#### 4 Easy Steps to Become a Lunch Buddy:



**VlaaA** 

Apply to become a LWSD volunteer: https://www.lwsd.org/get-involved/ volunteering-in-lwsd



Complete a LINKS mentor application



Attend a Training

All applicants will attend an initial two-hour orientation.



Get Matched

Once all steps have been completed, mentors will be matched with a mentee who has similar interests.



One hour a week

Mentors are needed in elementary schools in:

- Kirkland
- Redmond
- Sammamish

For more information about the program and how to get involved, please contact:

Victoria Goetze-Nelson, **District LINKS Program Coordinator** lunchbuddy@lwsd.org 425-936-1410

#### LINKS Lunch Buddy Program

Lake Washington School District 16250 NE 74th Street Redmond, WA 98052 Phone: 425-936-1200 www.lwsd.org/links

provided by:









### Mentoring promotes:

- Increased self-esteem
- · Better social skills
- Increased attendance
- Improved grades
- Fewer discipline referrals
- Improved attitude towards school and the future

Become a Lunch Buddy Mentor TODAY!

#### **Program Overview**

In the LINKS Lunch Buddy Program, we bring students together with caring adults. Mentors come during school hours once a week and spend the lunch hour in a pre-assigned area to:

- eat
- play games
- make crafts
- talk
- do other agreed-upon activities

Mentors provide support to students who need a little extra one-on-one attention.

LINKS Lunch Buddy mentors help students feel engaged, supported and challenged, which can improve students' confidence and help them acquire the skills needed for lifelong success, in school and beyond. Studies have shown that children with mentors are more likely to succeed.

## What makes a good Lunch Buddy mentor?

Someone who:

- Will commit to developing a connection with a student
- Demonstrates respect for individuals and their ability to make choices.
- Is a good listener and accepts different points of view
- Sees solutions and opportunities and recognizes barriers to success
- Is flexible
- Is willing to take the time to get to know their student mentee

# If you could make a difference in the life of a child, would you?

Change your lunch plans.

Make a difference in a child's life.

Be a friend - to a child who could benefit from an additional caring adult. Be inspired - by the impact you will have. Be the difference - helping a child reach their full potential.