



TUTORS FOR KIDS, INC.

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit community-based organization of volunteers who support the local educational process.

April 2017 Newsletter

Excited Children Eager to Learn

Our Children – Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow



Mission: Meeting student educational needs as defined by the teacher through suitable and trained volunteer tutors in the local, tri-county Title 1 public schools as determined by the Board of Directors.

Year Ending – The year is ending SOON! Thank you for all that you have done with your students. The scores of the tutored students continue to show significant improvements at every level. The next two topics will tell you when and where to pick up your books

Book Pick Up at a School that has storage space – There are seven schools that have books stored: Villages, Leesburg, Fruitland Park, Beverly Shores, Belleview Santos, Wildwood Elementary, and Wildwood Middle (the middle school books are in the elementary school portable). Each has a sufficient quantity and variety to fill your “books” needs for the remainder of the year. Your School Book Coordinators (SBCs) will advise you of the days and times the book area is open (watch your email).

Each school needs additional volunteers to staff the ‘book room’ when it is open. To help, contact your SBC. Check the “link” in the email of this newsletter for the contact information at each school.

Book Pick Up at Carolyn’s and Frank’s Home - Only these schools will need to get books at our home: **Belleview, Harbour View, Stanton Weirsdale, Marion Oaks, Emerald Shores, and Legacy.** (You can come on any day below). The dates are:

Monday	April 24	2 – 4 PM
Thursday	April 27 th	2 – 4 PM
Monday	May 1	2 – 4 PM
Thursday	May 4	3 – 5 PM
Monday	May 8	2 – 4 PM (This is the last day)

Tutors for Kids Club Meetings

Looking forward, we are happy to announce upcoming meeting:

Villagers Club - on May 3, please join us at **Sterling Heights Rec Center** – from **3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.** Details to be announced.

The **Belleview Library** location for club meetings will be cancelled for the remainder of the year. Sorry!

Fall Social and Awards Program – Many tutors have asked if Tutors for Kids will ever have a social. The answer is YES. We would like to recognize our donors and long-serving tutors who have been very generous year after year with their financial support and time.

So, the answer is “**YES**,”! We need **HELP** in organizing such an event. If you’d like to have some fun, then this project is for you. Gatherings of this type usually take 8 – 10 volunteers. So if you or friends like to plan socials, we need your help. After all, we do need to have fun along with our tutoring. **The tentative date is early December 2017.**

During the Summer – Yes, after school closes, learning still continues. Most of the counties offer summer school for four to six weeks. So, IF you would like to continue the great work you are doing with your students, feel free to volunteer. What we know now is that Beverly Shores (in Leesburg) will be one location. David O’Dwyer, one of our tutors at Leesburg, has stepped up and volunteered to

coordinate. Please let us know if you are interested and we will pass this information along to David.

Chess Tutors for the Summer – Jim Sikora has started an after-school chess club at Wildwood Elementary and wants to expand to Beverly Shores Elementary. In addition, he wants to offer a summer program – two hours once a week for six weeks. All you need is a knowledge of chess to help. You do not have to be a chess expert, as he is teaching chess basics. A rudimentary understanding of the game is necessary, and you can learn as you go. Call or email Jim: 352-350-2628 - jidisi@comcast.net

Science in the Fall – At Fruitland Park Elementary School, Randy Horn has organized a hands-on science program for all 2nd graders – and would like your help in the fall. He gives students a science problem to solve – collaboratively – and to explain and discuss their solution. It sounds like so much fun. IF you can help (or know of someone), contact Randy directly: 256-577-3748 - rkhorn@una.edu

Board of Directors – Our Board of Directors is building the structure to insure that Tutors for Kids will be around for a long time. The Board manages seven different sub-committees. Our Tutors for Kids program with 425 tutors in 12 schools serving 2,000 students per week needs a strong management structure.

You can HELP! Many people you know may have skills that could be used to support our program. We need Board members, trainers for new tutors, and interviewers for new tutor applicants, public speakers, help in grant writing, and technology help - especially for updating our website and Facebook connection (we have two volunteers for website/Facebook but could use at least two more).

Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

The following schools will announced their volunteer appreciation celebrations:

Belleview-Santos Elementary - Friday April 21, 2017 from 8 – 9 AM in the Library Media Center.

Wildwood Elementary - Monday May 8 at 9:00 AM in the Wildwood Elementary Media Center. Please RSVP by May 1, by calling the office at 852-748-8858

Harbour View Elementary - May 16th at 9am in the Media Center

Leesburg Elementary – May 8 – 9:00 in the Cafeteria

Stanton Weirsdale had their volunteer breakfast on Friday April 21

Supporting our Supporters

Thank you to all who came to the various events that many of our generous donors sponsored during the past year. We would not exist without their financial support.

Villages Pops Chorus announces upcoming concerts: July 31, Hooray for Hollywood; October 24, Give a Hoot 2, December 4, We Wish You the Merriest. As always, the chorus promises a fun and delightful evening.

The Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein: October 15-17 at the Savannah Center – directed by Tim Casey, our webmaster and database developer!!

Donations – Since the March newsletter, Tutors for Kids received over \$1,932 in donations from individuals and organizations. Thank you!!!

Supporting Tutors for Kids

Amazon Smile Foundation – If you buy from Amazon, Tutors for Kids benefits as you purchase. We get a small amount when you access Amazon through this link below.

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-4815598>

Bulletin Board – School Help Wanted

These schools need School Tutor Coordinators (STCs) and School Book Coordinators (SBCs).

Belleview Santos - Two School Book Coordinators.

Beverly Shores - One School Book Coordinators

Fruitland Park – One School Tutor Coordinator

Villages – Two School Book Coordinators

(See link in email accompanying this newsletter for STC contact info.)

School Tutor Coordinators (STCs) - What do they do?: We are in need of STCs at several schools. (See above-Bulletin Board). STCs are a vital part of Tutors for Kids . . .What do they do?

- 1) Ensure that new tutor applicants complete their county's volunteer application (track the date submitted).
- 2) Solicit the new tutor's availability of day(s), time(s), grade(s), and subject(s) & enter into database.
- 3) Follow up with the school to determine the tutors' approvals which can be tracked in the database.
- 4) Answer any questions about the school from the new tutor applicant.
- 5) If needed and requested, arrange for a new tutor to "shadow" an existing, experienced tutor.
- 6) Receive requests from teachers with specific day(s), time(s), subject(s) for tutoring help & enter into database.
- 7) Provide School Book Coordinators with information on tutors.

Initial time commitment is about 2-3 hours per week at the beginning of the school year (August through October). The rest of the school year is approximately one hour per week. June and July are 'quiet times'. There may be two meetings per year for STCs, after the initial training.

School Book Coordinators (SBCs) - What do they do? We are also in need of SBCs at several of the schools. They are a vital part of having books at your schools . . . What do they do?

- 1) Work with the school to get a secure & safe place to store books.
- 2) Stock storage space with adequate number of books to accommodate the number of tutors & students in the school.
- 3) Arrange for volunteers to "open" book room at designated times for tutors to obtain & sign out books.
- 4) Communicate with tutors about availability of books.
- 5) Oversee inventory and reorder books when needed
- 6) Work with computerized inventory (when available) to track receipts, disbursements, and reordering books.
- 7) Attend meetings occasionally.
- 8) Provide feedback to Tfk.

Initial time commitment is (as above in the SBC description) about 2 hours per week at the beginning of the school year (August through October). The rest of the school year is approximately 1 hour per week. June and July are 'quiet times'. There may be two meetings per year for SBCs, after the initial database training.

Helpful Tutoring Tips

Many folks ask how I get my students to "earn" a book each month. Here are some suggestions for your toolbox:

Awarding stickers for:

- Accomplishments, achievements, or tutoring sessions well done.
- Homework, attendance, and/or class participation.
- Reading and telling you about the book they "earned."

Recognizing our Students

This poem was read by a 5th grade student at Stanton Weirsdale at their volunteer appreciation breakfast. It says a lot about what you do!!

WHY I VOLUNTEER

It's not for the money, nor for the fame,
It's not for any personal gain,
It's just for the love of fellow man,
It's just to lend a helping hand,
It's just to give a little of self.
That's something you can't buy with wealth.
It's not for the medals won with pride.
It's just for the feeling deep inside.
It's that reward deep in your heart.
It's the feeling you have been a part
Of helping others far and near.
That makes you be a volunteer.
Anonymous

Tutors for Kids
Frank Russo or Carolyn Ruhe - 352-245-9709
Web: www.tutorsforkidsinc.org
Email: tutorsforkids@att.net

2016 Book Grant for Lake and Sumter from:



2016 Book Grant for Tutors for Kids from:

