

EduTutorVA Celebrates Its First Anniversary

And what a year this has been!

On Monday, July 19, 2021 EduTutorVA had the good fortune



to celebrate our year's progress and successes with Governor Ralph Northam at a special event honoring students at Barcroft Elementary School in Arlington. Barcroft Elementary School is one of the Title 1 schools EduTutorVA places our George Mason University and Northern Virginia Community College undergraduate, trained student tutors.



EduTutorVA Co-Founders Shirley Bloomquist and Elizabeth Lodal with Education-advocate VA Governor Ralph Northam

EduTutorVA was established to provide free, virtual tutoring services for students in Title 1 schools who have experienced significant educational loss during the pandemic. EduTutorVA pairs trained education majors and graduates from George Mason University and Northern Virginia Community College Schools of Education with students who may be at risk of falling below grade level benchmarks.

Informal data already supports our students' progress in year one and we plan to use targeted measures to track student growth as we launch into year two.

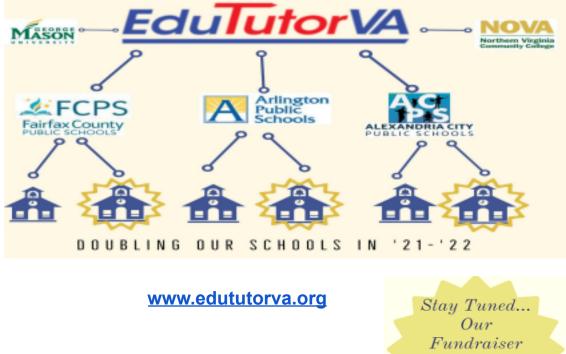
Our tutors work with students either in pairs or with no more than three children. Tutors provide consistent and personal academic support through a program that includes a diagnostic assessment of needs. Presently, our trained tutors work with elementary and middle school students within three Northern Virginia school systems (Arlington, Alexandria and Fairfax). We have been invited to continue and to expand in all three systems this year and we plan to double our number of GMU and NVCC tutors.

As a testament to our success, EduTutorVA received the George Mason University *Jack Wood Innovation Award,* which concentrates on strengthening the relationships between the university and the community and recognizes town-grown programs to meet a timely need. EduTutorVA is only the second recipient to receive this honor. (See below)



Co-Founders L-R: Cathy Colglazier, Shirley Bloomquist, Margi Vanderhye, Elizabeth Lodal, Eleanor Saslaw and Kris Amundson celebrating the Jack Wood Innovation Award, presented by George Mason University

An additional, important, and unique feature of the EduTutorVA model is our link to teacher education programs. Our goal is to expand, motivate, and support the development of a cadre of future teachers who are prepared to work with diverse students who are performing below grade level. Our aspiring student tutors are not only receiving training from national experts but also the practical experience that will allow them to enter their education careers with the confidence that they can diagnose and address individual learning needs. To date, a vast majority of last year's tutors have signed up to continue this year.



Gala Will Be Announced Soon!