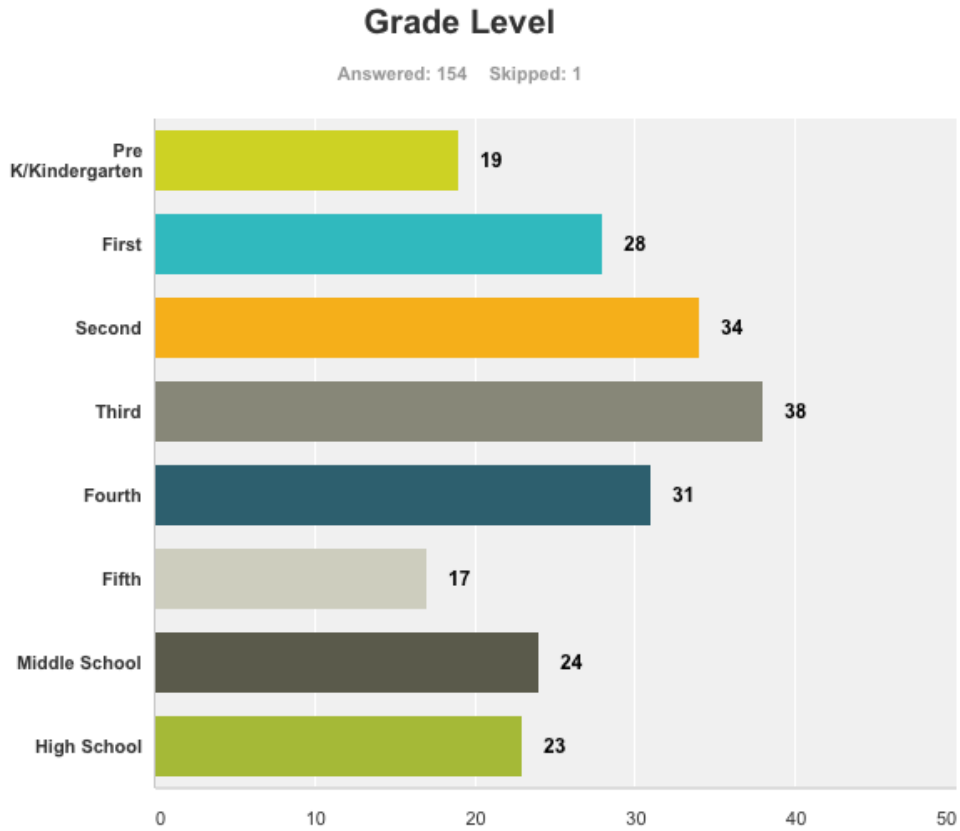
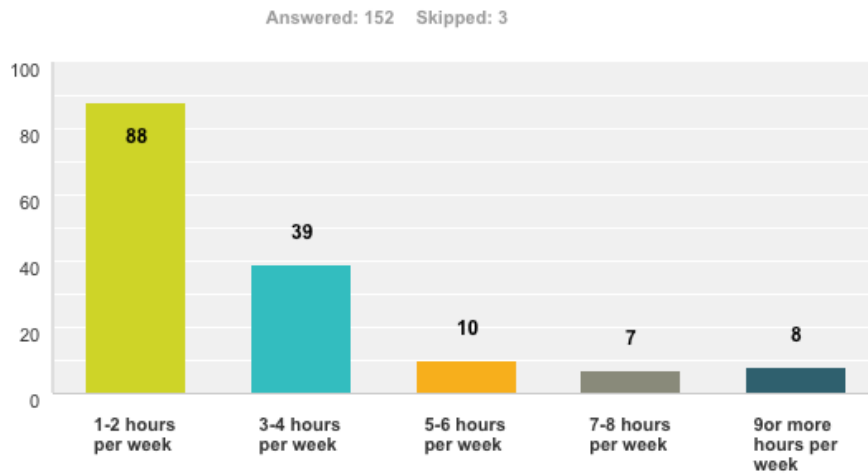


MCSV Volunteer Survey Results
2015-16 School Year **Respondents= 155**

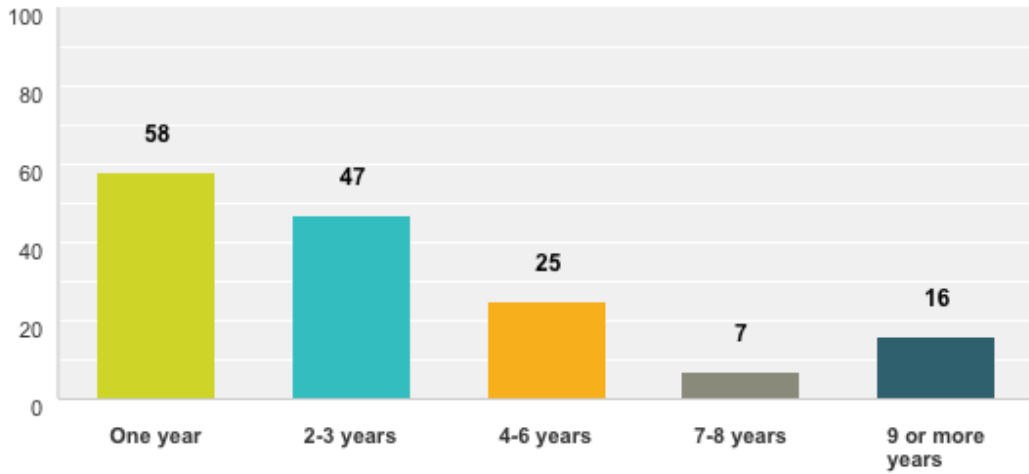
Grade Level where MCSV Volunteers serve



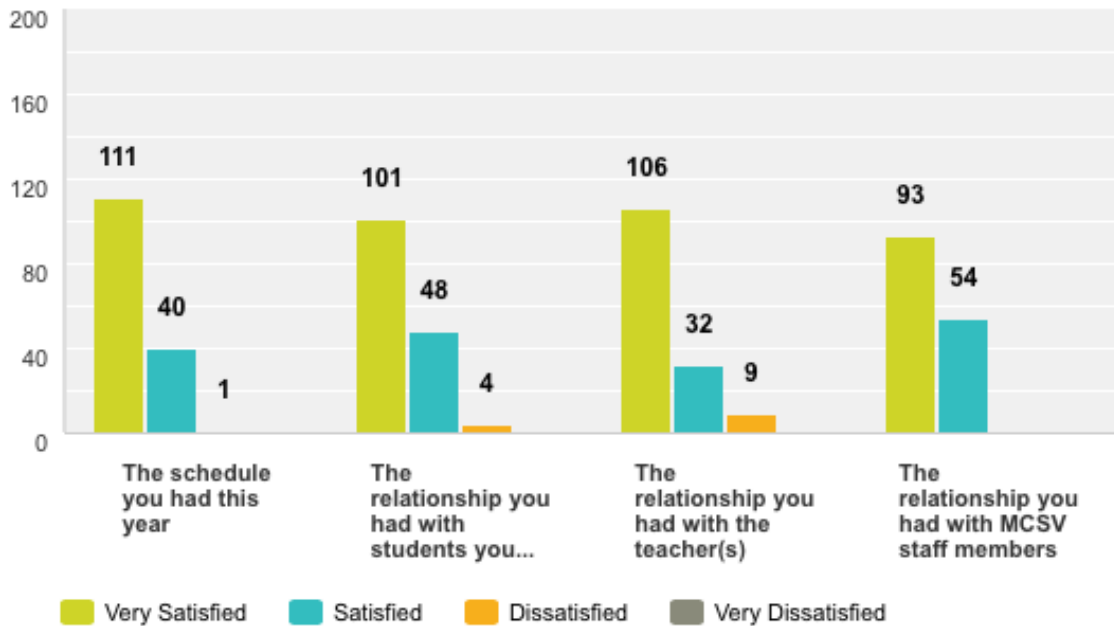
Average Number of Hours served by MCSV Volunteers



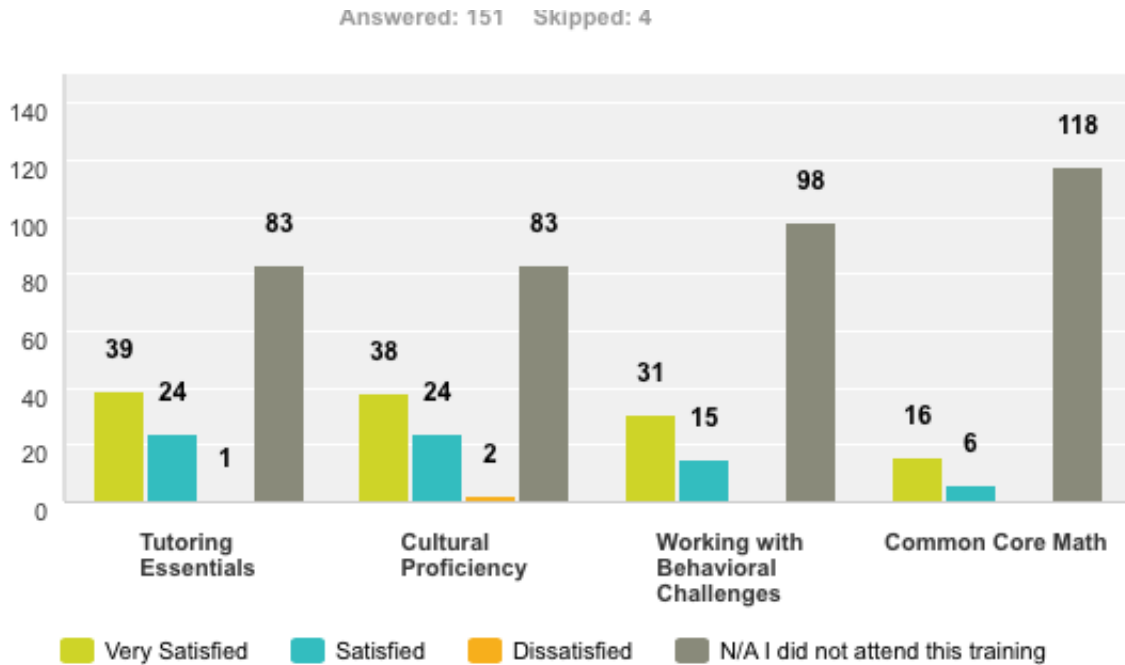
Including this year, how many years have you served with the Marin County School Volunteer (MCSV) program?



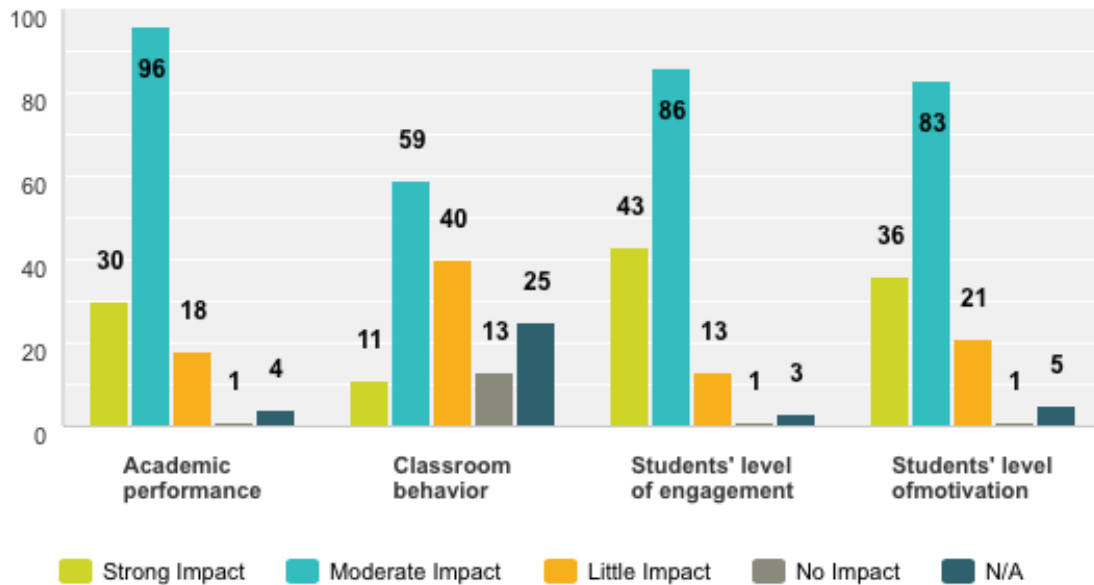
How satisfied are you with the following :



How satisfied were you with the following trainings offered by MCSV in 2015-16:



Please rate the level of impact you feel you have had on the students you tutored on the following criteria



What type of training or classes would you be interested in for the 2016-17 academic year?

**In summary, there were requests in 3-4 major areas:
Common Core Math/ Common Core in general
Working with behavioral challenges
Working with English Language Learners
Tutoring reading**

Common Core Math; I wasn't able to attend.
which I would like for next year.

Helping students with reading, who do not have early reading skills, such as sight vocabulary. i might ask the reading specialist at Lynwood to do an inservice for the many volunteers who work with their reading program, regarding this group of students. i don't know how many of the other schools served by MCSV provide a reading program that volunteers staff. is this an area of broader interest?

Since I don't do tutoring and only help in the 6th grade science classes, I don't know.

Giving children feedback ??

Don't need any training for this level
Common core math

Middle school math, working with non-english speakers

Dealing with learning disabilities.

How to work with English language learners of differing academic levels, including how to access tools.

Working with disinterested/resistive students

More of the same. The math class was esp. helpful !

Mindfulness calming Kindergarteners down and listening to instruction.

I have not taken the time to pursue more classes that I know are available to me at MCSV. Reading and 'how to improve students reading' would be top of my list.

I can't think of anything at the moment.

None

I feel pretty equipped to do what I do.

Teaching reading to ESL kids

not sure

Review by M, the reading specialist, of the student's folders every couple months during the year. Felt there was a disconnect -- no raising a student's reading level when it seemed best to do so. Later in the year students completely covered reading level & still no provision of new reading level material unless asked.

Best practices for engaging (misfit) for lack of better terms in the group you're tutoring
Also would like to know how groups are established and why they are kept same throughout?

I would like to attend the two that I missed .

None

Creative thinking i.e. Writing short stories and/or poetry.

More classes on best way to interact with behavioral challenges.

Whatever can help me understand the development of the elementary school age student.

How to engage kids and increase their fluency and reading skills

None

Information regarding how School Districts make decisions about school facilities, support and resources. I know this can be political, but it would at least be helpful to know more about the process.

Reading tutoring

no specific ideas

Tactics to get the Kindergarten/younger students to pay attention, esp geared towards the more distracted, children.

Working with Behavioral Challenges

Maybe Common Core math. I hate that it's all words with little practice of the concepts.

It's very hard for me since the kids don't know their math times tables etc. and struggle with basic addition and subtraction.

Depends on the outcome of current organizational discussions.

I would like more training on behavioral challenges.

none

Tutoring Reading for 3-4th graders

Ways to identify problem areas and how to overcome them

None

Common Core Math

If there is a "common-core" training session for language arts it would seem beneficial to model what students are being taught. And, CC Math

Common Core

Behavior and social emotional training I can use with students in support of the teacher.

Helping Children Focus and ones already offered.

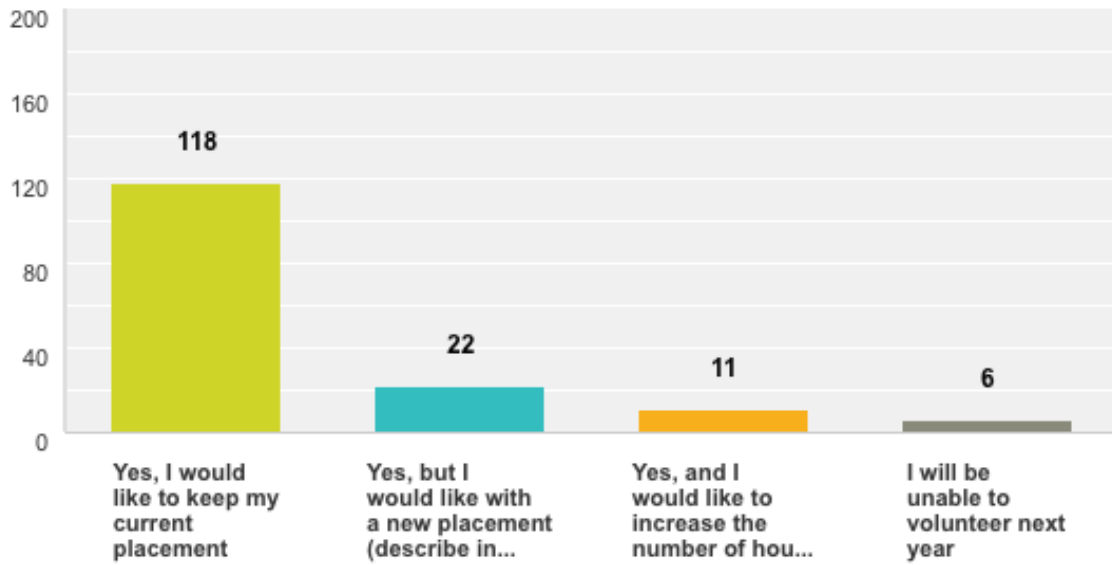
Easing up myself and learning how to make learning fun.

I'm interested in Common Core Math. I signed up for a training session this year, but had to cancel. I'd like to try again.

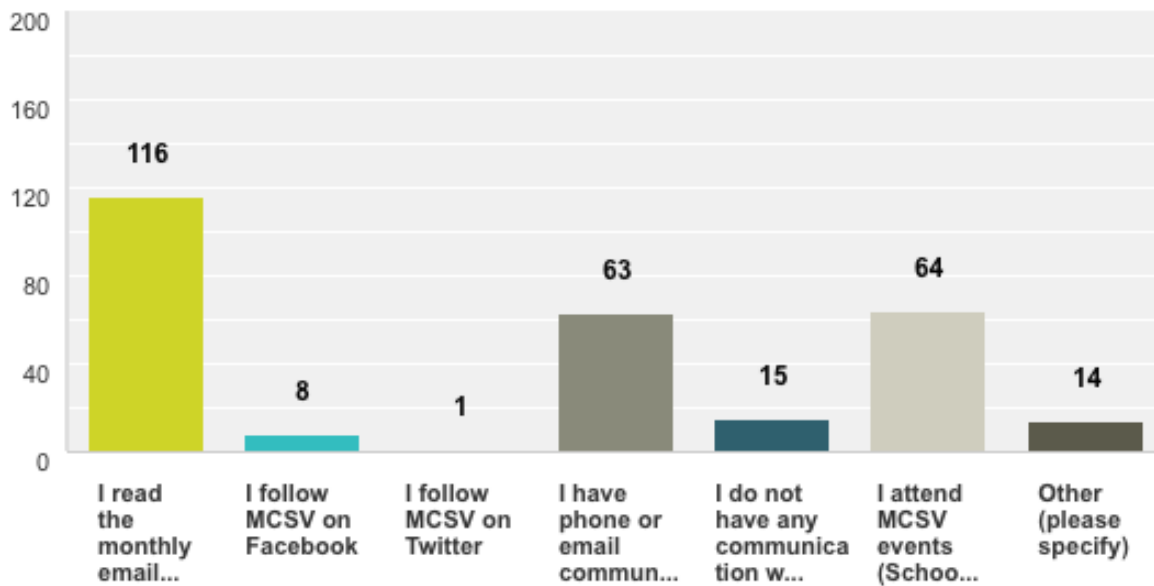
Reading classes in tutoring problem kids

Reading w/student 3rd, 4th and 5th grades.

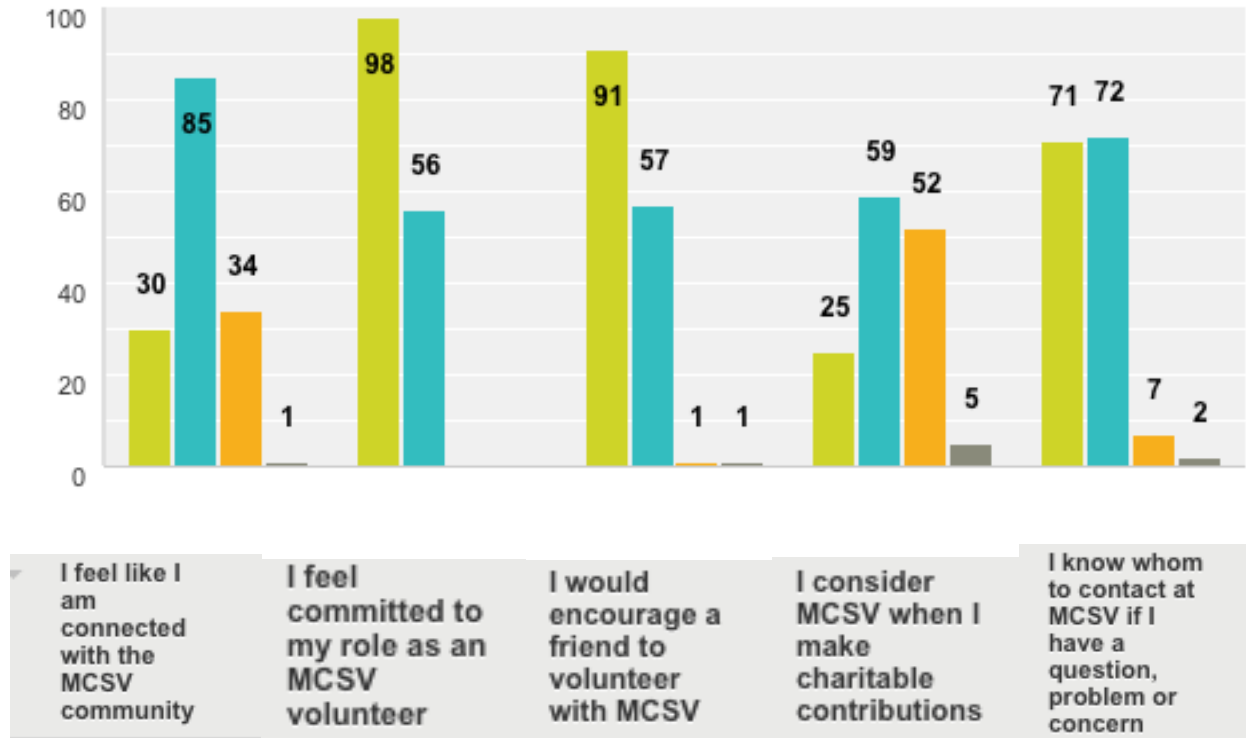
Would you like to volunteer again next year?



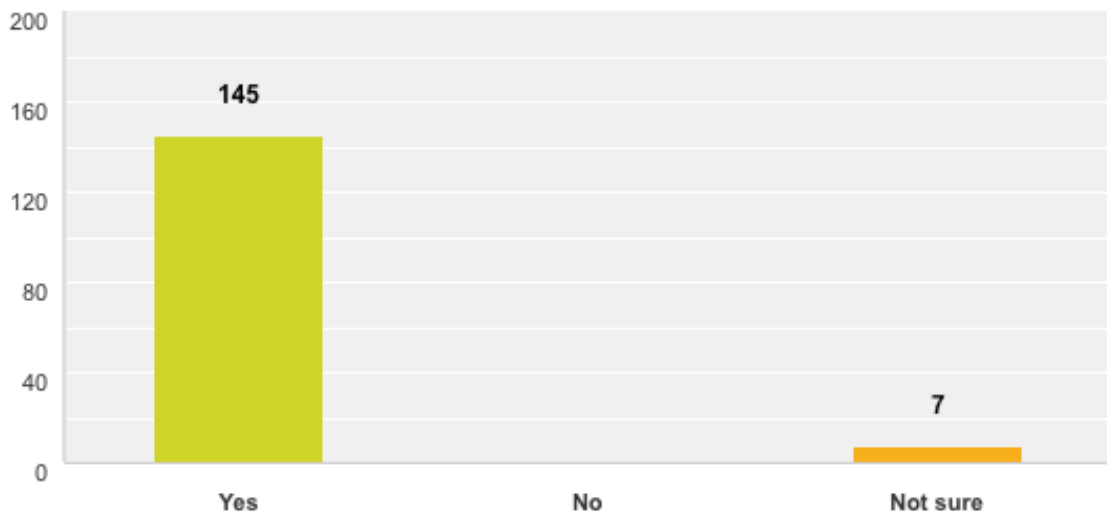
In what ways do you communicate or engage with Marin County School Volunteers?



Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements

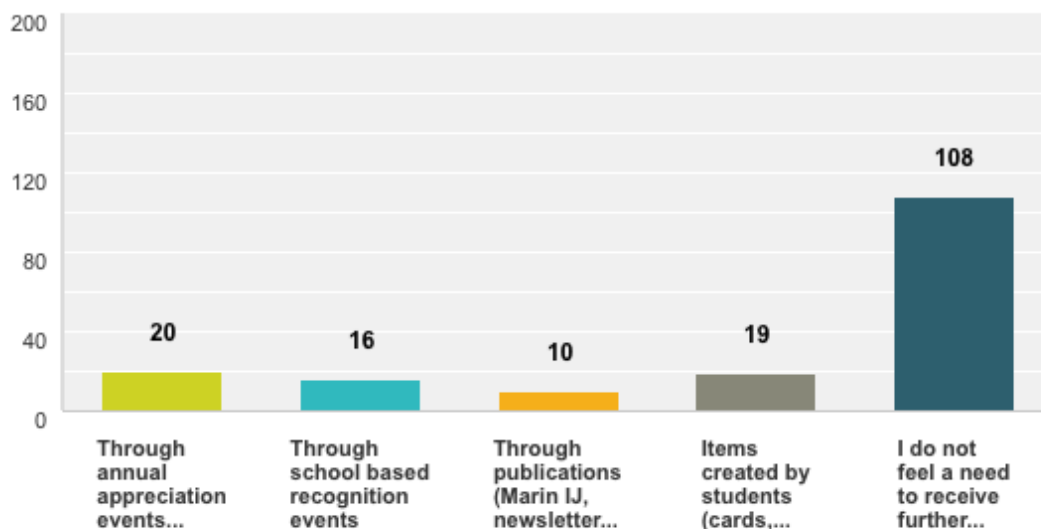


Do you feel you are adequately recognized for your volunteer efforts?



I would prefer that MCSV show appreciation or recognition for my volunteer efforts in the following ways (check all that apply)

Answered: 140 Skipped: 15



MCSV is always interested in hearing stories and/or comments about the impact and experience you have had as a volunteer. PLEASE use the space below to provide a brief comment or memorable moment from this year.

(We have removed any identifying info—names, schools-- for privacy purposes)

Besides working in the classroom, I have a mentee at (School). I was feeling discouraged, feeling like I didn't have an impact on her as she was not very communicative. When I had a heart attack, she sent me a card she had made telling me how much I have helped her, I then realized that we don't know how we are impacting these children's lives.

I worked with a third-grade female student whom I realized was lacking confidence in her math ability. She would need to ask me "Is this right?". I wanted her to accept for herself that her math reasoning is good. How was I going to accomplish this? Our work together was playing math games. There were a few times we didn't finish playing because she needed to know from me if she was correct or not. Instead I told her I wasn't going to tell her if she was right or not because I know she knew the answer; she denied the latter and didn't even take a risk; didn't follow through taking her turn so the game ended. This was ok with me. I knew already she was capable playing the game. I made a point of explaining to her teacher with her present what I assessed what was

happening with her, and he supported my observation. Her behavior changed soon afterwards; her confidence grew. It was wonderful to see this growth taking place within her.

I am sometimes asked by a student to review a personal statement required for college or scholarship application. The experience of reading about the obstacles overcome by these students is a powerful motivator to volunteer as a tutor.

Seeing and greeting some 2014-5 first graders at an assembly

After several years as a "general" volunteer at (School), I have found the past few years at (School) much more satisfying. I find the reading program offers a very structured activity that provides a sense of accomplishment for student and volunteer. It is also a good means of developing a rapport with the students, over time. School provides a great sense of community, and it has also been enjoyable to feel a part of that. Also, I made a new friend, with another of the volunteers, MH, who is in her late 80's. Our friendship and our commitment to the program added a lot to my experience! I think it is more likely for volunteers to develop a link with the other volunteers who work at the same school, in the same time period, than to develop ties with the larger MCSV group.

I loved the warm, welcoming energy from the children when I came to class!

I just love working with first graders!

I feel like I was making a difference and would like to continue that. Would also like to expand that by mentoring a student.

The appreciation from the parents, teacher and support staff.

After the children said good morning to me, one pre-K boy said, "Come, come let's play", as he reached for my hand.

Tutoring is a highlight of my week. Developing relationships and creating a safe environment for my students to relax, have some fun and build their confidence about their task at hand (reading) is very rewarding.

My 3rd graders were sad that they didn't have enough time to do a book project. They are so hilarious and engaged. They wanted more time!

Students seemed engaged and interested in the after school science experiments.

Kids made me want to cry at times. So heart breaking.

Just when I wonder if I'm having an impact, a student will tell me he missed me during a week when testing or something else was taking place and I wasn't needed in the classroom. Made me feel good.

I thought Mary V was a wonderful teacher and can't believe she has 25 kids in her class. I really appreciated how she managed the group and always had great affection and respect for her kids.

I felt very bonded with my 4th grade this year - I think that was directly related to more and varied hours. It was helped by the teacher (CN) really encouraging kids to ask me to help and I felt that I was really a part of the classroom, not just the academic part

The kindergarten students and BK give me so much joy in my life.

I really enjoyed simply being with the kids, they were excited to have me which was great.

I tutored a little boy, M. who can't say his /r/ sound correctly. Father was deported when he was three months old. Always came bouncing out with a big smile and read everything with a dramatic flourish. His smile, personality and willingness to work hard were contagious. I looked forward to tutoring and I think he enjoyed his time with me. I loved doing this. I think I can help.

AhAh moment when student(s) realized the answer lies in the question. (sometimes)

The kids were always happy to see me when I came in. They said, "Hi C" One girl said I wish you could be my grandmother. At the end of the year they all wrote beautiful, thoughtful thank you notes.

Working one on one with many of the students, hearing their personal stories and life experiences, supporting who they are, validating those stories and hopefully adding a perspective were the most rewarding moments for me as a volunteer. I loved being with many of the same kids for a year and a half, and in the last days of this Spring semester, felt like stronger bonds were formed. The reason I became a School Volunteer. I hope to increase that type of contact and hours at the school next year.

When my student crews their own book which their teacher is now producing.

When I went to the hospital for an operation, I got 'get well' notes from all the the students.

I had knee surgery this year & the letters from the children are priceless..I'll treasure them always!

When I returned from my aunt's funeral, the students presented me with their hand-made sympathy cards. Very touching, as well as a great learning opportunity for them. The enthusiasm of my group this year was infectious to each other.

I have not had enough interaction to comment

This is my first time being a tutor, and I love it! I am getting back as much, if not more, than the children. Ms W's class made Thank You cards to us volunteers, and it was so heartwarming to feel that appreciation, and to have these adorable keepsakes that I will cherish forever.

I always feel welcomed by the children and teacher.

The opportunity to take a break from my normal work day and help kids even for an hour is so appreciated, both by me and the kids. This is truly a beneficial program to all.

I like the children and I enjoy spending time with them.

I've enjoyed being able to challenge the students and support the teacher-we make a great team!

This year I was gratified to engage my teacher in some discussion after each time I was in her classroom. She valued my assessment of the children I had contact with. We did this almost weekly.

Good Impact on High School Freshman and Sophomores

Engaging with a group of girls at a table one day they were talking about how they feel disrespected because they don't always get good grades in Spanish classes. (There are Latina teens). I told them about my dad who was born in Mexico but didn't teach us Spanish at home. As a result I take Spanish as an adult - I told them that it is a lot harder when you are using your old brain. By way of example I told them that I confuse words sometimes - like albondigas and abogado - they laughed so hard because of course one is meatballs and one is lawyer. I heard them say in Spanish - "she's cool". After that we got more work done.

Work with verbally challenged students. Rewarding to see their progress

It was wonderful to see the kids engage in the art and science projects we presented this year.

I feel very appreciated by the teacher and by the students. All are respectful and excited to have me help in the class

None come to mind right now.

Very positive, fulfilling experience. Very much enjoy developing relationship with the students

I've worked with three wonderful students this year. They come prepared with work attempted and questions, and they routinely express their appreciation. I really enjoy working with them. I have been paired with a few students over the years who haven't

worked out. Invariably they have other issues which interfere with their ability to take advantage of my services. TL librarian John G does a wonderful job of pairing students with tutors and addressing any issues that arise. He cares a lot about the students and is very dedicated to the tutoring program.

I was able after one year of trying to get M into special education.

The kids at my table didn't really seem that engaged with me, but one day a boy told me he wished I came every day and the others agreed)

I have volunteers w/ BD for 6 yrs at (School) - It's been a great experience. MM and CL are first rate. They care, are open to suggestion and are engaged.

What suggestions do you have to improve the MCSV Program?

(We have removed any identifying info—names, schools-- for privacy purposes)

More mentor classes at (School)

None at this time. I think the MCSV Program is running well.

Continue the outreach by Program managers--- Very helpful.

Do other schools have a reading program?

I appreciate the dedication and hard work that the coordinators give to the program.

Pair up a new volunteer with an experienced volunteer for awhile before assigning to a specific class. I did enjoy meeting with the other volunteers.

None at this time, not enough experience to give my suggestions

None. It seems well run.

I think staff are doing a wonderful job connecting volunteers to schools - building bridges!

It would have been helpful to receive emails about upcoming trainings. I'm not always great at checking the website. I didn't know they were taking place and would have gone to some of them if I'd known!

Would love to see a volunteer highlighted regularly. Just a photo and 2 - 3 sentences would be great.

I think we are doing well. Any way we can have more quantifiable measurement of our effect?

Give some ideas on how best to connect with the teachers at the orientation. We were told at orientation that the teachers are EXTREMELY busy and essentially NOT to take any of their time. As a result, in the beginning, I felt I flailed around on my own unnecessarily, fearful of taking any time of the teacher's, when a little time taken for guidance from the teacher would have made me a more effective tutor at the outset. I suspect that the instructor at my orientation session was reacting perhaps to an unhappy occurrence where one or two persons may have unduly burdened a teacher? Not sure, but it certainly was drilled into us NOT to bother the teachers! One other comment, not MCSV problem, but a few times the teacher failed to let me know in advance that my services were not needed (testing, field trip, etc.). It would have been nice to have been told before showing up that the kids were otherwise occupied. Perhaps somehow let the teachers know of their responsibility in this partnership? I really like the teacher and thought she was very good so I don't want to appear overly critical...

I think you guys do a terrific job!

Wish there was a way to interact more with the PARENTS of the students I tutor. Only if the parents were interested (on an individual basis) in such a meeting, of course.

I think it is going well, I can't think of a way to make it better. Maybe give volunteers a better rundown of each school they get assigned so they know a little more of what to expect.

I think that the onsite coordinator needs to be more involved with the volunteers and stay on top of the teachers who either circumvent the reading program and/or do not make the children responsible for following the reading program.

Phonics training

Better integration of teacher/volunteer expectations, knowing more about the student's strengths and weaknesses to better serve their needs.

I would like to have more contact with my volunteer contact person.

I think you all do an amazing job, not only with placement and training, but in offering more and more opportunities to be involved with great support! Mutual appreciation!

Would like to be involved planning with the teacher (MM) before the school year begins. She is an excellent teacher, and we have established a great working relationship.

None. It is wonderful creating a program, and seeing enthusiasm grow and extend to

the others.

Better way to alert volunteer they should not appear 'this' week.....office telling teacher? or reminding volunteer directly?

The lesson plans need to be laid out in advance so that all volunteers know what they will be doing and be sure they can help adequately. We need to know who , how many and what grade levels will be in each quarter. This way at one point we had kids from grade 1-4. The capabilities are too disparate for us to do a good job. Also if kids repeat, plans should not. "I already did that" is not a good sign.

More brainstorming about ways to make a greater impact.

Could the school be more physically secured? It feels quite open, and I wonder about the safety from the "malevolent" outside world.

None

When a teacher requests a volunteer for a specific student, make sure that is the appropriate solution to the issue.

More opportunities for feedback concerning the child(ten)

The recent edict that we are not to have any relationship with students outside of school is unfortunate. I'm sure I'm not the only volunteer who has made a significant bond with a needy student. If liability is an issue, why can't we have a similar system that the schools have with parents driving students on field trips? For this reason, I am resigning at the end of this school year so I can continue seeing a student who very much needs a little extra attention.

There needs to be a provision for students who don't want to engage in an after school enrichment activity to go somewhere else and not disrupt the students who want to do the activity.

None.

Share names and contacts of other volunteers at school. I could not attend the one event to get acquainted with other volunteers.

MCSV Program seems fine with me.

It would be helpful as a tutor to receive feedback on how our student is doing and what can we do to help further. Also, what other programs are available for the kids.

Work with the teachers at school so they know how to make use of the volunteers.