

# Communication PRinciples for Principals

AUGUST 2010

## PROMOTING HIGHEST STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



### IDEA

- Conduct an Introduction to Tutor.com, using the program during a staff meeting or professional development opportunity.
- Encourage teachers to try the program themselves to see how students can benefit from using the service.

### Supporting Highest Student Achievement – Tutor.com Can Help

#### Tutor.com – What is It?

*Tutor.com* is a resource that can support highest student achievement for children in your schools by reinforcing and supplementing classroom learning. The program, provided by the Department of Defense, is available free of charge to: U.S. active duty military service members and their dependents; U.S. military reservists on active duty in a deployed status and their dependents; U.S. National Guard personnel on active duty in a deployed status and their dependents; and DoD civilians in a deployed status and their dependents.

By registering for the free, online program at <http://www.tutor.com/military>, students and parents have round-the-clock access to professional tutors who can assist with homework, test preparation, resume writing, and more.

#### Benefits of Tutor.com include:

24/7 academic and career support for military families during a time when so many parents have a deployed spouse; and Peace of mind for parents that their children are never alone when it comes to learning. Help is available beyond the classroom and extends into their homes because there is always a certified, professional tutor available to help.

The site is open to students of any age – from kindergartners to high school seniors – for one-on-one help in math, science, social studies and English. The Tutor.com Military Programs website - <http://www.tutor.com/military-programs> – has information to help families of each branch of the Armed Forces obtain a password to log-in to the service

Tutor.com's network includes more than 1,800 professional tutors and career specialists who have delivered more than 5 million one-on-one tutoring sessions since 2001. Each tutor is certified through the site, and all sessions are recorded for quality control.



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Visit the DoDEA website  
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<http://www.dodea.edu>

Students and tutors work – one-on-one in a secure, online classroom and everything is anonymous. To work through problems, participants use an interactive whiteboard, file sharing and instant messaging. Through the Skill Center Resource Library, students and parents have access to thousands of worksheets, videos, lessons, and other resources to work on independently. Students and parents can also find resources for math and science, citizenship and test prep, family budgeting, resume writing, and more.

Tutors only work with one student at a time – and there are no exceptions. Tutors also work step-by-step with students to make sure they really understand the material – they never just give the answer.

### **Tutor.com – What it Isn't**

Tutor.com isn't designed to take the place of the classroom environment, the classroom teacher, and the invaluable interaction that goes on every day in learning situations. Tutor.com isn't designed for home-school participants or to offer alternatives to the classroom environment. It is designed to strengthen and reinforce classroom learning and provide help after the school day ends.

### **What you can do to help**

Principals can help increase awareness and understanding of Tutor.com in their school communities by:

- Conducting an introduction to Tutor.com for parents during Back-to-School Nights.
- Encouraging parents to try the program themselves to see how students can benefit from using the service.
- Sending a brochure home to parents to make them aware of Tutor.com. Awareness resources are available at: <http://www.tutor.com/military-programs/spread-the-word>

### **Results are Real!**

Read the following testimonials, given by military students, on their experience with Tutor.com:

“Thanks for having this service when our family is separated at this time due to deployments and training,” a 6th grader of a Marine commented. “My father is unable to help one-on-one.”

“I really appreciate this,” another program participant, a 9th grader, said. “It really helps me understand my schoolwork. It's going to really help me ace my exams coming up! I am definitely going to use this very often.”

A new resource, Tutor.com, is now available to all military families and principals and teachers can help spread the word. This free, online tutoring service for servicemembers and their families can reinforce and supplement classroom learning.

## TIPS

