



# TUTORS TO TEACHERS

## Highlights

April/May 2025

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#### Collaborating Partners

The Tutors To Teachers program currently collaborates with the following districts: Franklin County Public School, Frederick County Public Schools, and Prince William County Public Schools. Our tutoring sessions focus on reading and language arts, math, and science for students in grades 3-8.



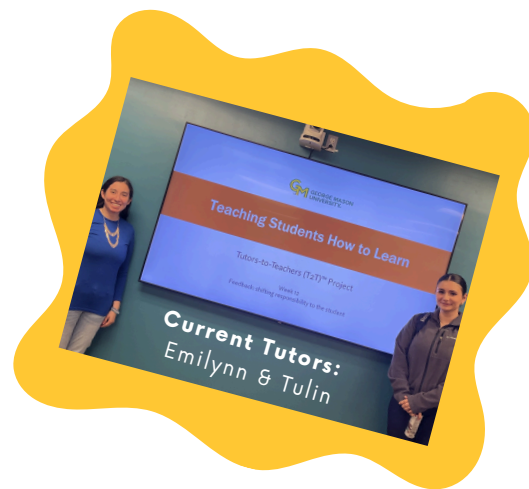
#### Current Tutors:

Back Row (L-R): Biswesh, Camilla, Keerthi, Ariam, Chance.

#### T2T By The Numbers

# 3250 +

Sessions  
and counting!



#### Current Tutors:

Emilyynn & Tulin

GOT NEWS TO SHARE?

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR IT!

E-mail [akitsantas@gmu.edu](mailto:akitsantas@gmu.edu)  
or [rpamas@gmu.edu](mailto:rpamas@gmu.edu)



# TUTORS TO TEACHERS

## Tutor-of-the-Month

April/May 2025

### MEET SANDRA



A **freshman** at George Mason University, majoring in **Global and Community Health**.

#### Favorite Part About Tutoring.

"Seeing my tutees' self-efficacy grow when learning together."

#### **Can you describe your experience as a tutor?**

As a tutor, I've gained skills in lesson planning and differentiation, especially when catering to my tutees' personal interests and pacing in their academic development. I value the connections we built both in casual conversation and in handling math tasks. The way my tutees' feel comfortable asking questions and their satisfied looks at their progress by the end of the session are what make my experience as a tutor worthwhile.

#### **How has your tutoring helped students master the content and become independent learners?**

I often implement scaffolding: a pre-assessment, guidance & individual practice, and a reflection within my tutoring sessions. For instance, in learning consumer math concepts, a pre-assessment for the tutees can identify which concepts to focus the lesson around. It also serves as a progress check where students can reflect on their new understanding (boosting self-confidence in their own abilities to learn). Focusing on simple and compound interest problems, I break down the math into steps and think through my answers aloud. My tutees apply their observations and practice self-efficacy as they work on individual problems using the strategies taught. I also provide positive & constructive feedback as students tackle the task to help them master the content.



“The way my tutees' feel comfortable asking questions and their satisfied looks at their progress by the end of the session are what make my experience as a tutor worthwhile.”

#### **In what ways has the T2T program helped you become a better learner?**

The T2T program emphasized the idea of self-regulated learning, encouraging me to practice goal setting, task analysis, and self-monitoring among many others. Notably, I've started to reflect more on my approaches to completing a task rather than just the outcome of it, and this helped me become a better learner through consistent re-evaluations of the way I learn.





# TUTORS TO TEACHERS

## Tutor-of-the-Month



April/May 2025

### MEET ETHAN



A **freshman** at George Mason University, majoring in **Bioengineering** and minoring in Conflict Analysis and Resolution

#### Favorite Part About Tutoring.

"Being able to share my knowledge, especially math, with my tutees."

#### **Can you describe your experience as a tutor?**

I have been blessed enough to tutor two incredibly bright elementary school students who have motivated me to become a better instructor and learner. I gained a lot of respect for teachers and understood the importance of refining basic concepts prior to moving onto broader ones.

#### **How has your tutoring helped students master the content and become independent learners?**

My tutoring has helped both of my students become confident in their ability to solve math problems. From struggling to understand the first steps of the problem to solving it entirely by themselves, I believe my tutoring has made a significant impact in the learning journey of my tutees.



“

There's something incredibly rewarding about guiding someone through a tough concept and watching them go from feeling overwhelmed to confident. ”

#### **In what ways has the T2T program helped you become a better learner?**

T2T has allowed me to explore various avenues to assist my tutees and their needs. I have come to realize that the best teacher is the kind who is consistently learning. I am always motivated to find opportunities that could help me learn how to become a better tutor.



# TUTORS TO TEACHERS

## Mentor-of-the-Month

April/May 2025

### MEET HANA

A **senior** at George Mason University, majoring in **Psychology**.

#### Favorite Part About Tutoring.

"Finding ways to incorporate productive silliness into my lessons. Learning is the main goal but tutees should always have a reason to smile in lessons!"

#### **1. Can you describe your experience with serving as a mentor tutor?**

I had such a pleasant experience being a mentor tutor! I was given the opportunity to be on both sides – tutoring and mentoring – and it allowed me to grow exponentially. I realized that it takes a village to boost academic performance, and that tutors really appreciate the guidance as well. I loved being able to provide support and more resources for tutors to feel comfortable and confident when tutoring!

#### **3. How has mentoring helped you become a better learner? How has it helped with becoming a better tutor?**

Mentoring has taught me to be more mindful of people in new positions and making sure to be understanding and welcoming rather than critical. I noticed that my tutors were much more appreciative and responded positively to helpful and kind feedback! I feel like a better tutor when I remain patient with both my tutors and my students.



“I loved being able to provide support and more resources for tutors to feel comfortable and confident when tutoring!”

#### **2. How do you feel you are helping current tutors? Can you provide some examples?**

I feel that I am able to help current tutors in terms of resources and my own experiences. Being a previous tutor myself, I had compiled some good resources to pass down, like CityTutorDC. Additionally, I feel like I'm able to provide a further sense of comfort and confidence to my tutors, since they value the previous experiences I share with them.





# TUTORS TO TEACHERS

## Mentor-of-the-Month

April/May 2025



### MEET CHENNEL



A Middle School **Special Education Teacher** in  
**Fairfax County Public Schools**

#### Favorite Part About Tutoring.

"Helping kids get the extra support they need and creating learning experiences tailored to them."

#### 1. Can you describe your experience with serving as a mentor tutor?

My Experience as a Mentor Tutor

As a mentor tutor, my primary role is to provide guidance and support to T2T (Tutor-to-Tutor) tutors by drawing from my own experiences in the role. Having been in their position before, I understand the challenges they face, including moments of self-doubt and feelings of inadequacy when working with students. My goal as a mentor is to help these tutors build confidence in their abilities and develop the skills necessary to become effective educators in the future. I strive to create a supportive environment where they feel empowered to ask questions, seek advice, and continuously grow in their tutoring practices. By sharing my insights and strategies, I hope to inspire and equip them with the tools they need to foster meaningful learning experiences for their tutees.

#### 3. How has mentoring helped you become a better learner? How has it helped with becoming a better tutor?

Serving as a mentor tutor has reinforced my belief that learning is a continuous journey. As a middle school special education teacher in Fairfax County Public Schools, I am always seeking new ways to support diverse learners. Mentoring has deepened my understanding that every student learns differently, and it has reaffirmed that all progress—no matter how small—is meaningful. Even a 1% improvement is still growth, and that mindset is crucial in both tutoring and teaching. Additionally, mentoring has made me a more open-minded educator. It has broadened my perspective on different learning styles and has encouraged me to explore creative approaches to instruction. By guiding new tutors, I have also refined my own ability to adapt, communicate effectively, and foster engagement in the learning process.



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Even a 1% improvement is still growth, and that mindset is crucial in both tutoring and teaching..

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#### 2. How do you feel you are helping current tutors? Can you provide some examples?

I believe I am helping current tutors by recognizing their strengths and guiding them in leveraging those strengths to better support their tutees. Many of the tutors I work with are highly tech-savvy and naturally relatable to their students. For example, I recently helped a tutor who was struggling to build rapport with his tutee. During our discussion, we explored ways to connect with students, and I suggested incorporating common interests into conversations. The tutor mentioned computer games, and as it turned out, his tutee had extensive knowledge about them. This shared interest became a bridge for connection, boosting the tutor's confidence and helping him establish a stronger relationship with his student. The fact that I haven't heard back from him since suggests that he has found success in applying these strategies and is growing in his role independently.