

Spotlight

A Spotlight on Dennis Haynes

Dennis became a Board Member with Educate. Radiate. Elevate. because he enjoys giving back to underserved communities. He knows his previous experiences with fundraising, program management, and strategic planning will help E.R.E. meet its goals.

Dennis was born and raised in Chicago. Throughout his childhood he witnessed many examples of self-discipline, work ethic, and being a positive difference in the lives of others. He gained lifelong soft skills which have benefited him in his professional endeavors, especially his 25-year career as a corporate HR professional. Dennis eventually moved to the Dallas-Fort Worth area, and for the past 11 years has operated his own executive career coaching practice.

"Don't allow a temporary setback to become a permanent failure. Learn to quickly get back into the game and avoid letting a negative experience mold you. Remember, temporary failures are stepping stones to your ultimate success."

Learn more about Dennis Haynes [here](#).



E.R.E. Updates

During the Spring Term, which ended on 5/31, we had the privilege of tutoring 9 students who made incredible progress.

But don't just take it from us...
Three of our Spring Term students recently shared how E.R.E. has made a difference in their lives.

[Hear from our students!](#)



Our summer term started on 6/1 and we look forward to guiding those students to new heights! We are excited for what's to come this summer.

Read our **recent** Blogs for students, parents, and educators:

- [Note-Taking Tips and Strategies](#)
- [Books that Teach Mental Health Awareness to Students](#)
- [Free Learning Resources for Students at Your Local Library](#)
- [Trauma-Informed Learning: What it is and Why it is Important](#)

E.R.E. Announcements

- **Trivia Night Fundraiser:** E.R.E. will be having its second annual trivia night fundraiser at The Booze Hound in Chicago on July 27th. All proceeds will go towards tutoring underserved students in Chicago. [Purchase a DISCOUNTED pre-sale ticket!](#)
- **Fundraising Committee:** We are searching for new members to join our dedicated fundraising team! As a member of our Fundraising Committee, you will play a significant role in our early phases of development and help ensure our sustainability for many years to come. [Join today!](#)
- **Volunteers:** We are looking for volunteer [ambassadors, interns, tutors, and professionals](#). As a member of Educate. Radiate. Elevate. you will have the opportunity to collaborate with a varied group of people and make a real difference in society. [Apply now!](#)
- **Donors:** We must work together to achieve our objectives to *educate* equitably, *radiate* success, and *elevate* society. Your contribution will provide children from less fortunate backgrounds with the opportunity to succeed in school and beyond. [Become a donor today!](#)

Recent News in Education

[What the Election of Chicago's New Mayor Says About the Political Power of Teachers' Unions](#)

EdWeek

April 5, 2023

Mayor Brandon Johnson was elected as Mayor of Chicago, representing a victory for the city's teachers' unions. A former middle school teacher, Johnson opposed the charter school policies that opponent Paul Vallas endorsed. Johnson says he will expand community schools to incorporate health care and social services. Johnson also said he will expand bilingual education, build educator recruitment pipelines, and change district funding from a per-pupil basis to instead allocate money to districts that need it most.

What do you hope Johnson will accomplish during his tenure?

[An end to the reading wars? More US schools embrace phonics](#)

AP News

April 20, 2023

Schools across the country are changing how they teach children literacy. Now they are focusing on phonics using a scientifically-backed style of teaching in which students learn how to sound out words. Conversely, approaches in the past have leaned more towards a whole-language and/or meaning-based approach. However, students with dyslexia and other reading difficulties did not receive the phonics education they needed to learn, and thus many resorted to "guessing" based on context or pictures. Focusing on phonetic "building blocks" may improve the country's reading standards, without leaving behind students with reading challenges.

Could this new teaching strategy help close the achievement gap for students struggling with reading comprehension?

We will continue to keep you in the loop with updates about Educate. Radiate. Elevate. as well about education, equity, community news, and the like. If you know someone who is also passionate about helping youth, supporting educational equity, and fostering community development, please forward them this newsletter so they can [sign up!](#)