



Vine

JULY 2016-JUNE 2017

Volunteers in Education engages the community in the education of its students, supporting their growth and preparing them for productive citizenship.

Volunteers in Education

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“With my tutor, I raised my grade to a B+. This also helped in other classes. I was able to make the B honor roll.”
– 8th grade student,
North Woods

*“My tutor listens when I talk.” – 1st grade student,
South Ridge Elementary*





*“My tutor does not give me the answers, but helps me solve the question.”
– 5th grade student, Cherry Elementary*

To Our Stakeholders

Strategic Highlights

In October 2016, the VinE Board held a strategic planning session, identifying goals for the Tutoring Program and the organization as a whole. The three main goals of VinE for the coming year are:

1. VinE is guided by a fully functioning board of directors.
2. VinE is a model program for helping students succeed.
3. VinE builds strong school-community connections to support student success.

The Board of Directors raised the bar for the Tutor Program by identifying *Develop a Model Tutoring Program* as a 2017-2018 priority goal, and defining a model program as one that a) provides a robust tutor program, b) demonstrates results (increased student achievement), and c) is replicable. We look forward to implementing the work done over the past year into our 2017-2018 Tutor Program.

Financial Highlights

In July 2016, VinE held its first ever large-scale fundraiser, the VinE Ducky Race. Although \$8000 was raised as a result of this first race, all agreed the most powerful impact of the fundraiser was the number of people reached with VinE's mission. Fourteen churches allowed VinE volunteers to share their experiences with congregations, spreading the word about the great work happening in our schools.

Due to the recent economic downturn of the economy, the United Way of Northeastern Minnesota, one of our primary funders, had a decrease in giving. This caused our grant award to be reduced substantially from our request. VinE's commitment to the United Way is to ensure community members are aware of the vital work the United Way does for the people and nonprofits of Northern Minnesota. During this downturn, VinE is broadening the scope of grants we are sourcing while reducing costs as much as appropriate and possible.

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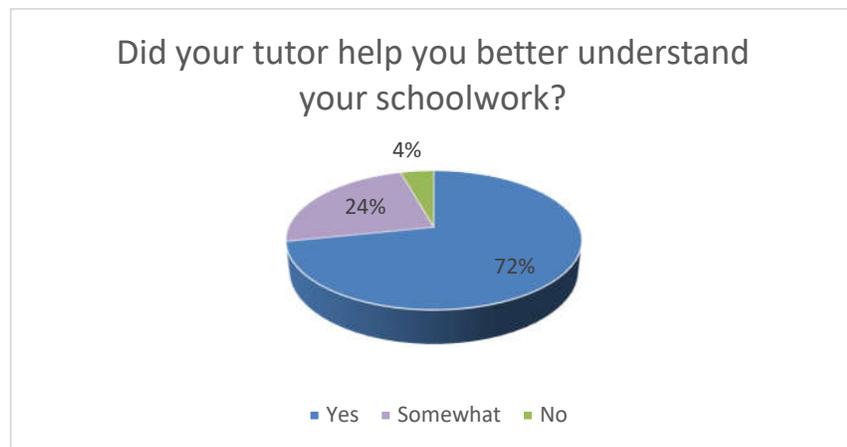
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Operating Highlights

In the 2016-2017 school year, 81 VinE volunteer tutors worked with an average of 604 students across eight schools. One way VinE is able to see the impact we are having in the lives of students and improve the services we offer is by inviting students, teaches, and tutors to complete surveys relating to tutoring. Here are highlights from our 2016-2017 End of Year Surveys:

Student Surveys: Student surveys are completed by students grades 3 and up, as younger students have a difficult time assessing the questions. 48 students filled out surveys this year. Of the students that filled out surveys:

- **72% stated that their tutor had helped them understand their schoolwork;** this is an increase from 67% at midyear
- **90% stated that they were doing better or somewhat better in school with their tutors help;** this question was added for the Spring
- **82% stated that they felt better or somewhat better about school because of tutoring sessions;** this question was added for the Spring



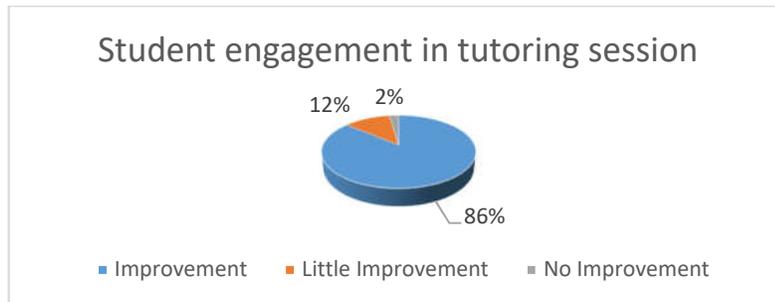
Students know their tutors are engaged: *"If you have a question, she would answer it."*

Students feel supported: *"My tutor makes it easier." "My tutor works with me at my pace."*

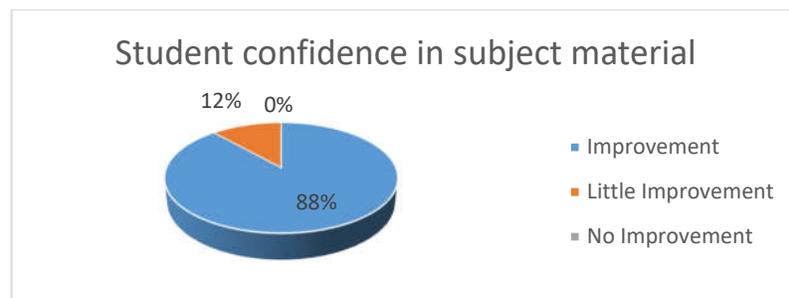
Students are increasing their academic success: *"I am more ready for sixth grade!"*

Tutor Surveys: 43 tutor surveys were completed at the end of the school year. Tutors rated each student's improvement in the following areas:

- **Engagement in Tutoring Session** - 86% of students demonstrated increased engagement. This is an increase from 63% of students demonstrating increased engagement at midyear.



- **Student's understanding of their work** - This question was added for the Spring. 88% of students demonstrated increased understanding of the work done with a tutor.
- **Confidence in Subject Material** - 88% of students demonstrated increased confidence in their tutored subject; this is an increase from 71% at midyear.



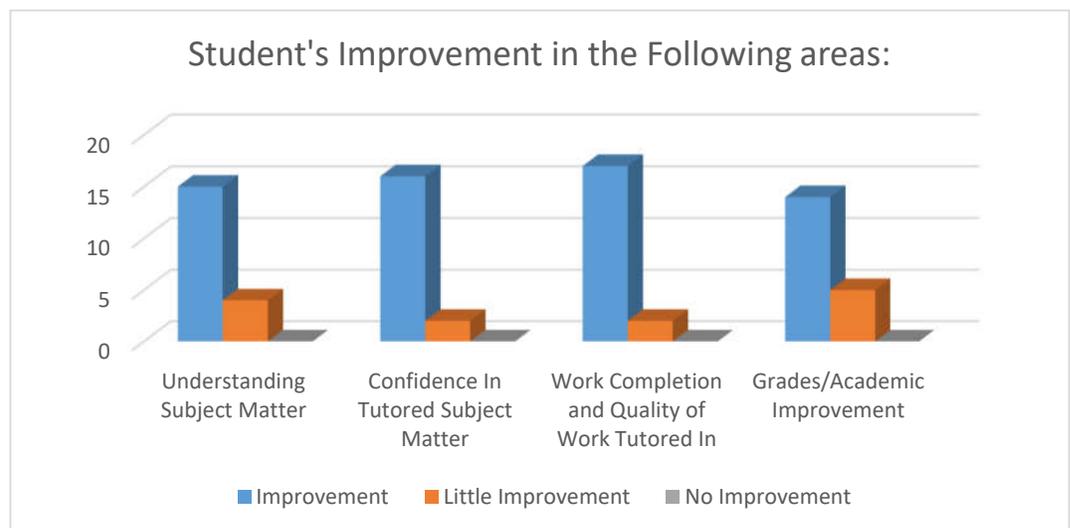
Tutors help students improve academically: *"I had students go from non-readers to accomplished readers."*

Tutors help students gain confidence: *"Most noticeable was the student's confidence overall - she still struggles with reading, but was more willing to answer questions even when she was unsure of the answer. I hope to work with her again next year."*

Tutors provide students the one-on-one time they need to succeed: *"In one hour, a student (who had been falling behind) got caught up on all of their assignments."*

Teacher Surveys: Teachers were asked to rate each student's improvement in the following areas:

- Understanding of Subject Matter
- Confidence with Subject Material
- Work Completion and Quality of Work in Tutored Subject
- Grades and Academic Achievement



Teachers noticed improvement in:

- **83%** of students' understanding of the subject matter
- **88%** of students' confidence with the subject material
- **94%** of students' work completion
- **77%** of students' grades and academic achievement

Teachers see a difference in student confidence: *"I saw their confidence and abilities grow. My students who claimed to "not like to read" even looked forward to this time."*

Teachers see academic success in their students: *"The time that the children spend with the tutors is so valuable. They love to go with them and I see such improvement throughout the school year!!! Thank you!!!"*

Teachers know what a difference one-on-one help can provide: *"One big aspect that has been impacted has been their trust in other adults in the room. Sometimes students think only the teacher can be in charge, helpful or able to give directions and my VINE volunteers provided another adult that led them."*

Honors Received

In March 2017, the United Way of Northeastern Minnesota selected VinE for their Agency of the Year Award. We were incredibly humbled and honored to receive this award, which serves as a testament to the hard work we have done over the past year and the quality of service we provide to students. Pictured below are some of our dedicated tutors from Tower-Soudan.



Looking Ahead

In January 2017, VinE received a grant from the Northland Foundation to redevelop our tutor training. VinE, along with local teachers and the ISD 2142 Curriculum Coordinator, has been working with the Training Director from the Minnesota Literacy Council to create a Tutor Training tailored to the needs of VinE and our local schools. This training is scheduled to be implemented starting in October 2017; it will give our tutors additional support in their work and will allow us to provide teachers more information on the skills in which tutors receive training.

In June 2017, the Virginia school board voted to pursue a partnership with VinE. This needs to be done carefully in order to ensure financial sustainability going forward. VinE is reaching out to business owners in the community to help herald our incoming service and source needed volunteers to make our debut in the Virginia school system strong. We are confident that with the model program we have created, students in yet another school district will benefit from increased confidence and improved academic success.

Cassandra Hainey
Program Director
August 2, 2017

Financial Summary

The following is VinE's 2016-2017 Budget Summary. Over the course of the year, the Program Director, Board Chair, and Treasurer implemented a month-to-month budget tracking sheet to closely track income and spending. As a result, we anticipate the *Budget* and *Actual* columns for 2017-2018 to be far more accurate.

| | | Budget | Actual |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Income | | | |
| | Foundations | 49,300 | 23,390 |
| | Service Organizations | 6,800 | 1,800 |
| | Fundraiser | 13,500 | 8,281 |
| | Private Donations | 100 | 150 |
| | School Districts | 700 | 0 |
| | Fundraising Committee Sourced | 12,000 | 120 |
| | Total Income | \$82,400 | \$33,741 |
| Expense | Program Expense | | |
| | -Wages | 52,400 | 33,231 |
| | -Mileage | 5,550 | 3,493 |
| | -Site Expenses | 350 | 338 |
| | Operating Expense | 16,379 | 15,325 |
| | Total Expense | \$86,679 | \$39,734 |

While spending for the past year outpaced income, a starting fiscal year balance of \$34,033 allowed VinE to weather the downturn in anticipated funder giving. VinE will be reaching out to a more diversified set of funders for the coming year in order to avoid a similar situation in the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

Although VinE did not receive direct funding from the school districts served, we did receive a significant amount of in-kind contributions, which increased dramatically from the previous year.

Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Position

- Assets as of June 30, 2017: \$22,654.38
- Bank account balance as of June 30, 2017: \$26,147.60

Statement of Comprehensive Income (Profits and Losses)

- Income – July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017: \$38,016
- Expenses – July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017: \$45,367
 - Due to the timing of VinE’s fiscal year end, some expenses for 2017-2018 were paid and included in the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Insurance for the coming year has been paid along with one quarter of rent for the upcoming fiscal year.

VinE has received significant support from the following funders:



LIVE UNITED



Contact Information

Board of Directors

| Name | Role | Number | Email Address |
|---------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Bailey Conger | Board Chair | 218-666-2377 | Bailey.conger@gmail.com |
| Bob Larson | Co Vice Chair | 218-345-6470 | RJLno1@aol.com |
| Dawn Heisel | Co Vice Chair | 218-741-8049 | bdheisel@hotmail.com |
| Cassandra Rogers | Secretary | 218-290-0934 | Cassandra.rogers23@gmail.com |
| Amanda Babich | Treasurer | 218-290-9092 | ababich@isd2142.k12.mn.us |
| Jennifer Armstrong | Director | 218-865-0112 | jen3344@gmail.com |
| Ed Williams | Director | 218-780-3121 | sales@nelsonwilliams.com |

Staff

| Name | Role | Number | Email Address |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Cassandra Hainey | Program Director | 218-404-5742 | Cassandra.hainey@vine-mn.org |
| Ann Voss | Eveleth-Gilbert Coordinator | 218-749-8585 | avoss@egschools.org |
| Brenda Nicholson Martin | South Ridge Coordinator | 218-428-2328 | Brendasew_now@yahoo.com |
| Cathy Carlson | Tower-Soudan Coordinator | 218-290-0612 | owlet@frontiernet.net |
| Christine Mackai | Northeast Range Coordinator | 218-410-2383 | christinemackai@yahoo.com |
| Gail Rice | Bookkeeper | 218-349-0336 | garsar@uslink.net |
| Denise Parson | North Woods Coordinator | 218-969-6115 | dparson@isd2142.k12.mn.us |
| Marlys Goerd | Cherry Coordinator | 218-290-3972 | mermargoerd@google.com |



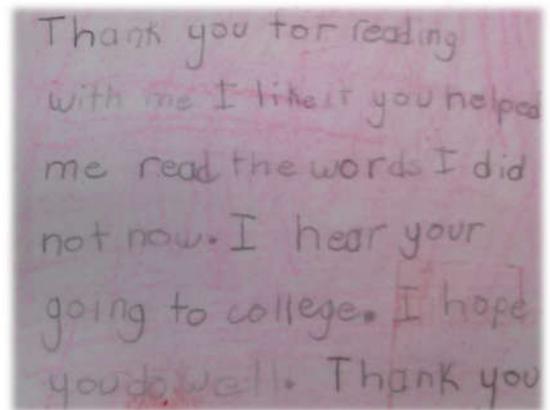
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Tutor thank you cards, 1st grade students, Cherry Elementary