



# Business Community Partner Update

## Sixth Annual School-Business & Community Partnership Breakfast Highlights

The theme for the 6<sup>th</sup> annual partnership breakfast was **“Writing And The Arts”**.

Sixty-five guests gathered at Einstein Middle School on October 20 to hear comments from Nan Bunnow, AASD Director of Humanities, Jim Heiks, AASD Coordinator of Fine Arts, Tim Riley, Executive Director of the Trout Museum of Art, Ellen Edge, Einstein Art Teacher, and Lee Allinger, AASD Superintendent. Board of Education Secretary, Kay Eggert was the breakfast emcee.

In her opening message, Nan Bunnow stated:

- ⇒ *Writing is a priority in the Appleton Area School District.*
- ⇒ *Writing promotes self expression and higher-level thinking.*
- ⇒ *Writing facilitates clear communication with others and provides a creative outlet.*

⇒ *We will increase the quantity & quality of student writing for various audiences & purposes in all classes.*

⇒ *We will provide meaningful, timely feedback.*

Jim Heiks and Tim Riley provided an example of how writing is integrated in one subject area, the Arts, through the Compassion Project (see details below). At each breakfast table, Ellen Edge had an example of student writing about his/her artistic creation.

Superintendent Lee Allinger concluded the breakfast by thanking partners for their support of the AASD. He emphasized the importance of the entire Fox Cities community being involved in the education of its students. Guests were then invited to three classrooms to observe writing integration.

A special thank you to Principal David Boden and staff for hosting this year’s breakfast at Einstein Middle School.

## The Appleton Compassion Project

“The Appleton Compassion Project” is a mosaic-style art project involving the 10,436 AASD K-12 art students. In Fall 2010, participating students received a 6-inch-by-6-inch art panel to draw or paint their idea of compassion.

The inspiration behind the project came from Richard Davidson, PhD, a

UW-Madison brain researcher who has found that those who practice compassion are also more happy. Davidson’s research shows that compassion can be learned, and should be practiced, as a skill. The panels will be displayed in a grand mosaic style in The Trout Museum of Art galleries, May 1-June 30, 2011.

### APPLETON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT VOLUNTEER SERVICES DEPARTMENT

To: Volunteer Tutors, Businesses and Community Partners

December 2010



### Inside this issue:

Tutor Update	2
Academic Tutor Facts	2
Additional Tutors Welcomed & Needed	3
Annual Tutor Appreciation Brunch	3
Thank you!	4
Office Information	4

## Tutor Update

About 100 high school students enrolled this fall as volunteers in the school district's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Afterschool program. Students typically volunteer one night each week at one of eight elementary sites. They are supervised by the Site Coordinator of the afterschool program.

Students were offered training at their assigned sites in October to learn how to be effective tutors and to develop group leadership skills. This training was provided by UW-Extension Youth Development Agents, Heidi Dusek and Melinda Pollen, and Debbie Schroeder, AASD Director of Volunteer Services.

Since schedules often change, new high school volunteers are always needed and appreciated, Mon.-Fri., 3:30-5:30 p.m. If you know high school stu-

dents who would benefit from this type of volunteerism, let us know. Contact information is at the end of this newsletter.

Once again, **Community First Credit Union** is saying thank you to these high school volunteers by providing a drawstring backpack with a treat inside as a recognition gift.



21st Century After School Sites Receive a Boost from High School Volunteers

## Academic Tutor Facts

As of December, there are 306 regularly-scheduled and substitute reading tutors in 15 elementary schools. (Janet Berry was added to the UFRS program this fall.) The United for Reading Success program is in its 15<sup>th</sup> full year. There are 165 1<sup>st</sup> grade students enrolled in the program. Over 90 AASD staff members are involved with the program as teachers, specialists and principals. Student reading progress is monitored and summarized each spring.

Also, as of December, there are 95 regularly-scheduled and substitute math tutors in 6 elementary schools. The Math Achievement Partnership program is in its 8<sup>th</sup> year. By the end of this

school year, it's estimated that over one hundred 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students will have been tutored in the program. This is a transition year for MAP. A new tutor curriculum was written for elementary students to reinforce the recent Math Expressions curriculum adopted by the district for K-8. Forty AASD staff members have a connection with the program as classroom teachers and principals.

**Our mission is to become one of the premier school districts in the nation for engaging the community in academic programs through a well-established volunteer network.**

## Annual Tutor Appreciation Brunch

All academic tutors for math and reading, mark the morning of **Saturday, April 16, 2011** on your calendars now. We'll celebrate another tutor year at the annual Volunteer Brunch, East High School. The event will conclude by 11:00 a.m. which gives everyone plenty of time for afternoon and evening activities.

We'll join volunteer organizations all over America in celebration of the last day of National Volunteer Week, 2011. This year's theme is **"Celebrating People In Action"**. We've added our own by-line: **"Honoring the Past & Building for the Future"**.

At the Brunch, we'll celebrate 15 years of United For Reading Success

in the school district. This will include a re-cap of the program from its start to the present. We're inviting guests who were instrumental in launching and expanding the program over the past 15 years.

We'll highlight 8 years of the Math Achievement Partnership program with an emphasis on the new 2010-2011 tutor curriculum--installed to build for the future in mathematics.



The Brunch program will also include entertainment. We're focused on making it very special. Please make every effort to attend this banner year for the AASD's tutor programs, **April 16, 2011!**

**"Celebrating People  
In Action"**

*Honoring the Past  
Building for the Future*

## A Word to Substitute Tutors

If you haven't been called to substitute by now, let our office know. We'll verify your contact information. We can add you as a substitute tutor at additional schools. We'd like you to be active!

## Additional Tutors Welcomed & Needed

There will be several openings for regular and substitute tutors due to "snowbirds" leaving for the winter. Please check the AASD website home page for specific information on tutor openings. We appreciate current tutors and business/organization partners being on the look-out for academic tutors. All you need to do is share your referral information with our office and we'll follow-up.



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District Volunteer Services

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## Thank you!

We appreciate each business and community partner, and over 400 individuals who tutor reading and math in our elementary schools. Your contributions make a powerful difference!



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The Volunteer Services  
Department wishes you and  
your family a safe and  
wonderful Holiday!

**Debbie and Lisa**

