

## Large Turn-Out for December '08 Training Night

Several times a year, CSV hosts training events for volunteers who want to stay current with tutoring skills. The recent December training gave participants the choice of four workshops, each geared toward a specific audience and subject.

Presenter Helene Smit, ESL Specialist at the Tobin School, focused on “Key Factors Affecting Second Language Acquisition” for grades K-8 volunteers. Helene helped her audience explore second language acquisition from both the tutor and student perspective. Participants examined their own experiences learning a foreign language and discussed how the process impacts students learning English today.

“Engaging Students in Math through Tutoring Techniques and Games - Serious Fun!” was a math workshop offered by Peter Mili, CRLS math teacher, and Arnie Miller, CSV math tutor, for math volunteers working with grades 7-12. Peter and Arnie explored the thinking processes used in playing math games and solving puzzles. Volunteers tested these ideas using hands-on examples. The workshop emphasized how math-based games serve to stimulate brain cells and improve problem-solving abilities.



*Maria Athanassiou, Teacher in Charge of the International Student and Family Center, is shown here sharing her expertise with a group of volunteers at a recent CSV training.*

Maria Athanassiou, Teacher in Charge of the International Student and Family Center, presented a session entitled “Connecting with English Language Learners (ELL),” for grades 9-12. Maria divided her audience into small groups to explore what the obstacles are for students who know little or no English. She also provided handouts that offered tips for assisting new English language learners. For example: provide ample wait time; simplify your language; speak slowly, not more loudly; paraphrase; repeat; ask open-ended questions; and use visuals.

During a fourth workshop by Tad Sudnick, former CPS science teacher, and Ross Benson, CRLS math teacher and Science Olympiad coach, participants heard the presenters’ ideas on successful one-to-one science tutoring, including classroom strategies. Tad and Ross also presented best practices for providing support to the Science Olympiad team. Participants did small group hands-on science experiments.

## Early Math Program Thrives

At least 10 new math tutors have been trained to deliver essential one-to-one math tutoring to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders as part of CSV’s Intergenerational Math Program (IMP), joining 15 “veterans.” Director and trainer Rose Madsen has been hard at work showing tutors how to use hands-on materials and math games to reinforce early math skills. Critical to the process is that tutors understand the value of math in everyday life. Rose also covers the math curriculum being used in the public schools, so that volunteers understand what students are learning and how the information is being taught. For more information about becoming an IMP tutor, contact CSV.

## SAVE THE DATE

The 2009 Annual Volunteer Recognition and Mack I. Davis Award Event will take place on **Wednesday, May 13.**

# President's Note

For more than four decades, CSV has been doing what it knows best—reaching out to individuals, local businesses, corporations, foundations, government, and educational institutions to invest in the future of Cambridge students. This unique partnership is what makes CSV so successful. It shows that our community cares about its children.

As for me, I am in my third year as president and am amazed at all CSV has accomplished by providing excellent educational support for so many Cambridge students. I also know that the coming years hold many challenges for us, especially during this current financial crisis. I am confident that thanks to our longevity as an organization that meets students' needs along with the support from our community, we will survive and continue to flourish in spite of these trying economic difficulties.

On behalf of the CSV board and staff, I want to let you know how appreciative I am of our volunteers, donors, school and community members, city officials, who understand the value of this remarkable organization. Thank you.

Wishing you all the best for 2009,

Louise Adler, *CSV Board President*



*HGSE student Janel McTaggart (R) reads with her Amigos School 'buddy,' second-grader Ana Gonzalez. Reading Buddies is a program that pairs adults from the Harvard Graduate School of Education with young students from the Amigos, a dual Spanish immersion program.*

**THE CSV CIRCLE** is an opportunity for our donors to make a more significant commitment to Cambridge School Volunteers, both as an ambassador—promoting the strengths and successes of CSV—and as an annual contributor. The CSV Circle is a great way to increase the visibility of CSV and to expand its base of support, ensuring that CSV can continue its important work for many years to come. We thank the following who joined the Circle in 2008 and 2009.

**CSV-1000**

Clare Nunes

**CSV-750**

Louise Adler

**CSV-500**

Martelle Adler  
Kimball Halsey  
Lindy Hess  
Susanna Kaysen  
Robert Taggart

**CSV-250**

Rita Goldbert and Oliver Hart  
Robie and William Harris  
Arnold Miller  
John Moore  
Sergeant Kathleen Murphy  
Linda Sanger  
Gail and Robert Stein  
Lucy and Daniel Stroock

**CSV-200**

J.R. Dreyer  
Ellen and Thomas Ehrlich  
Jane Gray Wainwright  
Joanne Moses

**CSV-100**

Anonymous (6)  
Jeanette Atkinson  
Sanford Auerbach  
Dudley Blodget  
Nancy and Joseph Bower  
Joanna Breyer  
Cambridge Police  
Officers' Association  
Doris Feldman  
David Finck  
Albert Finck  
Dallas and Richard Gale  
Michael Gilmore  
Alice Hall

John Kaliski  
Nancy Karp  
Constance and Ernest Kirwan  
Diane and Thomas Kolb  
Frederick Kraus  
Richard Levine  
Sandy and Herbert Levine  
Deborah and Lance Neumann  
Patricia Nolan  
Jacqueline Olds  
Malcolm Pittman  
Arthur Sills  
Lisa and Murray Smith  
William Zamparelli

## An easy way to help CSV financially **AT NO COST TO YOU!**

You receive this newsletter because you are a volunteer or a supporter of Cambridge School Volunteers. Do you place orders on-line? If you do, you can easily help CSV by using one of the following portals to access the company you shop at—CSV will receive a percentage of what you spend at no extra cost to you. You can get your shopping done and know that you are supporting a good cause. Both require that you register your email, but you only need to do that once and then you just shop til you drop.

It's very simple...

1) Go to **www.onecause.com**; click on "JOIN" Create an account and follow the prompts. Then select Cambridge School Volunteers as the organization you want to support, find the link to the store(s) you will shop at and proceed as usual.

OR

2) Go to **www.igive.com**; "Select your Cause" – search for "Massachusetts" and keyword "Cambridge" and scroll to Cambridge School Volunteers. Select it as your cause, then register and SHOP.

Please let your friends and family know about this opportunity. CSV couldn't exist without our wonderful volunteers and our wonderful volunteers couldn't succeed without the behind the scenes work of CSV.

This is another way to help us help more CPS students.

Thank you!

## I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE THROUGH CSV

Here is my gift of:  \$30  \$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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I would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail

Please save a stamp and email my gift acknowledgement

My employer matches gifts; the form is enclosed.

You can also donate on-line at:

**www.csvinc.org**

Click on "Support CSV," then "Make a Donation" and "Click Here" and follow the prompts.