Teens as Tutors

Duval County Public Schools and Read USA, Inc.

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One-on-One Tutoring
One Program/Dual Outcomes

Creating innovations to development high impact tutoring and workforce readiness.

- Improve 4th grade student reading progress
- Improve teen reading progress to prepare for college or workforce experiences
- Equip teens with workforce skills and create interest in education to build a diverse teacher pipeline

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Creating Systems to Transform Learning

CHALLENGES

- Fourth grade students were showing the greatest signs in reading gaps at the elementary level.

- Teacher shortages began occurring in core content areas.

- Elementary schools that were historically stable were underperforming through the COVID pandemic.

- While the district's graduation rate has steadily increased, literacy is not growing at the same rate.

SOLUTIONS

- Identify 4th grade students in the district's underperforming schools reading one to three years below grade level.

- Purchase high quality reading and phonics curriculum that provides a multisensory approach to learning to read.

- Hire qualified certificated staff to train and coach teen tutors.

- Hire teen tutors to provide daily 1:1 tutoring to identified 4th grade students.

- Remove attendance barriers for teens and students by providing transportation.

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Program Overview

Recruiting Teens as Tutors

There were intentional recruitment efforts at schools to target the students would benefit, in terms of literacy. College level training sessions and daily coaching support.

Dosage

1:1 tutoring spanned 12 weeks; 4 days per week and 45-minute sessions at twelve elementary schools. Students were provided free afterschool care, snacks, homework help, and transportation by contracted carriers. Tutors received daily coaching from teacher leaders before, during, or after tutoring sessions.

Progress Monitoring

Both tutors and students took pre- and post-test assessments to monitor impact of literacy development. Students engaged in additional formative assessments with each session.

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Project Outcomes

Elementary Students and Adolescents

Findings

Elementary Student Data

Gray Oral Reading Test – 5th ed.

- Expected growth: 4 months
- Actual growth:
  - Rate: 1 year
  - Accuracy: 1.8 years
  - Fluency: 1 year
  - Comprehension: 0.7 years

Teen Tutor Data

Gray Oral Reading Test – 5th ed.

- Expected Growth: 4 months
- Actual growth:
  - Rate: 1.6 years
  - Comprehension: 0.6 years