

St. Louis Park Public Schools Volunteer Program

Annual Report 2014-2015

Working together to support student achievement!

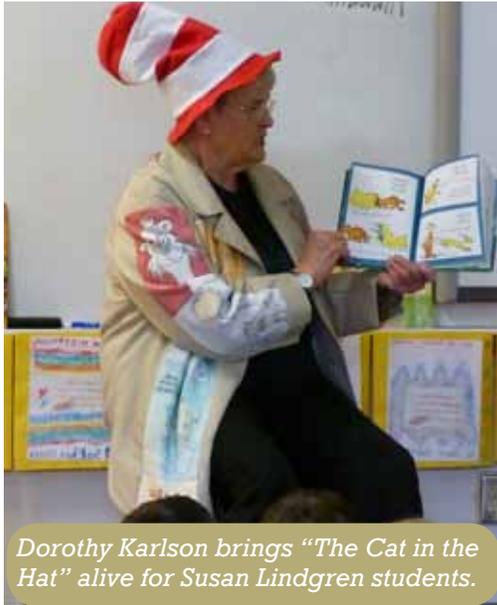


Rosa Liberty helps students at Aquila in their 2nd grade classroom.

“It’s easy to make a buck. It’s a lot tougher to make a difference.”
~Tom Brokaw

Thank you to the many volunteers who make a difference in our students’ lives every day.

This report includes data on community volunteers who are screened and placed through St. Louis Park Public Schools Volunteer Program, operated by the Community Education department, although our schools enjoy the support of many types of volunteers: parents, high school students, and community members. We thank and appreciate them all.



Dorothy Karlson brings “The Cat in the Hat” alive for Susan Lindgren students.

- Approximately 380 community volunteers
- Over 12,064 hours
- Serving 18 programs and special events
- Over \$278,316 worth of service*

**Dollar value as determined by the Independent Sector at \$23.07 per hour.*

University of Minnesota Pi Beta Phi Collegians

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.

Volunteers - 20
Hours - 80

Band/Orchestra Volunteers

Community volunteers bring their instruments and join the band class for regular practice.

Volunteers - 2
Hours - 72

Classroom Speakers

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

Volunteers - 19
Presentations - 31

Barb Overlie (far right), from the Soybean Growers Association, expands Peter Hobart kindergartners’ knowledge about where the foods we buy in the grocery store actually come from.



Volunteers in Our Schools



Classroom Volunteers

Volunteers provide enrichment and/or reinforcement of the classroom curriculum. The majority of classroom volunteers work with students during reading or math time. They also assist with a variety of activities in the classroom, once or twice a week, as directed by the teachers.

Volunteers - 130
Hours - 5,736

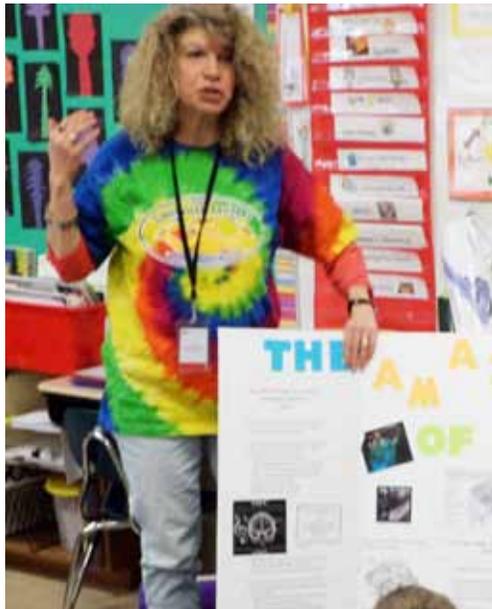
Aquila 1st graders love their classroom volunteer, Susan Nelson.

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 - 2
Presentations - 34

Jenzi Silverman shares her love of classical music with Susan Lindgren students.



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 - 49
Hours - 2,739

High School Learning Lab

This year, the Math Lab program at the High School expanded to include support for 10th grade students in Geometry, World History, and English 10.

Volunteers - 6
Hours - 160

Students master English 10 with the help of dedicated volunteers like Alison Meyers.



Volunteers in Our Schools

Cargill Volunteers

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

Volunteers - 19
Hours - 31

Cargill volunteers braved the elements with a smile on a cold, rainy day to help set up the playground edible gardens at Central.



First Grade Assessments

Jeff Lovitch, (pictured at left), is one of seven classroom volunteers at Peter Hobart who went the extra mile to help out with first grade assessments, conducted in the fall, winter, and spring.

Volunteers - 7
Hours - 57

We truly appreciate all of the support from our volunteers. The volunteers were always so kind and supportive while working with our young learners. We truly appreciate their support throughout the school year.” ~ Julie Scroggins, 1st grade teacher, Peter Hobart

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 - 24
Hours - 1,618

“We really appreciate the time our volunteers spend reading 1:1 with students. We couldn’t run our program without them.”

~ Midi Hansen,
Read 180 teacher, Aquila



Picture Person/ Art Appreciation

Trained volunteers teach six art appreciation lessons a year to children in grades K-5. “Famous Artists” was the focus of this year’s curriculum. (At Park Spanish Immersion, the amity scholars teach the lessons.)

Volunteers - 39
Presentations - 348

“Carol Smith (pictured at left) did an amazing job this year. Students always looked forward to having her come into the classroom.” ~ Stephanie Richardson, 1st grade teacher, Aquila

Volunteers in Our Schools

Summer Volunteers

Students ages 14 and older volunteer with St. Louis Park Community Education Kids' Place program. In addition, students and community volunteers volunteered in the Summer Learning Academy in July and August.

Volunteers – 10
Hours – 380

History Day Volunteers

In December, over 350 Senior High School students prepared projects for History Day. Volunteers spent time talking with the students about their projects and then evaluating and ranking students' projects.

Volunteers - 10 Hours - 50

Judges for the High School DECA Competition

Volunteers serve as judges at the West Metro DECA Competition, role-playing business scenarios with high school students who have prepared business plans and practiced for interviews.

Volunteers - 10
Hours - 45

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. Three U of M 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.)

Breck Students

Students in the Community Engagement and Service Learning class at Breck High School in Golden Valley made connections with students at Peter Hobart by volunteering in their classrooms once a week.

Volunteers – 11
Hours - 231

Media Center Inventory

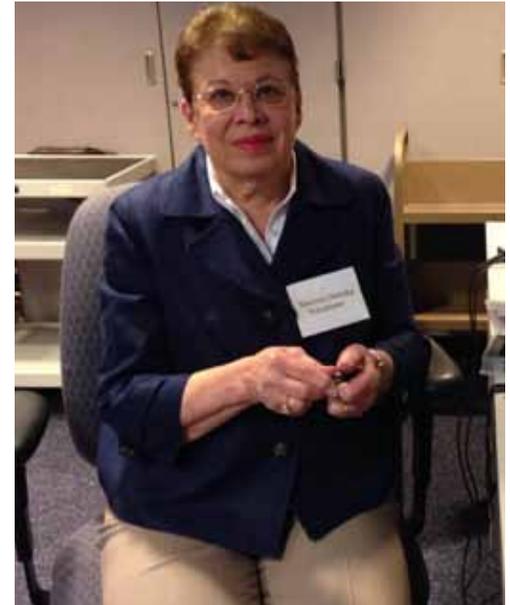
Volunteers help the High School and Middle School Media Center staff conduct inventories each year.

Volunteers - 16
Hours - 62

Media Center

Volunteers - 3
Hours - 240

Marcia Oleisky makes life easier for Ms. Edwards in the Aquila media center.



Volunteer Program Advisory Council

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St. Louis Park Public Schools Volunteer Program

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