



United Way Schools of Hope

EVERYONE DESERVES A GOOD EDUCATION

Schools of Hope is improving the literacy skills of students in Grand Rapids Public Schools. Volunteer Reading Tutors are paired with students in grades 1-3 who are behind in reading. These volunteers work 1:1 with the same student once per week for 30 minutes during the school day.

Schools of Hope students have higher reading scores and better attendance rates than non-mentored students.

A BRIGHT FUTURE



“Jahan is very smart, but he didn’t like to read,” says Jahan’s aunt and guardian, Shatoya. “I don’t know if it was more a struggle with reading or more behavioral issues.”

The one-on-one time Jahan has spent with his volunteer tutor has significantly improved his reading skills.



Now, he is picking up a book that is going to expand his vocabulary and challenge his mind.



Strengthened by the bond he created with his tutor, Jahan’s confidence and behavior also improved. “Schools of Hope is powerful,” says Shatoya. “We can see it in all of his academics.”

A THRIVING COMMUNITY FOR ALL

hwmuw.org

BECOME A VOLUNTEER READING TUTOR!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Through the Schools of Hope Reading program, Laurie tutors one child who is behind in reading, once a week, throughout the school-year. “The concept of getting these kids up to grade level right away, so that they just don’t fall behind,” she says. “I think is so wonderful.”

Every week, Laurie travels to an elementary school for her tutoring session, and then, she comes back to the office with a new energy. Laurie has been a long-time volunteer tutor with the program and encourages others to try it, but she warns that it’s very easy to become hooked!

You can support a GRPS student by becoming a Volunteer Reading Tutor. **Learn more at www.hwmuw.org/soh.**

