



Mission Statement

To develop in all students the ability and desire to achieve academic excellence in a safe and nurturing environment.

Vision Statement

To provide curriculum centered instruction for all children based on commitment to excellence. Incorporate the collaborative efforts of the school, the home, and community in order to provide a safe learning environment where all students can be independent thinkers and lifelong learners while preparing them for a technologically advanced and culturally diverse society.

Important Facts

- Fully Accredited Kansas City Public Elementary School
- Kindergarten to 6th grade
- 15 classrooms with approximately 300 students
- Most students do not live within walking distance of the school
- Transient student community, enrollment numbers change weekly
- Serves long-term residents, public housing residents, renting families & 3 short-term homeless shelters
- Approx. 20% of the students live in homeless shelters
- Culturally diverse school with over ten languages represented (Arabic, Bantu, Burmese, English, Kirwanda, Portuguese, Somali, Spanish, Swahili & Vietnamese)
- 100% of students qualify for the Free/Reduced Lunch program
- Located at 2400 Prospect Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri

Key Volunteer Focus Areas

- **Tutoring**—Ongoing opportunities in all grades. [Click here](#) to get started with the pre-requisite training. Once trained you'll be assigned a teacher and time that fits your schedule and each week teachers will give you the tools you need to help students.
- **Tiger Store**—Maintaining a store where students can spend their earned tiger buck for being respectful, responsible & safe learners. [Click here](#) to find a list of donation ideas and purchase options. Sign up to help administer by emailing sallymorgansmith2018@gmail.com.
- **Hunger Backpacks**—Food packed weekly for participating students to take home on Fridays. To join the team, plug in at [Serve Saturdays](#) during the school year.
- **Reading Logs and Book Cart**—Implement weekly reading log program; arrange monthly Book Mobile visits and periodic author visits; assist librarian with school book fair. [Donate a bike](#) to fund their incentive program where one boy and girl from each grade gets a bike at the end of the year to incentivize their daily reading.
- **Staff Appreciation**—Regular Friday treats delivered; and staff appreciation luncheons arranged in fall & spring. [Sign up here](#) to contribute.
- **Special Events**—JOY parties in December & Yearend Field Day in May. More details at cor.org/downtown/serve
- **Family baskets**—COR provides 2 family baskets each month for the SAC meetings (Wendell Phillips' PTA). Items for the baskets may included - cleaning products, hygiene products, paper goods, items for children and babies, basic kitchen needs. Items may be placed in a clothes basket or large tub. [Click here](#) to donate a family basket.
- **Prayer Partners**—Each fall semester a volunteer is matched to every staff member for ongoing prayer and writing encouraging cards monthly. Look for this effort during the back to school drive.

Insight From Experienced Volunteers

- The teachers and staff run a strict behavior program where there are clear expectations set in front of every student. There is structure in the way the students move through the hallways and they are expected to remain quiet when traveling between classrooms.
- The teachers and staff are amazingly supportive of each other. Often you will see a student under the care of another teacher, or a staff member.
- There are a few methods tutors use to support the students. It is up to the teacher how you tutor a student. It may be one on one, one with a small group, or a tutor may be asked to support a whole class as a second resource while the whole class works on the same assignment.
- Flexibility is key, as every day provides a new set of circumstances for the teacher, classroom and/or tutor.
- The approach to discipline is different for each teacher and situation. When there is “unrest” it is possible that the teacher or staff member will raise their voice to communicate. This can happen in the classroom or the hallways.
- It is rare that the students will misbehave while you are tutoring them.
- WP staff member, Kim Randolph is the school Teacher Instructor & Tutor Coordinator. She leads all placements of tutors and is an excellent resource.
- Communicate directly with your church-school liaisons with questions or comments. They meet regularly with the school principal, Ms. Brown, and monthly with other COR Education ministry leaders.
 - Sally Smith, REZDT liaison,
sallymorgansmith2018@gmail.com
 - Sherree Gorman, Rez Blue Springs liaison,
sgorman4@att.net; ph: 816-679-4622
 - Patrick McLaughlin, RezDT Pastor,
Patrick.McLaughlin@cor.org; ph: 816-979-1344.

Volunteer Code of Conduct

We are grateful for your involvement in the Wendell Phillips community. We want this to be positive and mutually beneficial experience, we ask that you please adhere to the following standards and guidelines required of all Kansas City Public school volunteers.

Pre-Training & Screening For Ongoing Service

- Fill out COR's KCPS Volunteer Application found at the REZDT Partner School section of cor.org/downtown/serve.
- Complete Safe Gatherings cor.org/safegatherings (includes a background check, reference checks & online abuse prevention training)
- Attend Urban Volunteer Training at the Leawood Campus or Cultural Context Training at the REZDT campus. Search each campus' events page at cor.org/ for the next available classes.

Personal Responsibilities

- Sign in and out in the volunteer book.
- Wear name badge while in the school.
- Keep all student information confidential, unless abuse or neglect is suspected; in that case, report concerns to the principal or designee.
- All media interaction must be approved in advance by the KCPS Public Relations office.

Guidelines

- All volunteer activities are school based. Activities are to occur on school grounds during the regular school hours or extended day. Any exceptions must follow school district guidelines and have principal and/or administrator approval.
- Volunteer assignments are approved by the principal or designee.
- Volunteers may not transport students.
- Interact with students in public areas with others present.
- Volunteers may not photograph or videotape students unless approved in advance by an administrator.
- Avoid giving gifts or lending money to students.

- Treat teachers, students, and parents with respect.
- Do not make negative comments to others about the students, parents, or staff.
- Exhibit behavior supportive of all ethnic/racial groups.
- Consult with principal or designee if problems occur.
- All communication between any student and any volunteer via telephone, text messaging, social networking, and other external devices or technologies is prohibited. The prohibition includes but is not limited to Facebook, MySpace, and Twitter. Any exceptions must be approved in advance by a principal or administrator and follow school district guidelines.

Safety

- No sexual or romantic advance, contact, or relationship is allowed, even if it is apparently “consensual” or initiated by a student.
- Volunteers may not use profanity or exhibit displays of violence or threats of violence. Weapons are not allowed on school grounds.
- Volunteers may not engage in any illegal activities with students, including but not limited to providing alcohol, tobacco, or drugs to students.
- Volunteers may not attempt to influence or persuade students on religious or political matters.
- Volunteers may not dress, change, or provide medication to students.