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Heart Math Tutoring Kicks Off Volunteer Drive for 2015-2016 School Year



CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Aug. 3, 2015 – <u>Heart Math Tutoring</u> (Heart) – a nonprofit group dedicated to helping disadvantaged students develop math skills and academic confidence – is recruiting volunteer tutors for the 2015/16 school year and is asking for the community's support. Its goal is to recruit volunteers to be tutors for 350 students between now and Sept. 17.

"Volunteers are Heart's 'heart,' delivering critical skills and confidence to elementary students who need extra help," said Emily Elliott, executive director of Heart Math Tutoring. "We look forward to growing our dedicated volunteer base to impact the lives of more students in our community."

Heart volunteers commit to weekly tutoring sessions that last either 30 minutes or one hour and can team up with friends, family and colleagues to be "partner tutors." A Heart staff person is on site at all times to make sure tutors have what they need. Volunteer opportunities are available at the following schools and times:

- Billingsville Leadership Academy: Monday-Thursday, 8-9 a.m.; 9:15-10:15 a.m.; 1:45-2:45 p.m.
- Highland Renaissance Academy: Monday-Thursday, 11:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m.
- Montclaire Elementary: Monday-Thursday, 7:45-8:45 a.m.; 12:45-1:45 p.m.
- Piney Grove Elementary: Monday-Thursday, 8-9 a.m.; 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
- Sedgefield Elementary: Monday-Thursday, 7:45-8:45 a.m.; 1:45-2:45 p.m.
- Westerly Hills Academy: Tuesday-Friday, 8:30-10:30 a.m.
- Winterfield Elementary: Monday-Thursday, 7:45-8:45 a.m.; 12:25-1:25 p.m.

For more information about becoming a Heart tutor, call 704-931-3209 or email volunteer@hearttutoring.org. To sign up online, visit http://hearttutoring.org/become-a-volunteer/.

Heart Math Tutoring is a math intervention program that recruits, trains, and supports volunteers to work as tutors in high-poverty elementary schools in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. Hundreds of community members spend one hour each week delivering Heart's research-based, structured curriculum. About 60 percent of economically disadvantaged children in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools perform below grade level in math, based on 2013-14 North Carolina End-of-Grade Tests.

Over the past five years, 97 percent of the 525 students tutored by Heart have shown significant growth in two or more conceptual focus areas between Sept. and May, meeting program growth targets set

with guidance from CMS. In addition, 100 percent of surveyed Heart volunteers rated their experience as positive, and 97 percent would recommend Heart to friends and colleagues.

Adds Elliott, "Math does not have to be a strong subject for volunteers who all follow a structured curriculum that features hands-on activities and math games. Heart provides a fun way to build relationships with students while delivering academic skills crucial to their success."

Heart Math Tutoring

Heart Math Tutoring is a Charlotte-based nonprofit with a mission to ensure that all elementary students develop a strong foundation in math and enthusiasm for academics by leveraging the powerful resource of volunteer time. Community members commit one hour per week to deliver an effective, hands-on curriculum through one-on-one tutoring sessions during the school day in Title I elementary schools. For more information, visit http://hearttutoring.org.

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