

8-2003

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Lake Union

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### Recommended Citation

Lake Union, "Andrews' Schools Team up for Learning" (2003). *Lake Union Herald*. 763.  
<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/luh-pubs/763>

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# Andrews' Schools Team up for Learning

**Andrews University** — There were 330 students at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School during the 2002-2003 school year, but nearly half of them couldn't claim English as their first language. A handful of them had little or no English skills at all. A chance meeting between Rita Seay, Ruth Murdoch vice principal, and Jeanette Bryson, director of the Center for Intensive English Programs at Andrews University, resulted in an idea to train students at Andrews Academy to be English as a Second Language (ESL) tutors for K-8 students who aren't proficient in the English language.

Seay and Bryson worked with Sari Butler, Andrews Academy counselor, and presented their idea to the academy students at a chapel assembly. "I could



*Eight Andrews Academy students were trained as ESL tutors to assist Ruth Murdoch Elementary School international students.*

hardly believe it when almost 50 students stood up and indicated they would be interested in participating in this program," said Seay. Through an application and interview process, eight students were chosen and enrolled in the program, which consisted of attending classes each Thursday night for eleven weeks. Bryson provided the instructors from her university department.

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