



Tutors for Kids, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit community-based organization of volunteers who support the local educational process. Our 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.

Update on Schools' Reopening – You, the tutors, have spoken. Some of you responded to our survey sent out in June/July. Many said that you do not feel comfortable going into school as a volunteer as of this time.

The members of the Board of directors have been in touch with school principals who have informed them that volunteers will not be allowed in school at the beginning of the year.

Some of our volunteers have asked if they could participate in the 'distance learning' activities that were in effect last spring. They wanted to know if they could continue with the students they had tutored through February since they already had a bond with these students. Many principals thought this might be, but at this time, principals' time is consumed with arranging the start of school.

Below is a letter that you all received by email in mid-July.

Letter from the Tutors for Kids Board of Directors

“July 23, 2020

Greetings to all our volunteers! Your Board has used the summer months to connect with the many school leadership teams throughout the Lake, Marion and Sumter counties. Like you, we have been anxious to make plans for the opening of school and for the return of our valued tutors. Every single school principal spoke so highly of our organization and the immeasurable value of your efforts with the students.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 has other plans, and we

remain in a state of flux as our schools make plans to safely educate their students. As local schools begin to open their doors in the next month, having volunteers return is not part of their initial re-opening plans.

Based upon the current information available to us, the Board of Directors has determined that we will not place any tutors into the schools under the Tutors for Kids umbrella until at least January 2021. This decision was arrived at following feedback from tutors and school personnel and with an abundance of caution for the well-being of our volunteers. Our book program is also on hold for now.

We recognize that individuals may feel differently regarding their health risks and that some of the communities we serve have not been as impacted as others. Based upon this, if a school is accepting volunteers earlier than January 2021 and the tutor remains an approved volunteer, the tutor may wish to contact their teacher and arrange their own schedule to return to the school. The understanding is that the volunteer is at the school as a private citizen during that time, not as a volunteer with Tutors for Kids.

Again, we look forward to returning to a time when our school campuses are buzzing with activity from our volunteers coming and going, books being distributed and students getting the help they so desperately need.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our students. We will stay in touch through these next months.

If you have any questions or feedback about the above, please contact ...” tutors@tutors4kids.org

Reopening Guidelines – What Are They? – Despite Governor Ron DeSantis lengthy Power Point presentation to be used by each county as guidelines for reopening schools many schools have charted their own way. When you view the websites of our three counties each one varies significantly. But they all put students and staff safety at the top of their list.

With “safety’ in mind you can begin to imagine how many issues are involved in this ‘safety’ process. Primarily how do you ‘safely’ educate students? Also with parents working, some a couple of jobs, they can no longer keep children at home, they must go back to work. So principals, teachers, and parents are all acting like magicians trying to find solutions that may satisfy all.

So the websites of the counties are offering a mixed menu of options to ‘educate their students. There are just too many options to examine here.

As a sample, we are providing a link to the Lake County School Board website. Look at the options available. You will then realize the scope of the problem facing educators as they try to educate. If you have the time read the **Frequently Asked Questions** and you will see how complicated this really is.

Use Cntl+Click with your mouse.

<https://www.lake.k12.fl.us/departments/technology/instructional-technology/reopening-lake-county-schools>

(Scroll to the bottom and click on the ‘Read the Full Plan’)

Tutors for Kids BOOKS – As schools re-open in different forms we are still left with a big unanswered question of what to do with the books that we usually give out in May. Schools were closed in May. We could not distribute books so we have thousands of books stored in book rooms at each school. They have been paid for and hopefully when schools openings are complete and the atmosphere is more peaceful we can develop a plan for an early distribution after the start of this school year.

We will keep you posted so check you emails for the newsletter and other emails from the Board,

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2020 Book Grant for Lake and Sumter Counties from:



United Way
of Lake & Sumter Counties

2019-2020 Book Grants for Tutors for Kids from:



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