

Committee Chair Report

School Year: 2021-2022

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Date: Aug. 24, 2021

Committee Name: Buddy Program
Committee Chair(s): Heidi Ghildyal & Kate Makits
Co-Worker(s): N/A

What We Accomplished and When: send letter to early August recruited volunteer to be buddies (this is typically done in May!) August - two weeks before event, typical to confirm availability (we did one week prior); match buddies to new students as soon as class lists are available.

Resources used/needed: class lists from office, student direct name tags, stationary & coloring sheets (popular!) for Buddies to make note/picture for new student, crayons/pens/markers; new this year: gifts for new student

Monies Used/Profits Gained: \$10+; previous supplies used, if purchasing new student gifts, assume \$1.50/child (approx. 30 this year)

Difficulties: Some confusion from Fifth graders showing up signing up, thinking this was the kindergarten buddies; not enough First Grade volunteers with mostly new First Graders; last minute sign ups

Suggestions for Next Year: Note on the sign up sheet that this is not the 5th Grader/ Kindergarten Buddy Program. Many of the Buddies/New students are in first grade. Provide a map & room #'s for encore spaces. Be prepared for many last minute First

Other Comments: Graders!

Get lots of first grade volunteers lined up in advance, as many are coming from private kindergarten classes. The kindergarten program gave us scoop gift cards w/ pencils for the Buddies to hand off to the new students, as well. Coordinate with the chair next year or we can purchase through Buddy. It was a really nice touch. For the ^{new} family that did not attend, we had the gifts delivered to their teacher mailboxes.