



June 19, 2020

Good morning!

As we wrap up this TEACH academic year, we would like to thank all of you for the extra support and encouragement that you have provided us, your students and each other. It hasn't been an easy Spring Session! However, we are happy to report that our tutors and students have found a way to remain connected, and, gradually, more and more of you are starting to get back to the business of teaching and learning English. We are proud of all of our accomplishments, but we wanted to take a few minutes to look ahead and share our ideas with you.

In person tutoring:

None of our sites are open for in-person tutoring at this time. We will follow the guidelines for each individual site when making decisions about when to begin face-to-face tutoring. At this point, Summer Session is going to be offered remotely. The Fall Session is yet to be decided.

However, some of our tutors have decided to start meeting with their students outside since the weather is so very nice. We urge you to use your own judgement and advise that your meetings are held in a public space. Some of our tutors are bringing a lawn chair and meeting in the library parking lots. Others have started to meet at parks or other outdoor spaces. Here is a link to the [CDC Guidelines for Meeting Outdoors](#). Please read it and be careful out there!

We encourage virtual tutoring! If you are thinking about ways to interact with your student, please let us know. Your tutoring coaches (Susana, Amy and Cathy) are ready with all sorts of simple low-tech to more advanced high-tech ideas.

Summer Session:

We feel that there has been enough student interest, so we will be offering an online Conversation Group for the 2020 Summer Session. Summer Session is from July 6-August 14. Look for more details in our "Help Wanted" flyer attached. Please encourage your student to attend. We think it will be fun and a good learning experience. If you are interested in getting your feet wet using Zoom, please volunteer to join us!

Materials and Resources:

- Have you checked our [website](#) lately? We've been working to make it more user-friendly and include resources that may be useful for both tutors and students.

- We have also started our own [YouTube Channel!](#) We have one video there so far. Go to YouTube and search for Teach Empowers!
- We are busily working on developing a curriculum that can easily transition between an online environment and face-to-face meetings.

Unity Video:

Have you heard about our new video? We have a student from the University of Illinois/Champaign-Urbana who has volunteered to create a video documenting the TEACH experience during the Covid-19 pandemic. The video will have tutors and students demonstrating how they've conducted lessons, a few testimonials and some snapshots of all that has kept us busy these last few months. In addition, we would like to end the video with a group of tutors on Zoom saying "unity" in unison. We tried to do this during our Virtual Tea Party, but the recording didn't work. Look for more information so that you can volunteer to help us create our ending to the video.

Fall Dates and Calendar:

- Fall Session will begin on September 14th. Mark your calendars for our Kick-Off Meeting on Saturday morning, September 19th! More details to follow.
- Our next New Tutor Training will be the week of August 17-21. It will be offered virtually. If you have any friends or family who would like to become part of the TEACH team, let us know!

We hope you have a wonderful summer. We are always ready for a text, phone call or email, so please stay in touch!

Your TEACH Team,

Susana, Amy and Cathy

Attachments: 2020-2021 Calendar and Sites

Summer Session Help Wanted Poster