



TUTORS FOR KIDS, INC. NEWS

May 2015

Changing our World by Educating Kids
Our hope is to see our Kids Moving Forward



Tutors for Kids, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit community-based organization of volunteers who support the local educational process by responding to school requests for direct classroom tutoring in reading, math, writing, and science as well as family support and activities that enhance the educational environment leading to scholastic achievement.

You Won an Award - The tutors from Tutors for Kids were honored by the Sumter County School Board at their meeting on Tuesday, April 21. The award was for "Outstanding Service to Sumter District Schools 2015".

Three Captains needed. We are adding two new elementary schools and one middle school making a total of 12 schools where we tutor. The new schools are **Beverly Shores Elementary** – located on Griffin Road just before the split of SR 27-441 and **Leesburg Elementary** - located on SR 44 about 6 miles from the southern end of Morse Boulevard and **Wildwood Middle High School**. We need captains for these schools.

Two Captains needed are needed for our current schools. At **Belleview Elementary** Carol Dunworth is moving from Florida. There are 19 tutors in the school. We thank Carol for all she has done. At **Villages Elementary** on Rolling Acres, Carol Saez is needed for a lengthy family project. We thank Carol for all she has done.

Wildwood Captain needed. Wildwood Elementary has many tutors, so we need an additional captain to help.

Village Club Program Coordinator needed. The club at the Villages needs another coordinator to join the team of three that plans the monthly meetings. One of the members, Char Griffin, is unable to continue. We thank Char for all she has done

Wildwood Computer Lab open during summer - Alison Patrick, a 4th/5th grade teacher at Wildwood Elementary, announced that they will open the computer lab to have students come to work on educational programs. The lab will be open during the summer program, Monday – Thursday, 9–12 from June 9-July 2. We hope some of our volunteers can come and assist students in the computer lab. Contact Alison at alison.patrick@sumter.k12.fl.us

Applications for the Fall. We are accepting volunteer applications for Wildwood for the fall. If you have not done so, please let us or your captains know if you would like to return and if you want to stay with the same teacher.

Tutors needed for Middle School. We have several tutors who have signed on for middle school. We need a few more before we talk to Wildwood Middle School.

Final Book Pickup – **If you missed your day, the FINAL DAY** is Tuesday, May 5, 3-6 PM. If you need to make special arrangements for pickup, call us at 352-245-9709.

Village Club Meeting – Wednesday, May 6, 3 p.m. at Sterling Heights. A panel of experienced tutors share their triumphs and challenges. Then in grade level groups, you will share and learn from your peers. We hope that you will make recommendations on strengthening individual tutoring skills and the Tutors for Kids Organization.

Strategic Planning - Our strategic planning committee will hold its third meeting on Monday, June 22, at 9 AM.

Two New Principals – Stanton Weirsdale's new principal is Debra Riedl and Marion Oaks new principal is Natalia Robledo.

Donations – Since last reporting, we have received \$295 from a tutor, a friend, and a memorial gift for books. Thank you!!

Carolyn and Frank will be away – Each year we take out our backpacks and head for Europe. We ride the trains, buses, trams, subways, chairlifts, ferries, funiculars, etc. This year it is Florence, the Lake Como area, across the Adriatic Sea by ferry, and into Croatia with its many small islands. Many of you have asked for a link to our daily travel blog. The blog will start on May 15 with stories and pictures. Here is the link to our blog:

(To get to the link hold the CTL key down on your keyboard and click the link with your mouse.)

<http://www.travelpod.com/travel-blog/frankandcarolyn/2/tpod.html>

Tutors for Kids

Frank Russo or Carolyn Ruhe - 352-245-9709

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Tips for Tutoring

Articles:

Can volunteers help kids read more proficiently? New research says yes.

By [Emma Brown](#) Washington Post March 28, 2015

She starts her article with these words:

“Public schools have long relied on volunteers to manage bake sales and to chaperone field trips. But what if schools could harness and organize volunteers to do something bigger and more difficult?

They can, according to new research that suggests that volunteers could be instrumental in helping millions of American children to read proficiently.

There have been plenty of studies on small volunteer tutoring programs that reach a few dozen children at a time in individual schools. But until now, there has not been evidence that such programs can make a difference on a much larger scale, across many schools and for thousands of students.

“Bringing volunteer programs to scale is often quite difficult, so that’s really the exciting thing about the research coming out now,” said Robin Jacob, a research scientist at the University of Michigan’s education school.

An independent evaluation of the Minnesota Reading Corps, which relies on AmeriCorps service members to identify and tutor struggling students, [showed that preschoolers in the program](#) were far more likely to gain the literacy skills they need to be ready for kindergarten than other preschoolers.

The link below will bring you her full article.
(To get to the link hold the CTL key down on your keyboard and click the link with your mouse.)

http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/can-volunteers-help-kids-read-more-proficiently-new-research-says-yes/2015/03/28/7141c57c-c4ec-11e4-ad5c-3b8ce89f1b89_story.html

David Bornstein heads up a group called “Turnaround for Children” His article,

[“Overcoming Poverty’s Damage to Learning”](#), in *The New York Times* captures the vision, value and model of Turnaround for Children’s work in a way no one has before and highlights the organization’s partnership with Collaborative Arts Middle School in Queens. Here is an excerpt:

“What makes Turnaround’s work so compelling is how it has broken down its long-term vision of school transformation into processes and chunks that are themselves teachable to educators and administrators.”

To read Bornstein’s article in its entirety

The link below will bring you his full article.

[“Overcoming Poverty’s Damage to Learning”](#)
(To get to the link hold the CTL key down on your keyboard and click the link with your mouse.)

Summer Book Reading:

Newly published –

Road to Character by David Brooks NY Times

Fun Article on teenagers

Why are teens oblivious to the pile of dirty clothes on the bedroom floor? And reckless in so many things.

<http://wapo.st/1G7ypPt>

(To get to the link hold the CTL key down on your keyboard and click the link with your mouse.)