



TUTORS FOR KIDS, INC.

July, 2017

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

Excited Children Eager to Learn

Our Children – Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow



Tutors for Kids, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit community-based organization of volunteers who support the local educational process. Our Mission Statement: Meeting student educational needs as defined by the teacher through suitable and trained volunteer tutors in the local, tri-county Title I public schools as determined by the Board of Directors.

In Memoriam – Again this month we are sad to report the passing of another tutor, David O'Dwyer, also member of the Villages Pop Chorus. David died in July after a heroic battle with cancer. David tutored at Leesburg Elementary and organized a tutoring summer program at Beverly Shores Elementary. We will miss him and his sense of optimism and 'can do' which he brought to every challenge. We send condolences to David's family and thanks for the time and expertise he shared with his students.

School Library Help Needed - We recently found out that Belleview-Santos (and the other Marion County schools) have had their library assistants reassigned, and BSE now has no assistant to help with the Media Center. As you know Terri Robinson has been a moving force at BSE, taking on extra responsibilities and doing an excellent job. She desperately needs a volunteer library assistant to help her, if she is to continue with the work she has been doing. So, if you know of anyone or might yourself be interested in helping out, please call the school at 352-671-6260 and ask to talk to Terri. The work would involve checking books in and out, re-shelving the books as they come in, repairing books at times, etc. Terri would train the person or people. She's a great boss and the Library has a very comfortable atmosphere to work in!

We have a new phone number. – Tutors for Kids has been using Carolyn and Frank's home phone number for the last few years. We have a new phone number - 352-568-5843. Please keep this number. If you know of someone who wants to join our program, direct him/her to use this new number.

Tutors needed in Marion County - Calls are coming in from a number of the principals in Marion County. It sounds like they are eager for tutoring help. Hopefully, we can get more area residents interested. Last year saw the scores at the schools, where we had tutors, climb considerably and principals are giving us credit for helping them to achieve this improvement. Belleview-Santos Elementary went up one whole grade in the end of the year testing, from a D to a C, but we believe with some additional tutors that can be at least a B. Some of the new policies that Marion County is changing for the 2017-2018 school year should help improve learning even more.

Schools Needing STCs - And speaking the needs at our schools, several School Tutor Coordinators are needed. Due to "retirement," we have openings for one at Stanton Weirsdale and one at Villages. RESPONSIBILITIES of STCs are linked in the cover email with this newsletter.

If you are interested, please email Frank or Carolyn, or come see them personally if you would like to see their "Happy Dance" as you tell them. The STCs are definitely our "Angels" in overseeing each school and handling the occasional questions that come up. We can't thank them enough!

Returning Tutors - Please make sure that you have contacted your STC with your plans for school, teacher, grade, and subject as well as return the tutoring applications (if you tutor in Marion County or if you are new or returning and have been asked to fill one out). The STCs will turn them into the county to do their background check.

Wildwood Tutors - If you tutor in Wildwood Elementary or Middle school AND did your application online last year, check your email for a message from **Searchsoft**. **Here is a quote from the Email:**

"With the new year fast approaching, there are ways to ensure there are no interruptions in your volunteer time here in the Sumter School District. Please update your application by simply logging onto the district webpage at sumter.k12.fl.us and select Volunteer Opportunities under the QUICK LINKS heading. Once logged in, simply scroll through your application making sure there are no areas that need to be updated. Select SAVE AND NEXT at the bottom. This will refresh your application for the new school year. You will not receive an email to confirm these actions. Please give us time to make the adjustments, if any, as the beginning of the year is extremely busy.

If you cannot remember your login information, please follow the directions on the login page under the having trouble logging in link. You may also call SearchSoft at 800-977-6735 for assistance. Please do not contact the schools or school board. There is no one to assist with this information"

Training Dates - Training dates should have been emailed to ALL the new folks, but if you feel you want a refresher you can make that choice. If you want to attend, just RSVP to: tutorsforkids@att.net. Dates & Times are listed below.

Thursday, August 10 – 1:00 – 5:00
Friday, August 18 – 9:00 – 1:00
Thursday, September 14 – 1:00 – 5:00
Friday, September 22 – 9:00 – 1:00
Thursday, October 12 - 1:00 – 5:00
Friday, October 20 - 9:00 – 1:00
Thursday, November 9 - 1:00 – 5:00
Thursday, December 14 – 1:00 – 5:00

Training is at the Belvedere Library (a Sumter County Library, right off Rt. 466 in the Villages). NOTE: Library opens at 9:00 we all will arrive together.

Book Help Needed – We have a new book database. And like all new computer programs we have to enter data to start. In this case the 'data' is book titles. It is not difficult or time consuming. The data entry can be done at your own day, time, and pace. If you can help for a few hours in August, call us at 352-245-9709 – thanks SO much!!

Board of Directors – We don't like to be repeating ourselves but in this case we have to. 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 sub-committees. These committees support and manage our Tutors for Kids program with 425 tutors in 12 schools serving 2,000 students per week. To run smoothly we need 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.-

Next Year has Begun – Here are some 'new' events:

1. A new club meeting place for Tutors for Kids. To replace the two monthly meetings, we now have ONE club meeting for ALL tutors - thanks to St Timothy's Catholic Church on SR 27 – 441 near the Villages Hospital. The first meeting is to "kick-off and orientation" – Tuesday, September 12, 3 PM.
2. A new training site. Training is at the Belvedere Library (a Sumter County Library, right off Rt. 466 in the Villages at the light where there is a CVS).
3. Multiple requests from Marion County Principals for MORE tutors. They know the value of Tutors for Kids and want more of their students to be in our tutor program.
4. A new Book Database to help us track our book distribution and our new ordering system.
5. More outreach to parents of students at each school's special events for families. We will be there with books and tips for helping students read.

Pilot Pen Corp – Last month we told you about the donation of Pilot Pens who gave us over 2,000 pens to use as extra rewards that our tutored students could 'earn'. Thank you to Jim Matese (VP of Sales) and Amy LaPlante (Sales Coordinator).

We have checked with the principals at most of our schools. These pens will be available where you pick up your books for distribution. They are "ink" pens, and we will not give them to Grade K and Grade 1 (to avoid permanently marking desks). These are reward pens for Grades 2+ at the request of the principals

Donations – Since the June newsletter, Tutors for Kids received over \$1,555 in donations and memorial gifts, including a donation from Knights of Columbus for Dr. Suess books. 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>

Please support these groups – they help Tutors for Kids!!

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!!

Website and Facebook Postings

Website – check the website for new postings: The revised training manual, among others.

Facebook Posting - Check our Tutors for Kids on Facebook and "like" us – spread the word to all your friends and family to "like" us as well!!

Bulletin Board – School Help Wanted

Belleview Santos - Two School Book Coordinators.

Beverly Shores - One School Book Coordinators

Villages – Two School Book Coordinators and one School Tutor Coordinator

Tutors Needed at these Schools

If you can help, contact the STC for the school; see the email intro section for a link to all the STCs with their contact information.

Beverly Shores

Math tutors needed for Grades 4 and 5

Belleview Elementary

Concentrating on reading – "will take as many as can send!"

Articles of Interest

Former President Barack Obama and his wife Michelle in partnership with Penguin Random House will donate one million books to our supplier First Book. Copy and paste the link below into your browser to get the full story.

<https://www.firstbook.org/about-first-book/media-center/press-releases/581>

Tutors for Kids

352-568-5843

Web: www.tutorsforkidsinc.org

Email: tutorsforkids@att.net

2016 Book Grant for Lake and Sumter from:



United Way
of Lake & Sumter Counties

2016 Book Grant for Tutors for Kids from:

