

## Connect Through Reading

The Connect through Reading Program aims to support English Language Learner (ELL) elementary students in their transition into **Secondary** school through the activity of reading and being mentored by a secondary student. In **Part 1** of the program, secondary students will engage in mentorship training and will be trained to lead **Part 2** of the program in their catchment school. In **Part 2** of the program, ELL elementary students' are mentored by trained leaders to learn about their secondary schools and foster a love of reading.

**Part 1: Target Participants:** Secondary students grades 10 to 12

**Goals:** Secondary students will:

- develop communication and interpersonal skills
- acquire volunteer opportunities for community involvement
- develop leadership skills through training
- increase skills in cross culture awareness
- improve interpersonal, communication and instructional skills and strategies

**Part 2: Target Participants:** Newcomer ELL students grades 5 to 7

**Goals:** Elementary students will:

- develop the skills to transition from elementary to secondary schools
- develop interpersonal and communication skills
- develop a relationship with a mentor "buddy" in their area secondary school
- develop connections to school and community supports and resources

**Workshop Themes:**

- How to make the best of your high school experience
- Staying safe and healthy in my school and community
- Working, volunteering and connecting in my new community
- Developing an understanding of school and community

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