St. Louis Park Public Schools Volunteer Program

Annual Report 2013-2014

Working together to support student achievement!

• Approximately 300 community volunteers
• Over 10,600 hours
• Serving 18 programs and special events
• Over $255,000 worth of service*

*Dollar value as determined by the Independent Sector at $24.31 per hour.

Math Program Volunteers
Volunteers work with students grades 2-12 in their classrooms or as tutors in the high school math lab.
Volunteers - 25
Classrooms - 17
Students - 425
Hours - 782

Band/Orchstra Volunteers
Community volunteers bring their instruments and join the band class for regular practice.
Volunteers – 2
Students – 40
Hours - 68

Americorps Math Volunteers
At Peter Hobart, two volunteers spent 78 hours working one-on-one with students under the direction of the MN Math Corps Enrichment Tutor, using the Americorps intervention curriculum, designed to help students in grades 4-8 learn the material in a way that comes naturally to them. Volunteers help students gain fluency in basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts. The volunteers are an incredibly important piece to the success of the Math Corps program.

English Language Learners (ELL) Volunteers
Volunteers help students practice their English speaking and writing skills. They also assist students as they learn about American culture and customs.
Volunteers - 6
Students - 15
Hours - 175

Linda Beck, a retired teacher, volunteers in the Adult Options in Education GED Lab three afternoons a week. She was recently recognized by the Minnesota Literacy Council as a Literacy Leader.

Fay Harris helps students at Aquila in English Language Learning.

Students at Susan Lindgren love reading to Kevin the service dog.
Volunteers in Our Schools

Classroom Volunteers

Volunteers provide enrichment and/or reinforcement of the classroom curriculum. They assist with a variety of activities in the classroom, once or twice a week, as directed by the teachers.

Volunteers - 30
Classrooms - 29
Students - 725
Hours - 3,836

David Brandt (left) has volunteered full time in Dick Plantz’s 6th grade classroom since 2008. He recently received the President’s Call to Service Award, for individuals who have volunteered over 4,000 hours.

Classroom Speakers

Volunteers enrich classroom curriculum by sharing their hobbies, careers or special interests with students.

Speakers - 23
Presentations - 43

Pictured left to right:

Frank Quale and Mark Schwartz of Books Alive! Reader’s Theater captivated students at Aquila with their rendition of Click Clack Moo, Cows that Type, by Doreen Cronin.

Jim Vaughan, Environmental Coordinator for the City of St. Louis Park, teaches students about forestry in our city.

Page Foundation Scholars

While playing football, Alan Page became a law student, earning his Juris Doctor in 1978. Alan’s deep and abiding belief in the importance of education did not stop with his own success. Recognizing a need for our education system to reach more young people of color, he launched the Page Education Foundation. Two University of Minnesota students who received Page Foundation Scholarships volunteered 50 hours each as part of the requirements. They chose to spend their time helping students at Aquila. (One of these students is a graduate of St. Louis Park High.)

History Day Volunteers

In December, over 350 Senior High School students prepared projects for History Day. 18 volunteers were recruited through the volunteer office to serve as judges, donating 52 hours of their time. Along with parents and staff, the volunteers spent time talking with the students about their projects and then evaluating and ranking students’ projects.

Media Center Inventory

Nine volunteers donated 40 hours to help the High School Media Center staff conduct inventories. Volunteers scanned and recorded over 30,000 items.

Media Center Volunteers

Volunteers - 7
Hours - 452

On a typical day, David Brandt (above) arrives before students, and leaves after the students have gone home. He also volunteers out-of-school time by assisting teachers in many ways. David says, “It’s the best job I’ve ever had.”
Volunteers in Our Schools

**Cargill Volunteers**

Each spring, Cargill partners with our district to support education and the environment. This year, 45 volunteers worked on a number of projects including the Middle School Days of Service, Track & Field Day at Peter Hobart, garden planting at Lenox, and a classroom project on the environment at Aquila.

*Cargill volunteers not only helped middle school students build picnic tables, but helped pay for them as well, with a $1,000 donation.*

**Susan Lindgren Imagination/Inventor’s Fair Volunteers**

Community volunteers, along with parent volunteers, served as judges at the Susan Lindgren Imagination/Inventor’s Fair in April. Volunteers were provided with a brief orientation and a list of questions to use and spent 2 hours interviewing the students about their projects. Four community volunteers spent a total of 8 hours assisting in this fun event.

**Pi Beta Phi Collegians from the University of Minnesota**

20 women from the Pi Beta Phi sorority at the University of Minnesota read with the Kids’ Place students at Aquila Elementary School twice a week for four weeks in March and April. These women donated 80 hours of their time.

**Read 180**

Volunteers assist with the Read 180 Program, a specialized program for students who read below grade level. Volunteers provide needed one-on-one attention and feedback for students.

Volunteers - 31
Classrooms - 16
Students - 240
Hours - 2,217

**Picture Person/Art Appreciation**

Trained volunteers teach six art appreciation lessons a year to children in grades K-6. “Cultural Visions” was the focus of this year’s curriculum. (At Park Spanish Immersion, the amity scholars teach the lessons.)

Volunteers - 36
Classrooms - 59
Students - 1,475
Presentations - 344
Hours - 522

*Picture Person Brenda Litman engaged students in art by having them draw a self-portrait in conjunction with their Diego Rivera/Frida Kahlo*
Volunteers in Our Schools

Summer Volunteers
Students ages 14 and older volunteer during the school year and over the summer with the St. Louis Park Community Education Kids’ Place program. In addition, students and community volunteers volunteered with students participating in the Summer Learning Academy in July and August. 10 volunteers donated 261 hours in total.

Judges for the High School DECA Competition
Volunteers are placed with the high school business program to serve as judges at the West Metro DECA Competition. Volunteer DECA judges role-play business scenarios with high school students who have prepared business plans and practiced for interviews. This year, 16 volunteers contributed 62 hours.

BRAVO
Music Appreciation
Classical music is the focus of the BRAVO! Program for grades 1-3. It is structured much like the art appreciation program. A music background is a requirement for BRAVO! volunteers. They are trained and scheduled into assigned classrooms where they teach six lessons a year on classical music and composers.
Volunteers - 3
Classrooms - 7
Students - 175
Presentations - 49

Literacy 1st
Volunteers are trained to work with beginning readers. They spend 1-1 ½ hours a week in a first or second grade classroom helping during literacy time.
Volunteers - 44
Classrooms - 33
Students - 825
Hours - 1,921

Beth Ingbreton reinforces skills with first graders at Peter Hobart.

Volunteer Program Advisory Council
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