



Community Report



Caption here.



Caption here.

FALL 2018

Mentor Tutor Connection
Helping students achieve their potential and thrive

Our Mission: To enhance academic and life skills for students through individualized volunteer tutoring and mentoring

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MTC was founded in 1996 by Los Altos Rotary Club and is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization, Tax ID 27-3054503

Ropes Course Adventure for Mentors and Mentees

By Elizabeth Maciag

For the fourth year in a row, mentors and mentees participated in an exciting new opportunity! This year, members of Mentor Tutor Connection’s mentoring program engaged in a day of team building and ropes course. This was a new experience for most mentors and mentees. In an urban forest right in San Francisco, overlooking the Bay, 50 mentors and mentees gained trust, took risks, overcame fears, and had fun together.

The experience began on a beautiful spring day with lunch beneath a canopy of trees and time to meet and mingle with old and new friends from the mentoring program. After lunch, the challenges began -- easy at first and progressing to more difficult. Within the first hour, the group became comfortable acting silly, thinking quickly, and moving around as everyone played games. There were trust and get-to-know-each-other activities, all leading up to the time when the mentees and mentors could try the ropes course.

Staring fifty feet up at the ropes and cables strung between trees, the group got their helmets and harnesses, and learned the safety procedures. Then it was time to choose which “element” to try first. Some chose to climb a tall

“I was excited and nervous about the ropes course. I wasn’t sure if I would be daring enough to go up so high in the trees. But, I loved it and am so proud of myself!”

MTC MENTEE

pole, stand on the top, and then jump off, all while attached to a harness and rope to allow a safe climb and smooth landing. Others climbed a tree, then traversed a cable between trees high overhead, and finished with a zip line to the ground. It was exciting to see how mentees and mentors cheered for each other and how mentees supported their mentors when they weren’t sure they were ready to take on a challenge. The resounding report from the participants was fantastic!



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Another year sped by with a record number of students, volunteers, mentors, mentored students and graduating seniors — the



highest in the five years since we started recording and storing data. Kudos to our students, and our dedicated staff and volunteers!

We welcome Helen Richardson as the Alta Vista High School (AVHS) Mentor Program Manager as we bid goodbye to the stellar Leslie Schwarz. Thanks for all you did, Leslie, we will miss you!

A generous gift from Google helped fund a new Strategic Plan. Our Strategic Plan will guide our priorities and goals over the next four years. Building on current programs and our strengths,

we will make tutoring more focused, measurable and impactful, and we will significantly increase mentors and mentored students, while retaining volunteers longer through more support and training.

Lastly, we will complete the transition from a grass-roots, “working” board driven organization to a fully staff driven one. With your support, we can do it!

Padma Gargeya
Executive Director

**ASK US ABOUT
OUR PLANNED
GIVING PROGRAM**



Middle School Happenings

By Christy Flahavan
MTC Middle School Tutor Coordinator

The past year has been a year of growth and discovery for the Mentor Tutor Connection middle school tutoring program! Over the course of the year, I am pleased to report that tutor hours and students served increased significantly at Egan, Graham and Crittenden Middle Schools. Across our middle school sites, we broadened our reach by supporting students in a wide range of subjects including math, science, reading, social studies and English language development. Programs such as College Bound in the MVWSD and reading support programs in LASD provided new opportunities for our tutors to assist students. Over one third of our middle school tutors helped in these programs by facilitating weekly or bi-weekly small group discussions, allowing more individualized instruction during class.

Many learning opportunities were provided to maximize tutor impact and efficiency. Through “office hours” at local coffee shops, tutor luncheons, and our annual tutor and teacher surveys, we received valuable feedback on ways to improve our program. Top priorities identified include improving communication opportunities among teachers, tutors and staff, as well as increasing training opportunities and curriculum access.

We kicked off the 2018/19 school year with a round-table discussion focused on “engaging reluctant learners” along with on-boarding meetings at each site to ensure that teachers are properly equipped to utilize our tutors’ time and knowledge. We have also had the opportunity to introduce MTC at school staff meetings in an effort to increase awareness at our middle school campuses. I am confident that MTC will continue to expand our impact at all four middle school sites in the coming year.



Mentor Tutor Connection: The Impact We've Achieved Together

5 YEAR CUMULATIVE
GRADUATION RATE

96%

OF MENTORED
SENIORS (110/114)



93%

OF MENTORED
SENIORS
GRADUATED
(37/40)

2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR

179

NUMBER OF
VOLUNTEERS

TUTORS: 84
MENTORS: 95



504

NUMBER OF
STUDENTS SERVED

TUTORED: 393
MENTORED: 111



Our volunteers are in
19 schools in the three
Districts in MV and LA
we serve:



ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS: 12
MIDDLE SCHOOLS: 4
HIGH SCHOOLS: 3

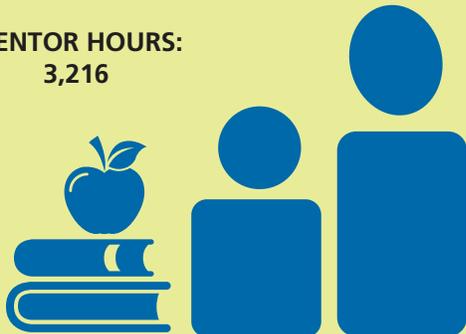


5,993

ANNUAL HOURS
VOLUNTEERED
WITH STUDENTS*

TUTOR HOURS:
2,777

MENTOR HOURS:
3,216



THE STUDENTS WE SERVE

AGE

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: 50%
MIDDLE SCHOOL: 28%
HIGH SCHOOL: 22%

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

ETHNICITY

HISPANIC: 79%
ASIAN: 10%
CAUCASIAN: 9%
OTHER: 2%

PRIMARY LANGUAGE**

SPANISH: 67%
ENGLISH: 22%
OTHER: 11%



99% of our mentored students would recommend our program to a friend*

Honor Roll of Donors

JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018

We appreciate our donors whose generous financial support funds our programs to help our students achieve their potential and thrive!

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Major support in helping us reach all Mountain View and Los Altos public schools \$5000 and above

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Your generosity supported multiple students \$100-\$499

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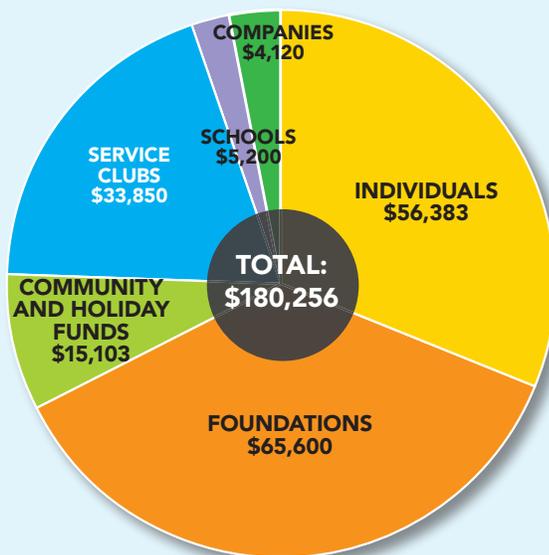
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*Denotes matching employee donations and volunteer hours provided by the following companies: **Adobe Systems, Apple, Applied Materials, Genentech, and Google.**

THANK YOU!