near, Colorado

- Former President of Canon City Education Support Personnel Association (CCESPA), Colorado Education Association
- Former Health Technician for Canon City School District, Colorado
- NEA-Retired member
- 2012 NEA ESP of the Year

Grace Hwang Friedman

- Senior Program Specialist, NEA Education Support Professional Quality

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