

Read Boston Newsletter

Boston College Neighborhood Center

November 2012

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Holidays

-Nov. 21-23- BC Thanksgiving break

-Nov. 21 (half-day), 22 & 23- BPS Thanksgiving break

-Dec. 7- Last day of classes at BC

Maddie's Office Hours

-Wednesday 12-3

-Thursday 12-5

-Friday 1-5

*If you would like to meet up outside of office hours, shoot me an email!

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"They may forget what you said but they will never forget how you made them feel." - Carol Buchner

It's almost Thanksgiving and the semester will be coming to an end before you know it! Most of you will have **changes in your schedule next semester**. Tutors will discuss schedule changes with their individual teachers and work out a new tutoring schedule for second semester. I'll send out more information about this later in the semester.

- **Thanksgiving**– BC has no school Wed-Fri, while BPS has school until Wednesday afternoon. If you normally tutor on Wednesday mornings and won't be in next week, or if you will miss tutoring due to travel plans, let your teacher and site facilitators know asap!
- **Winter break**- You are not required to work after the last day of classes, December 7th, though you can work until Friday, December 14th. Be sure you talk with your teachers and site facilitators about your next semester schedule!

Tutoring Tip: Helping Students Focus

A number of students have had challenges helping their students stay focused. Here are some ideas:

- Redirect the student to the task: "I really enjoy hearing about your weekends. Let's save 3 minutes at the end to finish talking about it."
- "I can see that you're feeling very tired/excited/frustrated today. Let's read/talk about the book for 5 more minutes."
- If possible, work with the student in a quiet corner of the room or in the hall. Have them face away from distracting classmates.
- Pair the student with classmates who model good working habits.

Snow Days

Winter is upon us! Check out bostonchannel.com for school closing information.

What tutors are saying

Favorite part of tutoring

- ✦ "It's nice to not only be excited to go to work everyday with these kids, but to also see them excited to work with you too"
- ✦ "My favorite part is seeing the "light bulb" go off in the students head when I teach them something or explain something to them and they understand"
- ✦ "The kids remembering my name each week"

Challenges tutoring

- ✦ "I have a hard time breaking things down in a very basic way that all of the kids can understand"
- ✦ "Asserting myself with the kids, so that they know to listen to me and respect me"
- ✦ "They have very short attention spans and some behavioral problems. It can be difficult not to lose patience with them"