



Energizing Education

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

DECEMBER 17, 2012

We can't wait for January 14th!

WHAT DO YOUNG READERS NEED TO SUCCEED?

Every child reads something he/she chooses

Every child reads accurately

Every child reads something he/she understands

Every child writes about something personally meaningful

Every child talks to a caring adult about his/her reading and writing.

Every child listens to a fluent adult read aloud. *

TRAINING DATES

December 18
(UW Center)

December 19
(UW Center)

December 20
(UW Center)

January 7

January 8

January 10

January 14



Energizing Education is...

a community initiative launched with a generous grant from Consumer's Energy and matching community funds to improve the literacy skills of Jackson children through in-school tutoring, after school programs and family involvement. We are working to ensure that all students achieve grade-level literacy milestones, first at our pilot school, Frost Elementary, with the intention of later expanding throughout the county.

These programs will be up and running beginning January 14th & 15th, 2013.



Family Involvement

Family outreach events will occur at both Frost Elementary and Partnership Park in which parents will receive advice and materials for supporting literacy in the home.

Vision - Imagine a neighborhood where:

Parents have the resources they need to be successful in bringing their children into the world and preparing them for school.

All children feel successful and supported and in turn support and honor one another.

Mentors have the resources they need to support the literacy efforts in the school.

After school programs have the literacy training they need to keep students on the right track.

Teachers understand that they have a team of parents, mentors, and afterschool supports to help their students succeed the first time.

Employers have doors ready and open to utilize all of these talents and creativity in our community.

Every child is read to every day.

Imagination Library Reading Conductors

The Imagination Library of Jackson is also seeking volunteers to aid in the improvement of early childhood literacy through their Reading Conductors program. In this program, volunteers will conduct reading sessions and literacy activities in Jackson County child care centers and preschools, working with children aged birth through five years old.



These volunteers, rather than working one on one with a child, will be expected to participate with the group as a whole, in charge of story time and subsequent literacy activities on the days they participate.

Program Details

In-School Tutoring

Volunteer mentors will work one on one with students (PK-2) during school hours for one half hour each week. Under the guidance and supervision of a literacy specialist, the mentor and student will work on reading, writing, and other literacy activities.

After-School Program

Staff and volunteers at St. John's after-school program will be provided with additional support and training in literacy. EE Students will be added to Partnership Park's current structure, with particular focus placed on reading, writing, and literacy activities.



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Jackson, Michigan 49201

Phone: 517-784-0511

Fax: 517-784-2430

Sign up here:

<http://volunteer.uwjackson.org/energizingeducation>

Connected To Community.

Plugged in to School.

Grounded In Family.



Why Volunteer ?

Children learn to read until the third grade. Then they are expected to read to learn...and those who cannot are quickly left behind. This is happening far too often in Jackson County. Our high school dropout rates are too high, many graduates do not attempt to enter college, and too many of those who do make it into college require remedial education in order to succeed there.

This problem hurts our entire community, and every one of its residents, in a variety of ways. The solution is to begin early, and provide supports and opportunities throughout every stage so that all of our students can graduate High School with all the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in college and/or a viable career credentialing program. Our community recently formed a Cradle 2 Career network to make that happen, and its first act was to launch Energizing Education.

We would love to share ways you can be involved!

Do you know the perfect reader for this new program?

Please contact our volunteer coordinator

Melissa Laird at 517-784-7181 or email her

mlaird@bbbsjackson.org

Energizing Education Contacts



Kriss Giannetti is the lead coordinator for the Energizing Education Literacy Initiative. Her role in this initiative is to oversee the launch of the pilot program at Frost and begin to bring it to other schools in all of

Jackson County. She is the contact person for all facets of the program and is happy to answer any questions about how Energizing Education can be at your school or Afterschool Program.

In addition Kriss Giannetti has been serving as Coordinator for Jackson Promise Zone since November of 2010. She is also one of the founding members of Jackson 2020 and the Cradle to Career Initiative (C2C).



Asa Fleming is the Literacy Specialist for Energizing Education. Her responsibilities include training volunteers, planning for instruction, monitoring the progress of students,

and relaying information between tutors and teachers. She has a degree in Elementary Education from the University of Michigan (Go Blue), and a Masters in Reading from Eastern Michigan University. She has been working as an educator for over 25 years. She lives in Jackson with her husband Bill and enjoys reading, watching old movies, walking her dogs, and gardening.



Sara Calkins is a recent graduate of Michigan State University with a degree in English with an additional major in history and a minor in Women's and Gender Studies.

Working as an AmeriCorps*VISTA member for the United Way on the Energizing Education initiative, Sara will be involved in planning and coordination for all three aspects of the program, but will be primarily focused on the in-school tutoring program, assisting in the training and supervision of volunteers. Raised in Jackson, she enjoys reading, movies, and attending plays and concerts.



Melissa Laird is a recent graduate of Baker College with a degree in Human Services with a concentration in Psychology. Working as an AmeriCorps member for Big Brothers Big Sisters, she will be the

primary contact for recruitment within the Energizing Education initiative. She is an active volunteer within the community. She enjoys photography, nature, and of course reading, by herself and with her children and grandchildren. She plans to begin graduate school during the coming year and looks forward to working with families in the future.



Jennie O'Brien is a full time graduate student at Indiana University. She taught Reading to middle schoolers and 4th graders for 6 years and currently works as the JPS Parent Liaison. She graduated from

Western Michigan and has lived and taught in CA, NJ, IN and is happy to be raising her 3 wonderful book-loving kids in Jackson! As part of the EE team, she plans the family fun nights keeping in mind literacy goals and modern life.



Katie Luke has been executive director for Partnership Park for two years. Prior to that she worked at Spring Arbor University. The after-school program at Partnership Park has generously enfolded Energizing Educa-

tion into it's program. She will facilitate the program's after-school administration at St. Johns United Church, as well as planning and coordinating family involvement activities. She is also a Big Sister, volunteers throughout the community, and has a passion for helping those in need.