



Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your child has been recommended as a volunteer tutor in a math internet tutoring program called Study Buddy. Study Buddy is being offered by the National Science & Technology Education Partnership (NSTEP), which is the nonprofit, philanthropic arm of the electronics industry, in an effort to boost interest and success in math and science in schools. We currently offer tutoring in Pre Algebra, Algebra 1, Algebra 2 and Geometry to economically disadvantaged students in underserved urban and rural areas. We draw our volunteer tutors from math honor societies and from other groups of students who have demonstrated achievement in math and been recommended by their teachers.

Study Buddy tutoring sessions are conducted online, so your child can tutor from the library, school or from your own home computer. All tutoring sessions are conducted online, in the “pages” of the student to be tutored’s Vyewbook, a virtual whiteboard or notebook accessible over the internet. Each student participating in our program has their own VyewBook and your child can use his or her own VyewBook to familiarize him or herself with the technology. When your child is ready to tutor, you child will schedule him or herself using our scheduling program, for half hour increments. There is no minimum time obligation to participate; we only ask that each tutor honor his or her commitment so that we can make sure that waiting students have access to tutors. Your child will access the tutoring session by going to NSTEP’s online tutor lobby (www.nstep-online/vyew) and entering a password and their URL. When a student needs a tutor, the waiting tutor will be brought into the online Vyewbook to conduct the tutoring session.

If your child’s school program has a community service requirement, we can track and report time spent tutoring through our program and provide a report to the student’s teacher or club leader to be applied towards the community service requirement. Because we are a non-profit organization with a mission of improving students’ interest and performance in math and science, **we are offering Study Buddy at no cost to those students who could not otherwise have access to a tutor.** We are pleased that your child is interested in helping other students and we hope that you are pleased with the opportunity we offer for your child to reach out to others.

If you have questions about the program, please contact the teacher or club leader who recommended your child for the program, visit us on the web at www.nstep-online.org or e-mail us at studybuddy@nstep-online.org. We look forward to your child’s participation.



Please sign the consent form below and return to your child's teacher.

I _____ understand that neither NSTEP nor my
(print name of parent/guardian)

child's school can monitor the content of the online Vyewbooks at all times. I hereby release NSTEP and my child's school from any liability arising from inappropriate content found in a VyewBook. I hereby give my consent for

(print name of child)

to participate as a volunteer tutor in NSTEP's Study Buddy online tutoring program.

(signature of parent/guardian)

(date)