Let’s Read Volunteer Orientation

Detroit Public Schools Community District

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Getting to Know You......

In order to get to know one another better, let’s quickly go around and introduce ourselves! Please tell me your name and what you love most about the holiday season?
Why volunteer?

There are lots of great reasons to get involved in the community. What's yours?
Program Overview

Reading is the basis for learning and school success. While reading is learned primarily in the classroom, many students need extra time and help. Research shows that tutoring is a great way for individuals and groups outside school to support learning. Effective tutoring requires appropriate training and careful planning. This will positively impact the educational experiences of DPSCD students.
DISTRICT

- Defined and trained teachers and principals on excellent instruction
- Purchased new, grade level materials for all schools with culturally relevant novels
- Implemented diagnostic system to determine what skills students need for literacy intervention
- Ongoing training on standards, new curriculum, and intervention tools
- Provided schools with Master Teachers to support new and struggling teachers and Academic Interventions to work with students in small groups
- Initiated competitive independent reading campaign to encourage life-long learning.

FAMILIES

- Establish a daily read-at-home time to read with their child
- Ensure their students are on-time to school
- Communicate with the teacher using the District provided planner
- Ensure students bring their student workbook and trade-book back to school every day

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

- Volunteer in our schools through Let's Read!
- Attend Parent Academy offerings
- Provide support for district and school based initiatives such as summer and after school opportunities

It Takes a Village
Our Mission

- To improve the reading skills of Detroit Public Schools Community District's children beginning with pre-kindergarten students.
- This plan for early intervention will ensure students meet the national standard of reading at or above grade level by 3rd grade.
Let's Read

This volunteer program was influenced by collaboration and discussion between DPSCD, The National Action Network, and The Keep the Vote No Takeover Coalition.

The program continues to build on the foundation of the Reading Corps Volunteer Initiative.

All Reading Corps Volunteers will be a part of this new initiative as we strive to achieve the Blueprint for 2020.
What will I do as a Let’s Read volunteer?

- Work with assigned students in grades K-3 grade on the foundational skills of literacy.

- Use a workbook aligned with the student’s needs and i-Ready diagnostic assessment.

- Provide the students with opportunities to read books of choice.
30 Minute Reading Session

Building Fluency with Letters & High Frequency Words (5 Minutes)
- Flash card review
- Practice Foundational Skills with Workbook (15 Minutes)
  - Review skills from previous workbook pages
  - Work with the child on the next 2-4 pages (depending upon student's ability)
  - Take time to practice skills while working through the activities

Developing a Love of Reading (10 Minutes)
- Read a new storybook and discuss
- Before opening the book, read the introduction to the child
- As you read the story to the child, talk about the pictures and have the child make predictions about the story
- After reading the story, ask the child to retell the story in their own words
- Discuss with students what they read
- Record reading reflections in the student journal
SAFE INTERACTIONS WITH STUDENTS

Volunteers are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner.

As a volunteer you will:

• Meet in public spaces with students within the school setting. Do not meet with students behind closed doors or off campus without prior parent/guardian permission.

• Refrain from initiating social activities outside the school setting without school or parent/guardian approval.

• Refrain from initiating any conversations or physical correspondence of a private or personal nature with students.

• Refrain from engaging in social networking with students via Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Vine, Twitter or other social networking websites without parent/guardian approval.
SAFE INTERACTIONS WITH STUDENTS, Continued...

Volunteers are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner.

- Refrain from sharing your personal phone or email information without parent/guardian permission.

- Refrain from giving students gifts unless of nominal value or identical for all students in the class.

- Refrain from giving students inappropriate signs of affection such as front hugs, students sitting on lap, touching or patting on areas other than shoulders, upper back, arms or hands or any other contact that causes you or a student to feel uncomfortable.
Tips for Volunteers

- Use positive words to build relationships with your mentees
- Be mindful of student behaviors. Help students overcome challenges!
- Celebrate small achievements
- Be patient and give yourself grace
Volunteer/Administrator Responsibilities

**VOLUNTEER**

- Show ID upon entering the school building.
- Report to the designated area to sign in.
- Proceed to assigned classroom at scheduled time.
- Work with each assigned student for 30 minutes.
- Support student(s) as they transition from one lesson/subject to the next.

**ADMINISTRATOR**

- Provide you with school contact information.
- Contact you directly to confirm your student assignments.
- Develop your schedule in consultation with teachers and confirm locations and times before your start date.
- Provide a tutoring location where you can work with your assigned students.
- Provide a log for you to sign in/out each day, located in the main office.
- Ensure volunteer hours are tracked and reported to FACE.
- Accompanies the Let’s Read volunteers on their first classroom visit.
Temperature Check
Tentative 2021-2022 Calendar

January
- Let’s Read Launch
- Because You Matter Writing Challenge
- School Wide Spelling Bee

February
- Black History Month
- National Read Across America
- Rise Up Read More

March
- National Reading Month
- WXYZ Channel 7 Spelling Bee March 24th

April
- National Poetry Monty
- Drop Everything & Read Day
- El dia de los ninos/El dia de los libros

May
- Scripps National Spelling Bee, Washington D.C.
- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Asian Pacific American Heritage

June
- Summer Reading Begins!
- Rise Up, Read More Celebration (winning schools)
- Reading Extravaganza

Office of Curriculum and Instruction

STUDENTS RISE. WE ALL RISE.
Materials

- Practicing with workbooks
- Filled with engaging graphics
- Research-based activities
- Each resource provides a letter formation guide, cited references, and answer keys for you to help students at all levels.

*Grades will be hidden
Building Fluency with Letter Cards
Building Fluency with High Frequency Words

across  another  anywhere
against available been
although  be
America before
animal
Developing a Love of Reading & Support Classroom Learning

- Foundational Skills Workbook
- Reinforce High Frequency Words with index cards
- Review Letter Card Sounds
- Handwriting skills (Sky Writing & Working in Workbook)
Student Learning Outcomes

- Children served through Let's Read program will increase the development of their reading skills and listening vocabulary.

- Mentoring children builds self-confidence, motivation, and a sense of pride in themselves.

- Reading to children enables volunteers to demonstrate the nature, pleasures, and rewards of reading, to increase their interest in books and their desires to become readers.
Q & A
Thank you for your support in creating a culture of literacy within our schools and our city!

We look forward to you becoming a Let’s Read Volunteer and inviting someone to be a part of the program.