Outcomes for the 2017-2018 School Year

WITS Kindergarten:

57% of WITS Kindergarten students exceeded the national average for reading level growth in one year.

53% of WITS Kindergarten students improved their attitude toward reading from beginning of the year to end of the year.

Mid-Day Mentoring:

71% of WITS Mid-Day Mentoring students exceeded the national average for reading level growth in one year.

65% of WITS Mid-Day Mentoring second and third grade students improved their attitude toward reading from beginning of the year to end of the year.

Workplace Mentoring/WITS on Campus:

61% of WITS Workplace Mentoring and WITS on Campus students exceeded the national average for reading level growth in one year.

60% of WITS Workplace Mentoring and WITS on Campus students improved their attitude toward reading from beginning of the year to end of the year.

Quotes from WITS mentors:

“The best thing about my WITS experience is that it clearly made a difference with my student partner. Over the course of the program she became much more willing to read, read for longer periods of time and became an overall stronger reader. Genesis has a lot of energy and a dramatic flair, so it could be challenging to keep her focused at times, but those aspects of her personality also kept it fun for me and I think we developed a bond over time. I already miss her.” – mid-day mentoring mentor at Brentano Elementary

“I enjoyed my time with Naomi. She preferred to read to me. She likes to read, and, over the course of the program, she developed a confidence in tackling the bigger words, whereas before, she would just look at me to tell her what the words was.” – mid-day mentoring mentor at Manierre Elementary

“During one of the sessions, Nathyn and I were chatting about what we had done over the weekend. He started telling me a story about him and his cousins and then paused out of the blue and turned to ask me what was on my bucket list. We shared some of our hopes and fears that day and of course read a little, too. Nathyn is a phenomenal person with such a big heart. I’m so thankful I had the opportunity to get to know him this past year.” – workplace mentoring mentor at Cook Elementary

“When I first started the program, my student was not super into me. I think she was kind of suspicious of the entire program (I imagine this is common) and she did not want to relate to me at all. On the last day of program, she handed me a card that thanked me and told me that I always made her laugh. I have never been so happy to make fifth grader laugh. By the end of the program, she talked to me like one of her friends and I am so proud of that.” – workplace mentoring mentor at Chalmers Elementary

“It was very gratifying to see how my relationships with the students changed over the year, from “getting to know you” to exchanging some stories and humor and having fun conversations. I will miss this group.” – WITSK mentor at Walsh Elementary.