

St. Louis Park Public Schools Volunteer Program

Annual Report 2015-2016

Working together to support student achievement!



Resource Speaker Barb Overlie talked to Susan Lindgren kindergartners about agriculture.

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.



High school student and PSI grad Alex Wiken returns to PSI to help in Cathy Baldwin's English class.

- Approximately 330 community volunteers
- Over 10,000 hours
- Serving 21 programs and special events
- Over \$238,120 worth of service*

**Dollar value as determined by the Independent Sector at \$23.56 per hour.*

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, and on the playground once or twice a week, as directed by the teachers.

Volunteers - 92
Hours - 4,170

University of Minnesota Pi Beta Phi Collegians

Women from the Pi Beta Phi sorority at the University of Minnesota (pictured at right) volunteer with the Kids Place students at Aquila Elementary School twice a week for five weeks each spring.

Volunteers - 9
Hours - 90



Volunteers in Our Schools



First Grade Assessments

Jean Saccoman Crain, (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 - 50

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

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 - 1
Presentations - 12

High School Math/Learning Lab

Having a kind, caring, and knowledgeable adult volunteer available in the in the Math and Learning Labs can make all the difference to high school students seeking help.

Volunteers - 8
Hours - 195

English Language Learners (ELL) Volunteers

Volunteers help students in grades K-12 practice their English speaking and writing skills and learn about American culture and customs. They also help adults learning English through the Adult Options in Education program.

Volunteers - 42
Hours - 2,083

Reading Intervention

Volunteers provided needed one-on-one attention and assistance in reading intervention rooms at Aquila and Susan Lindgren.

Volunteers - 24
Hours - 1,618

Cindy Jurgensen (pictured at right) was inspired to volunteer in the Susan Lindgren reading room after reading an article in which Superintendent Rob Metz emphasized the district's commitment to reading.



Volunteers in Our Schools

Cargill Volunteers

Each spring, Cargill partners with our district to support education and the environment. This year, four volunteers helped out on Track & Field Day at Peter Hobart. In addition, many volunteers were scheduled to work in the gardens at Lenox and Central Community Centers, but all except one (pictured at right), were rained out this year.



Resource Speakers

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

Volunteers - 13
Presentations - 27

Band/Orchestra Volunteers

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

Volunteers - 1
Hours - 36

High School Athletics

This year, the Volunteer Program placed five volunteers in high school athletics programs. These volunteers are not parents of student athletes; they are community members and recent high school graduates.

"We appreciate our volunteers and how they enhance our programs. Many of them are high school students who come back to give their time and talents to the sports they have fond memories of participating in."

Shawn Mathews,
Assistant Athletic Director



Picture Person/ Art Appreciation

Trained volunteers teach six art appreciation lessons a year to children in grades K-5. "Elements of Art" was the focus of this year's curriculum. (At Park Spanish Immersion, the amity scholars teach the lessons.)

Volunteers - 39
Presentations - 348

Susan Lindgren 2nd graders are captivated by a Vermeer painting showing the elements of art in a lesson taught by Picture Person James Schneeberg.

Kids Place/Early Learning

Seven community volunteers lent a hand in Kids Place and Early Learning preschool classrooms, as well as Early Childhood Screening.

"I have been fortunate to have Katie Jaeger (pictured at right) volunteering in my classroom. Having a caring, involved, adult like Katie interacting with our youngest learners has enabled us to provide more valuable one-on-one instruction. Katie's intuition with children is spot on, she gives from the heart, and the children respond to her with joy!"



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 – 14
Hours – 551

History Day Volunteers

In December, 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 - 23 Hours - 80

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 - 12
Hours - 60

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 Park High graduates, who are now U of M students, received Page Foundation Scholarships and volunteered 50 hours each as part of the requirements. They chose to spend their time helping students at Aquila.

Breck & BSM 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. Students in Advanced Spanish classes at Benilde St. Margaret's High School volunteered at Park Spanish Immersion School.

Volunteers – 13
Hours - 400

Media Center

Volunteers provide invaluable support to school media centers by shelving books, helping students check out materials, and generally keeping all the materials neat and organized.

Volunteers - 7
Hours - 560

Media Center Inventory

Volunteers help the High School staff conduct inventory each year.

Volunteers - 5
Hours - 20

St. Louis Park Public Schools Volunteer Program

Community Education Department
Lenox Community Center
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A special thanks to Communications & Marketing Intern Claire Henry for volunteering 90 hours on Community Education projects, including this annual report.



Volunteers (left to right) Jassmin, Naiomi, and Victoria brought peace, love and fun to the Princess Ball.

