Embudo Valley Tutoring Association Newsletter

January 2024

THIS ISSUE: STUDENTS SWEET SUCCESSES

A student writes in his journal.

Submitted by: Karen Bozik
Velarde Elementary Tutor

Literacy tutoring helps student express himself with confidence.

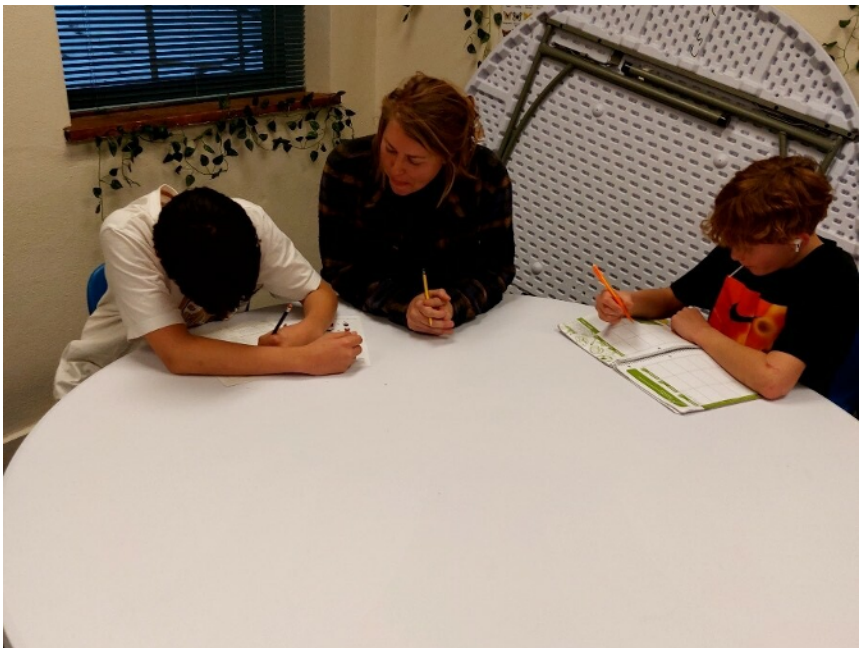
This 4th grade student is an absolutely wonderful, sensitive child who came up to me in November asking for literacy and math tutoring. He told me that he was really behind in both and was one of the first to bring in his signed permission slip. I welcomed him onto my schedule and began meeting with him on November 9th. I feel that we have a very good working relationship, and he is enthusiastic about coming to tutoring.

He has demonstrated growth in his ability to write by having more confidence in front of a blank piece of paper and expressing himself. This student has a lot of potential and I am looking forward to seeing/hearing/reading more of his work in the future.

In regards to other students' successes, I immediately think of two of my students who have similar challenges and seemingly, similar untapped potential. The first, considered to have some of the the most difficult behavior issues in school, also really struggles to complete work. After his I-Station scores in reading went up in November, I've seen a rise in his confidence. It proved to me that he has been carrying a lot of self-doubt and that doing quality work is really important to him. Since then, I've been providing more scaffolding and allowing more discussion about the topic at hand, when reading and responding to passages. We've been slowing down. His writing and reading have become more fluid. I have also included a five minute transition time at the beginning of our sessions, which has helped him to calm down and be ready to focus on rough days. My other student also has a lot of difficulties focusing and completing work, along with being disruptive. The same method applies to her: five minute transition time, scaffolding, and discussion of the material we are reading. Through our discussions, she has revealed an interest in geography and world cultures (food!) that we are excited about researching together!

Peñasco Middle School - After School and AVID program

II function as a teachers assistant in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade math classes, helping anyone who needs it. The AVID program I am tutoring/mentoring for is very appealing. Students identify something with which they need additional help/understanding in their coursework and go through a tutorial process to assist them in better understanding and troubleshooting. It's supposed to help with healthy study skills habits, goal setting, and early college prep. One class is 7th/8th grade mixed and one is a 9th grade class.



Tutor/Mentor Carly Suratt works with two students to complete a lesson.

For after school program right now we are working on a living herbal/medicinal plant library. Identifying plants around campus and creating a library of their historic uses and contemporary uses. I have an idea of some printed and some drawn botanical drawings with plant information displaying in the classroom or maybe in a big book. Most of the experiential science we have been talking about requires being outside and it's not the season right now so we will add this component in the spring.

A SPECIAL SUCCESS STORY: I was just tutoring in 7th period and after students started doing better in that class, the teacher asked me to help him in his 6th grade class. Bobby Richardson is the teacher at PISD.

Submitted by: Carly Suratt
Peñasco Middle School Tutor

Embudo Valley Tutoring Association's work is supported by:

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Getting Ready for High School Writing Assignments Takes Practice

How has tutoring helped you in school? “It helped me tremendously with writing, socializing and being more honest with myself.”

What was making learning hard for you before? "Well, my best friend was moving away so I was sad and I was having a hard time socializing. Tutoring helped me get out of my comfort zone and learn to socialize and I've made new friends at school. Also, tutoring helps me focus.

Tutor note: This studenti is very verbal and sensitive and doesn't like to write. Writing Lab tutoring is intended to help this student prepare for high school ELA classes and the writing requirements.

Submitted by: Anne-Marie Emanuelli
EVTA Anansi Charter School tutor

Writing Lab tutoring prepares an 8th grader for high school writing.

Meditation Courses Available to EVTA Tutors as PD Options.

Tutors and teachers spend a lot of time in classrooms with their students and outside of classroom time they are planning lessons, and preparing for student testing which leaves very little time for themselves. The result is often stressed-out teachers.

Mindfulness and meditation are tools that help us de-stress and relax. Mindful Frontiers LLC is a Benefit Corporation (BCorp) committed to Community Wellness by providing schools and organizations with mindfulness meditation tools that nurture positive social-emotional growth.

EVTA and Mindful Frontiers have teamed up to offer meditation instruction to its tutors and mentors through an online course platform called *Thinkific*. Two courses are available to tutors at this time: Meditation Basics is free and Meditation Essentials is $40. To sign up, please check in with Eva for your PD hours and then head on over to this link to sign up. **https://mindfulfrontiers.thinkific.com/**

HOW TO CONTACT EMBUDO VALLEY TUTORING ASSOCIATION

For services:

1. If your child attends Dixon Elementary, Velarde Elementary, or Anansi Charter School, please ask your child's teacher to contact EVTA by e-mailing info@evtanm.org

2. If your child attends Enos Garcia or Penasco community schools, please contact your community school coordinator.

3. If your child is homeschooled or attends another school not mentioned above, please fill out the contact form on EVTA's website. Go to embudovalleytutoring.com. Click on "Contact Us" at the top of the Home page to access the form. OR e-mail EVTA directly at info@evtanm.org

To make a donation:

1. Access EVTA's website at embudovalleytutoring.com and click on the "Donate" button on the Home page.

2. Send a donation through Paypal at paypal.me/tutoringassociation

3. Send a check to Embudo Valley Tutoring Association at P.O. Box 267, Dixon, NM 87527

For further information:

1. Access EVTA's website at embudovalleytutoring.com

2. Check out our page on greatnonprofits.org by searching for Embudo Valley Tutoring Association.

3. Contact Eva Behrens, EVTA's director, at 575.779.8886 or eva@evtanm.org