

Los Angeles City Schools  
Volunteer & Tutorial Programs  
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FACT SHEET - No. 4

School Volunteer Program--Los Angeles City Unified School District

The School Volunteer Program is a community involvement project, sponsored by the Los Angeles City Unified Schools and the School Volunteer Executive Board. The purpose of the project is to develop an organization of volunteers to assist teachers and bring enrichment to the children in our Los Angeles City Unified Schools, particularly to children from economically depressed areas and from culturally different homes.

Background Information

In 1963, there were approximately 380 volunteers and tutors serving in some 30 schools, contributing approximately 1,140 man hours per week. This includes both after school tutoring and various volunteer services during the school hours.

During the nine (9) years from 1963 to 1972, the number of participating volunteers has risen to some 9,000 adults plus 2,500 secondary and college tutors. Today the staff of the unit is composed of: one director, one specialist, one secretary, one intermediate clerk-typist, one clerk-typist, four part-time college tutorial consultants, and two education aides.

Volunteer & Tutorial Unit 1972-73 School Year

The Los Angeles City Unified School Volunteer and Tutorial Program is one of the most successful educational support programs in the nation. Over 10,000 adults, college and secondary students contribute approximately 45,000 man hours per week in our schools. When these free services are translated into dollar units, the overall contribution to children is in excess of \$70,000 per week. Therefore, any effort to expand these services can only lead toward more significant educational programs, more positive community involvement in our schools and better school-community relationships.

It is incredible that in 1972 there are children graduating from our schools who are educationally handicapped. The School Volunteer Program is one approach to solving this problem. Its two basic goals are:

1. Extending to every child the best possible educational opportunities
2. Making a greater number of our parents and citizens aware that education for our children must be our chief priority.

School Volunteers are men and women of all ages, in all walks of life who are willing to serve a minimum of  $\frac{1}{2}$  day a week. They are united by one common purpose--an interest in helping children.

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The qualifications are simple: Volunteers must love children, be friendly, reliable and flexible, have good health, good moral character, have time and an eagerness to help our children. A college education is not a requirement. Any parent or citizen can be a volunteer.

Volunteers serve under the direction of school administrators and teachers. The Program is characterized by its extreme flexibility and duties will vary from classroom to classroom. Most Volunteers assist teachers by helping children who need individual attention, preparing teaching materials, reading stories, correcting workbooks, making posters, preparing inventories, translating, typing, performing a multitude of clerical tasks, and working in school libraries.

Volunteers who have special skills bring enrichment to the school program. Pianists play for assembly programs and other music periods. Singers and guitarists teach songs. Actors coach plays. Artists work with children in handcrafts or assist classes in creative art.

This school year 9,000 adult volunteers and 2,500 student tutors are working in over 400 schools. More volunteers are badly needed. Volunteers work at the pre-school, elementary, junior high and senior high levels, and schools for the handicapped during school hours, after school, and on Saturday.

Won't you join and become a School Volunteer? Call the School Volunteer Office at 687-4194. Thank you.

Fall, 1972