

Read to Succeed offers opportunity to partner with community, boost reading levels

The slogan “Two Great Cities, One Great University” speaks clearly to the partnership of the Purdue family and the surrounding greater Lafayette community. Since the earliest days of the University, faculty and staff have played key roles in making this a great place to live and learn.

The University is committed to working closely with the community’s Read to Succeed program underway in the local schools. This volunteer program of Greater Lafayette Commerce and the United Way aims to assist the schools’ effort to have all students reading at grade level by grade three.

The dean of our College of Education has worked from the beginning to help shape the program and several Purdue staff and students served as tutors during the initial year of the program. We would like to increase the number of our faculty, staff and students involved in the program in the coming academic year.

Read to Succeed volunteers donate an hour in a classroom each week, helping struggling students become more proficient. The University has agreed to grant employees compensated time off for the volunteer activity. This includes an hour for actual tutoring and 30 minutes of travel time to and from the school each week.

It is possible for two people to team up and volunteer with the same student in alternate weeks.

Supervisors have discretion to control the volunteer time to avoid significant impact on the department's function. Employees who wish to participate should:

1. Review the specific volunteer opportunities at the [Read to Succeed](#) website.
2. Discuss their plan to volunteer with their supervisor.
3. Register to volunteer with the selected school on the Read to Succeed website.
4. Complete the Purdue [Read to Succeed participant form](#).
5. Submit their completed form to HRITS/FREH.

As Greater Lafayette’s largest employer, Purdue University is proud to join this community effort. I personally encourage all of you to consider taking this extra step and lending your time to making our community an even greater place to live.

Sincerely,



Timothy D. Sands
Acting President